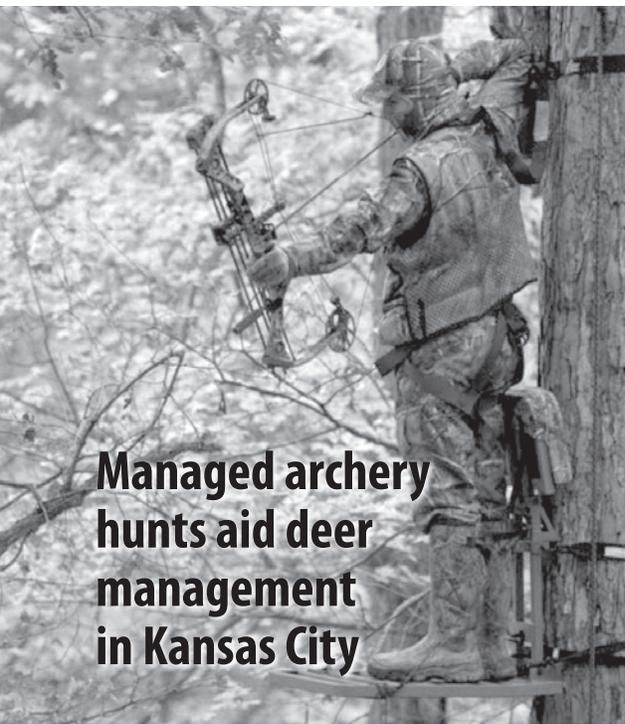


Nature & You



News and Events from the Missouri Department of Conservation • May/June 2014

Archery plays an increasingly important role in managing urban white-tail deer populations. Hunters are harvesting deer on designated public and private lands in a safe manner. This helps keep deer numbers in check. Our goal is to enhance motorist safety by reducing deer-vehicle accidents and to protect natural habitats from damage due to over population of deer. The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) partners with public agencies and private landowners to manage urban deer hunting. Our managed urban hunts are a model for other cities.



Managed archery hunts aid deer management in Kansas City

Within Kansas City's municipal boundaries, MDC administers 138 separate managed archery hunts on private and public land. The program has about 21,000 acres of land enrolled, and about 750 hunters participate. These hunts are on a wide variety of acreages such as farms, church property, public parks, cemeteries and natural areas controlled by homeowner associations. Archers took 644 deer in 2013 and almost 4000 deer have been harvested

since 2005 under this program.

Land tracts must be five acres or larger. Hunters wishing to inquire about a tract or landowners wishing to participate must contact MDC's urban wildlife biologist. Safety criteria must be met before a tract can be enrolled.

The Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department is a partner with MDC for managed hunts on five large city parks with wild acres. They include Riverfront Park, Hodge Park, Jerry Smith Park, Tiffany Springs Park and Swope Park. The application process for participating in these hunts opens in August. Hunting positions are filled by random drawing. The applications are found at <http://www.mdc.mo.gov/regions/kansas-city>.

MDC also has a category called the Statewide Managed Hunt System that includes archery hunting for deer on other public lands in the Kansas City metro area. Sites include parks within the Jackson County system, MDC's James A. Reed Memorial Wildlife Area and MDC's Burr Oak Woods Conservation Area. Those applications are available at the MDC website at mdc.mo.gov and are available in early summer.

Several municipalities in the metro area allow archery deer hunting in designated zones. Once again, the primary goal is to utilize safe archery skills to manage urban deer numbers. Cities such as Lee's Summit, Independence, Blue Springs and Parkville have programs. Contact your local police department and check city codes to be certain about the legalities of deer hunting in your community.

For more information, contact **Joe DeBold, MDC urban wildlife biologist, at 816- 759-7305, ext. 1130.**

— Joe DeBold, Urban Wildlife Biologist

Love nature? Want to make a difference!

If you have a passion for nature, put it to use by joining the Missouri Master Naturalists. The program is sponsored by the Missouri Department of Conservation and University of Missouri Extension Service. Master Naturalists improve our natural resources through volunteer service with local partner organizations. Trainees receive 40 hours of education and contribute 40 hours of volunteer time for conservation projects such as native habitat restoration, citizen scientist research and presenting



or assisting with nature education programs.

To receive more information about the Master Naturalist program, attend the open house 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on June 3 at Gorman Discovery Center or contact Stacey Davis at (816) 759-7300, stacey.davis@mdc.mo.gov. Applications will be available at the Osage Trails Master Naturalist chapter website beginning May 15 at www.osagetrails.com

Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center

1401 NW Park Road, Blue Springs, MO 64015 • mdc.mo.gov/node/280



Located in Blue Springs, Missouri, one mile north of I-70 and one mile west of MO 7 on Park Road. Six trails, 1,071 wooded acres, two picnic areas, indoor wildlife viewing area, 3,000 gallon native fish and turtle aquarium, hands-on nature exhibits, gift shop, and sales of fishing and hunting permits.

NATURE CENTER HOURS:

Tuesday–Friday: 7 AM–6 PM

Saturday: 8 AM–5 PM

AREA AND TRAILS:

Daily: 7 AM–6 PM

Daylight Saving Time: 7 AM–8 PM

Closed Thanksgiving Day, day after

Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years

TO REGISTER FOR A PROGRAM:

Programs are free. Call 816-228-3766 to sign up for a program requiring registration on or after the first business day of that month. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy.

What's for Dinner?

Wednesdays & Saturdays • 3 PM

Walk-in (all ages)

Discover what's for dinner at Burr Oak Woods as the captive amphibians, fish and turtles enjoy their feast every Wednesday and Saturday. The snakes are fed every other Friday (May 2, 16 & 30 and June 13 & 27).

Tree-mendous Giants

May 3 • Saturday • 10–11:30 AM

No registration required

(families with children ages 9+)

Become a giant hunter with your family! Your assignment is to find the biggest, most incredible tree on the conservation area. Walk beneath the canopy of these giants while you explore a forest and learn to identify, measure and age a tree.

Wild Ones: You Can Eat What?

May 6 • Tuesday • 1–3 PM

Registration required (adults)

Did you know that you can make a delicious salad with homemade dressing using wild edible plants that grow right outside your own back door? Join us to discover how.

Family Fishing

May 10 • Saturday • 9–11 AM

Registration required (families)

Summer is a great time to take your family fishing. We will teach some fishing



basics, provide equipment and worms and then let you and your family try your luck. Kids who attend will be entered in a drawing at the end of the summer for a new fishing pole and tackle box.

Wildflower Hike

May 10 • Saturday • 1–2 PM

Registration required (ages 8+)

We are well into springtime so let's hike down the Discovery Trail to observe the wildflowers that flourish along the trail. We'll enjoy a leisurely stroll as the colors and fragrances of the forest captivate us.

Babes in the Woods: Pond Play

May 13 • Tuesday • 10–11 AM

Registration required

(babes under 36 months)

Little ones love the water. It's a great way to spend a warm day. Join Naturalist Kathleen at our education pond for some splashing and experience nature with your babe.

Little Acorns:

Fishy, Fishy on My Hook

May 14 • Wednesday • 10–11 AM or 1–2 PM

Registration required (ages 3–5)

Let's kick off the summer right! Learn about a popular outdoor sport...fishing! You are never too young to get started with this fun and easy outdoor activity.

Home School: Creek Walking

May 14 • Wednesday • 10–11:30 AM

for ages 6–8, 9–11, 12–18 or

1–2:30 PM for ages 6–8, 9–11

Registration required

Discover unique creatures, explore food web connections and splish and splash in the mud, water and rocks of Burr Oak Creek.

Conservation Kids Club: Take Your Parent Camping

May 16–17 • Friday–Saturday • 6 PM–8 AM

Registration required (ages 7–13 with an adult)

Kids! Have you always wanted to go camping at Burr Oak Woods? Whether you are an old hand at camping or you have always wanted to try it, this campout is for you. Don't miss out on this special evening under the stars. Activities include canoeing, fishing, stories and songs around the campfire.

