

## About this Area

Hickory Canyons Conservation Area is in Ste. Genevieve County, northeast of Farmington. Owned by the L-A-D Foundation, this 280-acre area is managed by the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Defined by its box canyons and sandstone cliffs, Hickory Canyons CA harbors a number of unique plant communities, especially on the cool, moist cliff faces. These features support concentrations of partridge berry, various fern species and club mosses. In the bottoms grow spicebush, paw-paw, deciduous holly and numerous sedges.

The bottoms are defined by a mesic sandstone forest, an uncommon natural community in Missouri. This forest is dominated by northern red oak, white oak and sugar maple. There are varieties of sandstone forests along the upper slopes and around the trailhead. There, and also on the dry sandstone cliffs, are shortleaf pine, white oak, black oak, blackjack oak, scarlet oak, post oak, and mockernut hickory. Understory trees and shrubs on the dry sites include azalea, flowering dogwood, farkleberry and ironwood. Two short hiking trails offer good views of the area's distinctive bluffs and canyons. A quarter-mile trail from the parking area leads to a steep-walled box canyon. Across the road from the parking area is a more strenuous one-mile trail that traverses the steep terrain through the sandstone forest. It also crosses a scenic creek in a few locations.

## RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Bird Watching — Hiking

Outdoor Photography — Wildlife Viewing

*Conservation Areas are closed from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. except for authorized camping, fishing and hunting activities.*

- Hiking is permitted on interior roads and trails.
- Motor vehicles are allowed on public roadways and in parking areas.
- Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal use. Cutting or removing other vegetation is prohibited. Taking of greens from locations designated as Natural Areas is prohibited.
- Dogs must be leashed.

## Hunting and Trapping

- The area is closed to hunting and trapping.

### For local information, contact:

**Missouri Department of Conservation  
Resource Forester  
812 Progress Drive  
Farmington, MO 63640  
(573) 756-6488**

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

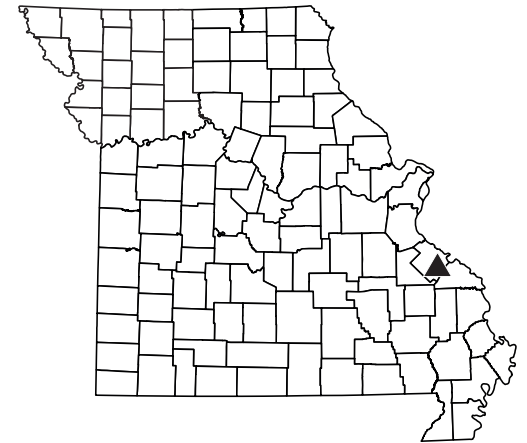


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(Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri and selected statutes of the State of Missouri. Special area regulations are in Chapter 11 of the Wildlife Code. A free printed copy of the Wildlife Code, which lists most area regulations, is available from the Conservation Department. Chapter 11 in its entirety is available at [www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp](http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/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.

# Hickory Canyons

## NATURAL AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION