



## Welcome

Missouri is a state rich in history, folklore and natural resources. The Conservation Department encourages you to visit, use and enjoy this area and other Department areas.

Land surrounding the Chesapeake Fish Hatchery belongs to private landowners. The boundaries adjoining private property are clearly marked. Please respect landowner's rights with these simple courtesies: obtain permission before going on private property, pick up all litter, be careful with fire, do not damage property, practice safe hunting.

## Nearby Department Areas:

Paris Springs Access  
Mt. Vernon Prairie  
Robert E. Talbot Conservation Area  
Bois d' Arc Conservation Area  
Williams Creek Park Lake

From Mt. Vernon, take Highway 174 east 8 miles to the area.

### For local information, contact:

Missouri Department of Conservation  
Southwest Regional Office  
2630 N. Mayfair  
Springfield, MO 65803  
417/895/6880

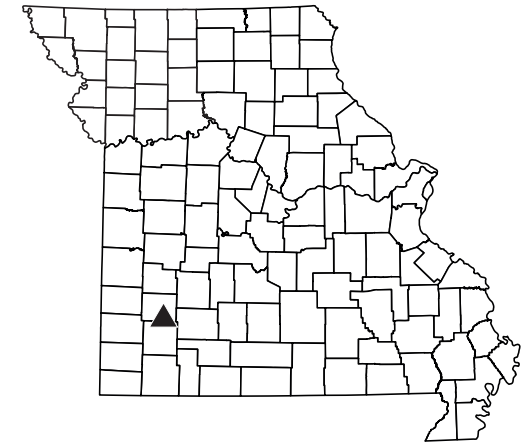
*Additional area information is posted on bulletin boards located in parking areas and area offices.*

6/2014

(Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri and selected statutes of the State of Missouri. Special area regulations are in Chapter 11 of the Wildlife Code. A free printed copy of the Wildlife Code, which lists most area regulations, is available from the Conservation Department. Chapter 11 in its entirety is available at [www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/5csr/3csr.asp](http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/5csr/3csr.asp).) Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, (573) 751-4115 (voice) or 800-735-2966 (TTY), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

# Chesapeake

## FISH HATCHERY



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

# Chesapeake Fish Hatchery

## About this Area

Chesapeake Hatchery resides next to the village of Chesapeake in Lawrence County. It is located nine miles east of Mt. Vernon, or 10 miles west of Republic, on Highway 174.

The land was originally purchased in 1926, and a small hatchery was in production by 1927. Floods destroyed the hatchery twice by 1929. In the 1930s, new hatchery construction was started by the Civilian Conservation Corps and completed by the Works Progress Administration. These facilities were used for nearly 50 years until 1984, when a complete renovation of Chesapeake Hatchery began. By 1988, a completely new and modern hatchery had emerged.

The entire area consists of 113 acres, with the hatchery facility itself covering about 40 acres. The remainder of the area is dedicated to providing wildlife habitat. Chesapeake Creek flows through the area, supplying an inviting environment for wildlife.

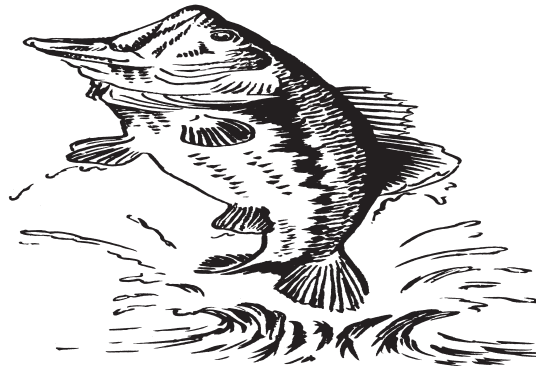
The current hatchery comprises 13 one-acre ponds, 10 one-half acre production ponds, and a four-acre, solar-heated, water supply pond. In addition, there are 12 7,875-gallon raceways, and a 4,900 square-foot fish production room, complete with egg incubation jars and troughs, swim-up tanks and rearing tanks.

Other facilities include offices, a laboratory, computer monitoring room, a 20,000-gallon water storage tower and a mechanical room. The mechanical room lodges a heat pump used for heating hatchery supply water, ultraviolet and sand filters used to purify the water, and air blowers.

The primary water supply for the facility is Chesapeake Spring, which at average flow provides 500-1,000 gallons of water per minute (GPM). The spring flow can be supplemented with two wells capable of providing an additional 450 GMS each.

Annually, an average of more than 9 million fish are produced at Chesapeake, and more than 5 million fish per year are stocked out. Fish species produced include bluegill, channel catfish, fathead minnows, grass carp, hybrid sunfish, largemouth bass, walleye and sometimes hybrid striped bass and muskellunge. These fish are stocked into public lakes and some are supplied to other states.

Public visitation and tours are welcome. Limited picnic facilities and outdoor restrooms are available.



## Things to Do

- Nature study and wildlife viewing
- Outdoor photography
- Picnicking

## Rules and Regulations

*Area hours: Open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.*

- No littering. Waste containers may be used only for disposal of trash generated on area.
- No fireworks.
- No open fires.
- Destroying, cutting or removing vegetation, including wildflowers, is prohibited. Taking of wild greens from natural areas is not allowed.
- Motor vehicles are restricted to the access road and parking area.
- No camping permitted.
- Bicycles are allowed only on roads open to vehicles, except where further restricted by posting.
- Swimming, scuba diving, water skiing, sailboarding, skateboarding, caving and rappelling are not allowed

## Fishing and Boating

- Fishing is prohibited.
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited on all impounded waters and their discharge channels.
- Boats are prohibited.

## Hunting and Trapping

- Area is closed to hunting.
- Area is closed to trapping.