Surviving the Wild

May 17 • Saturday • 10:30 AM–Noon

Registration required

(families with children ages 8+)

Have you ever been lost in the forest? Would your family have the skills to survive? Join us on a fun family adventure as we seek out the basics of food, water, fire and shelter. We will find out what it takes to stay alive in the wilderness and to find our way home again.

Native Bee House

May 24 • Saturday • 1–2:30 PM

Registration required (all ages)

What's the buzz about native bees? They are in desperate need of our help. Discover fun



conservation practices that benefit them and craft an easy bee house to take home!

Nature's Adaptations

May 31 • Saturday • 10–11:30 AM

No registration required (ages 8+)

Plants and animals live in many different habitats, but life isn't always easy. Join us to discover some of the unique adaptations Missouri wildlife use to survive and even thrive in their local environment.

MDC Discover Nature programs help Missourians discover and explore nature while providing expert instruction and hands-on activities.

Rockin' & Readin' Nature Tales

May 31 · Saturday · 11 AM–Noon
June 28 · Saturday · 11 AM–Noon
Walk-in (ages 2+)

Join us for a story hour as we lead you on fantastic nature adventures! We will meet butterflies, birds, mammals and all sorts of magnificent creatures! We will cross rivers, discover mysteries within the forest and fly across the prairies. Our imaginations are the only limits.

Insectophobia

June 7 · Saturday · 1–2 PM
Registration required (all ages)

You may find insects creepy but they are vital to our gardens and ecosystem. We will take a hike in search of the insects that we commonly see and those that you may



not have noticed before. Maybe by the time you leave, one of your new favorite animals will be a bug!

Firefly Magic

June 14 · Saturday · 7:30–9:30 PM
Registration required (all ages)

Blinking and dancing in the evening sky, the magic and beauty of fireflies is breathtaking. Use this evening to learn more about these favorite insects. Then hike into the darkening forest to watch the fireflies appear.

PROGRAM NOTICE:
Babes in the Woods,
Little Acorns, Home School
and Conservation Kids Club
programs will take
the summer off and
will be back in September.

Take Your Parent to Outdoor Skills Camp

June 19 · Thursday · 5:30–9 PM or
June 20 · Friday · 8:30 AM–Noon
Registration required

(families with children ages 8+)
If your children loved Outdoor Skills Camp, then you won't want to miss out on this opportunity! During Take Your Parent to Outdoor Skills Camp, your kids will have the chance to show off their new skills and teach you. You will have an opportunity to do some canoeing air rifles and archery. After your child has attended both Block I and Block II, your family will be eligible to register for this special experience.

Wild Ones: Little Blue River Wild Edibles Hike

June 21 · Saturday · 9–11 AM
Registration required (adults)

Meet us on the Little Blue Trace Trail for an unforgettable stroll in an area rich with biodiversity. Along this historic bottomland forest, you will be amazed at how many of the plants are edible.

Dad and I Nature Construction: Hiking Sticks

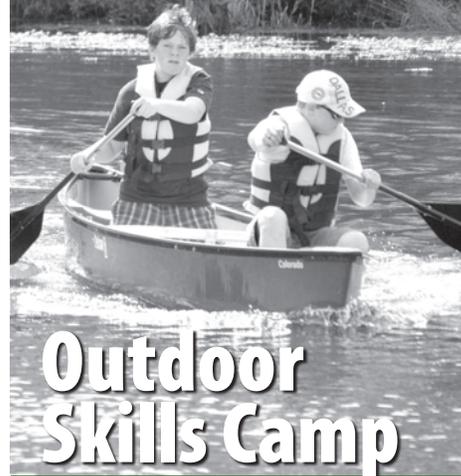
June 21 · Saturday · 1–2 PM
Registration required (dads & granddads with children ages 7+)

In celebration of National Trails Day and Father's Day this month, bring your dad to help create one-of-a-kind hiking sticks! Dads should bring a pocketknife and we'll provide the starter sticks, drills, fabric straps and paint. (Optional: join the naturalist in an off trail hiking adventure with your new hiking sticks.)

Atlatl for Families

June 28 · Saturday · 10:30 AM–Noon
Registration required (families with children ages 8+)

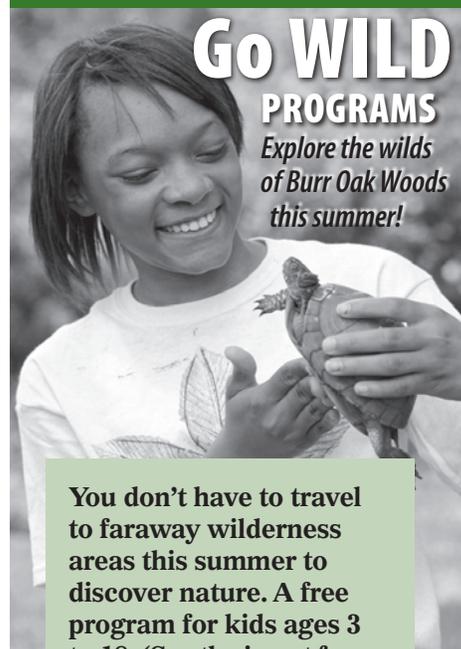
Have you ever heard of an atlatl? It's a hunting tool that has been around for thousands of years and is still being used in Missouri today. And it's fun for target practice too! Bring your family for some outdoor fun as we learn this primitive skill and test our atlatl abilities.



Outdoor Skills Camp

Become a part of the adventure!

A free summer program (June 3 through June 13) for kids ages 8 to 18 who like to have fun outdoors and learn new skills like archery, canoeing, fishing, orienteering and air rifles. (See the insert for dates and how to register)



Go WILD PROGRAMS

Explore the wilds of Burr Oak Woods this summer!

You don't have to travel to faraway wilderness areas this summer to discover nature. A free program for kids ages 3 to 18. (See the insert for dates and how to register)

Lake City Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

28505 E. Truman Road, Landahl Park, Buckner, MO 64016 • mdc.mo.gov/node/282



Located on 60 acres of forests and fields near Blue Springs, Missouri, six miles north of I-70 on MO 7 and two miles east of MO 7 on Truman Road in Landahl Park. Facilities include an outdoor education center, archery, pistol, rifle and shotgun ranges, including skeet and trap.

HOURS:

May 1–September 15

Wednesday–Sunday: Noon–6 PM

September 16–April 30

Wednesday–Sunday: Noon–4:30 PM

Closed Monday and Tuesday and all state holidays.

FACILITIES AND FEES: Available for individual or group use. Call for information and possible restrictions.

- Rifle/pistol range: \$3 booth per hour
- Trap/Skeet: \$3 per round
- Archery range: \$3 per person per hour

TO REGISTER FOR A PROGRAM:

Programs are free. Call 816-249-3194 to sign up for a program requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy.

Beginning Archery

May 2 · Friday · 9–11:30 AM

Registration required (ages 12–17)

Archery is becoming very popular with young people today. Many competitions are held between school archery teams. Learn more about the fundamentals of shooting archery such as proper equipment, stance, draw technique and follow through.

Basic Handgun

May 4 · Sunday · 8–11:30 AM

Registration required (ages 18+)

This is a novice class for people who have little or no experience in handling and shooting a handgun. Topics that will be

covered will include safety in the home, types of handguns, different parts of the handgun, variety of calibers, ammunition and marksmanship. Class includes range time.

Introduction to Metallic Cartridge Reloading: Pistol

May 7 · Wednesday · 6–8:30 PM

Registration required (adults)

If you have ever been interested in reloading your own pistol cases, this is a good way to get started. We will cover many different topics of reloading including equipment, safety concerns, loading data and more.

Introduction to Skeet Shooting

May 10 · Saturday · 9–11:30 AM

Registration required (ages 12+)

Are you a trap shooter who wants an exciting and quicker target game? Why not try skeet shooting? Skeet shooting is a great way to improve your basic shotgun skills and improve your hit ratio on all types of winged game. You may even pick up a new sport at the same time.

Introduction to Double Trap

May 22 · Thursday · 6–9 PM

Walk-in (ages 16+)

Open to everyone; free shooting. This is an advanced shooting sport which is geared towards those shooters who are accomplished at shooting American Trap and would like to challenge themselves. Instruction will be on proper stance, choke selection and swing through.

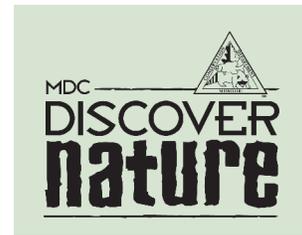
Special class requirements: only double barreled and semi-automatic shotguns.

NRA Women on Target

June 14 · Saturday · 8 AM–3:30 PM

Registration required (women ages 18+)

The Women on Target program is a safe and fun way for like-minded women to enjoy a day of shooting in a friendly, safe environment. This all-day event will cover everything from rifles and pistols to shotguns and archery. It is a great way to get introduced to the sport of shooting and to the different shooting disciplines offered. The one-on-one coaching offered by the friendly Lake City staff will give you the support needed to obtain the skills of a basic shooter and give you a better understanding of what the shooting sports can offer you.



Basic Shotgun

June 20 · Friday · 5:30–8:30 PM

Registration required (ages 12+)

Introduction to shotgun shooting must begin with knowledge of the equipment. Knowing your shotgun is the first step to knowing how to shoot. This course is to help give the student a basic understanding of types of shotguns, actions, shotshells and follow through. Range time is included.

Women's Firearm Safety–Phase II

June 21 · Saturday · 8–11:30 AM

Registration required (women ages 18+)

After completion of Phase I, let's learn more about handguns. This course was designed for women who are interested in gaining more information about firearms. Topics will include storage of firearms, different types of handguns and calibers, and much more. Build your marksmanship skills with more range time and learn how to clean your firearm.

Beyond The Basics of Pistol Shooting

June 26 · Thursday · 5:30–9 PM

Registration required (adults)

Looking to expand your knowledge and abilities on the pistol range? In this course you will improve your overall marksmanship skills, learn how to handle your firearm more efficiently plus much more. This course is geared towards shooters with some experience. Bring your own firearm, ammunition and two magazines.

Primitive Hunting Skills – Atlatl

June 28 · Saturday · 9–11 AM

Registration required (ages 10+)

Hunting for wild game is a tradition that has been passed down in every culture for thousands of years. This hands-on course will explore some basic hunting skills using the atlatl or spear-thrower. Today, there is a resurgence of interest in this primitive method of hunting. Join us for this session to learn what it is all about.

Parma Woods Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

15900 NW River Road, PO Box 14024, Parkville, MO 64152 • mdc.mo.gov/node/283

THE PRICE IS RIGHT FOR MDC RANGES, PROGRAMS & EVENTS

The price is right for shooting at MDC ranges. Cost is just \$3 per hour for archery, rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting. Lake City Shooting Range also offers Trap and Skeet shooting at just \$3 per round of 25 targets. Compare that to other shooting ranges in our area and you will see that this is a bargain. MDC makes range practice affordable, safe and fun for you and your family to enjoy a great day of shooting.

MDC also offers an array of educational programs at no cost. During these programs, all equipment and



supplies are provided to participants. Our programs encompass shooting and other outdoors skills to help people connect to Missouri outdoors.

Parma

Woods Range is also offering special events this season. On **Mother's Day, May 11**, the range will be offering an hour of free shooting to all moms. On **June 13**, we'll be hosting a **Couple's Night** and will reopen the range for a few hours later than normal for a "date night event." We'll also have a limited number of instructors and range firearms available for those new to shooting. On **June 24**, we will host **Youth Night**. Bring your favorite youths to the range for some free shooting fun.

For more information on these and other free events give us a **call at (816)891-9941** or visit our website at **www.mdc.mo.gov/node/283**

– Nathan Woodland, Range Supervisor

Youth Air Rifle

May 14 · Wednesday · 6–8 PM

Registration required (ages 8–15; youths must be accompanied by an adult)

Many shooters learn to master the skills of marksmanship using an air rifle. The virtual lack of recoil and relatively quiet discharge creates a good environment where a new shooter can learn to focus on the fundamentals. In this program we'll discuss safety, different types of air rifles, fundamentals of shooting. Then we'll practice those fundamentals with some live fire.

Handgun Safety and Shooting Fundamentals

May 23 · Friday · 6–9 PM AND

May 24 · Saturday · 8–10 AM

Registration required (ages 11+; ages 11–17 must be accompanied by an adult)

The purchase and use of handguns has become increasingly popular in the last several years. This class is developed to teach you how to stay safe around handguns and understand the basics of handgun marksmanship. It's a great class for beginning handgun shooters. Our certified instructors will discuss safety, equipment, loading, unloading, shooting fundamentals and more.

Intro to Shotgun Shooting Fundamentals

May 28 · Wednesday · 5:30–8:30 PM

Registration required (ages 11+; ages 11–17 must be accompanied by an adult)

Shooting a shotgun at a moving target can be a humbling experience. Misses often come easy, but our certified instructors can help make your transition from a stationary target to a moving one a bit simpler. Attendees should expect a brief lecture regarding safety, shotgun basics, shooting fundamentals and more. Afterwards we'll head to the range to put the theory into practice.

Creating Cartridges–Level I

June 18 · Wednesday · 6–9 PM

Registration required (ages 11+; ages 11–17 must be accompanied by an adult)

Summer is a great time to begin reloading cartridges. Whether your goals include squeezing out additional accuracy or shooting more for less money, this class will give you the foundation needed to start making safe cartridges right away.



Located in Platte County, Missouri. Go west of downtown Parkville on Route FF to River Road, then west 3 miles to the entrance located just west of I-435. Facilities are available for individual or group use and include a rifle/pistol/shotgun range, and archery range.

HOURS:

May 1–September 30

Monday and Tuesday: 2 PM–8 PM

Friday–Sunday: 10 AM–4 PM

October 1–April 30

Friday–Tuesday: Noon–4:30 PM

Closed Wednesday and Thursday and all state holidays.

FACILITIES AND FEES:

- Rifle/pistol/shotgun/range: \$3 booth per hour
- Archery range: \$3 per person per hour

TO REGISTER FOR A PROGRAM:

Programs are free. Call 816-891-9941 to sign up for a program requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list.

Introduction to Firearms Women Only

June 19 · Thursday · 5:30–8:30 PM AND

June 20 · Friday · 5:30–8:30 PM

Registration required (ages 11+; ages 11–17 must be accompanied by an adult)

Staying safe around firearms requires the appropriate level of knowledge and skill combined with a positive attitude. Join our certified firearms instructors as we explore the fun of shooting in a safe and controlled environment. This course will cover all major types of firearms and will include live fire.

Anita B. Gorman **Discovery Center**

4750 Troost Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64110 • mdc.mo.gov/node/281



Located in Kansas City, Missouri, just east of the Plaza near 47th and Troost. Six hands-on workshops explore Missouri's fish, forest and wildlife with a Lewis and Clark theme. Discovery Center is a showcase for environmental architecture with four acres of native landscaping. Buy books and hunting/fishing permits at the gift shop.

HOURS:

Monday–Friday: 8 AM–5 PM
1st and 3rd Tuesdays: 8 AM–9 PM
1st and 3rd Saturdays: 9 AM–4 PM
Closed all state holidays.

TO REGISTER FOR A PROGRAM:

Programs are free. Call 816-759-7300 to sign up for a program requiring registration.

Grow Native

May 3 · Saturday · 10 AM–2:30 PM

Walk-in (all ages)

Regardless of whether you have a small yard or several acres, growing native plants makes sense. Join us for a day of learning about native plants and trees. You will discover what a seed ball is and how it can grow a wildflower garden, learn the importance and value of trees and enjoy transplanting native plants to take home.

Annual Plant Exchange

May 3 · Saturday · 9:30 AM–Noon

Walk-in (all ages)

Get a jump start on your outdoor gardens, share successful and bountiful plants from your garden and enjoy the beauty of others plantings. Exchange plants from your home with those from other Kansas City gardeners. Everyone will leave with new plants to grow this spring and summer. See the article on page 8 for more details.

Nature Nuts Storytime

May 3 · Saturday · 10–11 AM or 1–2 PM

May 17 · Saturday · 10–11 AM or 1–2 PM

Walk-in (ages 3–8; all welcome)

Join volunteer naturalists for a fantastic journey through forests, streams and other magical places as they read select books. Children will participate in a hands-on nature activity.

The Owls of Forest Park with Mark Glenshaw

May 6 · Tuesday · 7:00 PM

No registration required (adults; ages 14+ are welcome to attend with an adult participant) Great Horned Owls are beautiful and fascinating members of Missouri's raptor population—come and get acquainted! Amateur naturalist Mark Glenshaw will regale us with his stories and videos of their feeding, hunting, courtship and nesting behaviors, gleaned from eight years of dedicated study of several owl families in St. Louis.

Scout Program

May 6 · Tuesday · Evening

Registration required (scouts)

Scout leaders, are you lacking expertise or equipment to complete conservation badges? Bring your troop to Discovery Center. Education Specialist staff will provide a program helping your scouts with rank achievement. All Missouri scout groups of 10-24 participants are welcome to schedule a free program. Please contact Wendy Parrett at (816) 759-7305 ext. 1141 or Wendy.Parrett@mdc.mo.gov to schedule an evening program on the first Tuesday evening of the month.

Trap Shooting

May 17 · Saturday · 9 AM–Noon

Registration required (adults; ages 13+ welcome with an adult participant)

Looking for a new activity this summer? Try trap shooting. Trap shooting is a great shooting sport and a real challenge. It is an activity which does not require a lot of specialized equipment and is a good introduction to firearm use. Learn the fundamentals of firearm safety, shooting stance, follow through and marksmanship.



Archery

May 17 · Saturday · 10 AM–2:30 PM

Walk-in (ages 8+)

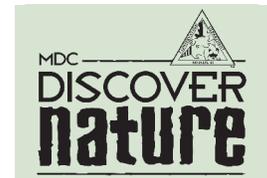
Shooting archery is a great way to spend an afternoon in nature. Join our trained instructors for some basic archery instruction and hands on practice shooting archery. Topics include shooting fundamentals, equipment, safety and more.

Fishing with Kids

May 17 · Saturday · 10 AM–2:30 PM

Walk-in (adults)

Parents, want to take your kids fishing, but feel a little rusty or unsure of where to start? Join us to learn fishing locations within the Kansas City area, equipment needed and



what to do. You'll leave more confident so that both you and your children can have a fun day.

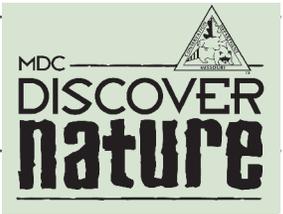
Missouri Hunter Education Skills Session

May 17 · Saturday · 9 AM–1 PM

Registration required (ages 11+)

This skills session is the second half of the hunter education certification for those who have completed the online course option, the self-paced manual option or through attending a classroom session. Attendees will demonstrate proper firearm safety through hands on skills and take an exam at the end. Attendees must provide a qualifier certificate or student manual with all review questions answered in order to complete the skills session. Registration and more information can be found at: <http://www.register-ed.com/programs/missouri>

Discover nature at **ADULT SUMMER CAMP** every third Tuesday: Nature Photography, May 20 · Canoeing, June 17 · Archery, July 15 · Missouri River by Boat, August 19



Missouri's Wilderness Areas

May 20 · Tuesday · 7 PM

No registration required (adults)

Join John Hickey, chapter director for the Missouri Sierra Club, for an overview of federal wilderness areas in our state. During the 1970s, a grassroots citizens' campaign identified and ultimately resulted in the protection and designation of eight tracts of federal land in Missouri under the National Wilderness Preservation System. Now, citizens are once again organizing to expand wilderness protection here in places like Big Spring on the Current River. Learn about opportunities to explore, enjoy and protect Missouri's wilderness areas.

Adult Summer Camp: Nature Photography

May 20 · Tuesday · 6–9 PM

Registration required (adults)

Creating great nature photos is all about being in the right place at the right time.



Be with us as we explore the Discovery Center gardens in search of beautiful blooms and photo ops! We'll supply digital cameras and the expertise to enhance and improve your picture taking skills. Geared mostly for beginners, you are welcome to bring

your own camera or borrow one of ours. We'll look at and discuss our new images, and make a print to take home.

Fire and Ice

June 3 · Tuesday · 6–8 PM

Walk-in (all ages)

Even on warm spring days it's easy to enjoy a campfire. And what makes a campfire special is family and fun. Join us for this outdoor evening event as we enjoy an early summer campfire complete with s'mores and ice cold drinks. We'll scour the Discovery Center landscape for items to use in our plaster-of-paris imprints. It will be an evening of discovery and fun for the entire family.



Bell Mountain Wilderness Area in Missouri's St. Francis Mountains.

Missouri Wilderness Day Special Event

June 7 · Saturday · 10 AM–2:30 PM

Walk-in (all ages) This summer, our nation will celebrate "50 years of Wilderness"—the golden anniversary of the passage of the Wilderness Act of 1964 and the creation of our National Wilderness System. We are planning a special day with activities and exhibits including the traveling exhibit, "Fifty Years of Wilderness Through the Lens of Missouri's Eight Wilderness Areas." The event will be capped with a two mile Walk for Wilderness in conjunction with the Heartland Chapter of the Sierra Club. This is a chance to learn about Missouri's Wilderness Areas and plan a visit.

Nature Nuts Storytime

June 7 · Saturday · 10–11 AM or 1–2 PM

June 21 · Saturday · 10–11 AM or 1–2 PM

Walk-in (ages 3–8; all welcome)

Join volunteer naturalists for a fantastic journey through forests, streams and other magical places as they read select books. Children will participate in a hands-on nature activity.

Adult Summer Camp: Canoeing

June 17 · Tuesday · 6–8 PM

Registration required (adults)

Canoeing provides a fun recreational opportunity to enjoy water environments. This beginner's level program will teach you basic paddle strokes and allow time to practice and explore. We will go to a nearby pond, get specific directions when you register for the program.

Discover Nature: Prairies

June 21 · Saturday · 10 AM–2:30 PM

Walk-in (all ages)

Before settlement, the Kansas City area was part of a vast ecoregion known as the tallgrass prairie. Rediscover our prairie past, as we host a day of activities that include wildflower walks, nature films, prairie plantings and kids crafts.

Photography exhibit on fifty years of protecting wilderness

In 1964, America decided to retain at least some of the wilderness that the country was built on. The federal Wilderness Act allowed Missouri to designate eight wilderness areas that are protected for future generations to explore and enjoy.

The Discovery Center will host a very special exhibit highlighting wilderness areas in Missouri from May 6 through June. The photography of Richard Spener and Toni Armstrong will inspire and excite you to learn more about the treasured wilderness areas of Missouri. Each photo tells its own story, whether it is through intimate details of wildlife or through breathtaking views of the landscape.

Enjoy learning about wilderness through photography and then challenge yourself to step into a wilderness area in Missouri. To get started, attend Discovery Center's Missouri Wilderness Day on Saturday, June 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Discovery Center, Parma Woods and Lake City Shooting Ranges

will be closed for these state holidays:

Truman Day, May 8

Memorial Day, May 26

Range Activities for Women

The Lake City Shooting Range offers a wide variety of options for women who want to know more about the world of shooting and its vast possibilities. Our Lake City Women's program is new and gaining popularity. We welcome women with no experience to those who have a wealth of shooting knowledge. Participants gather to

Summer Hours for Shooting Ranges

LAKE CITY

Wednesday – Sunday
12 to 6 p.m. starting
May 1 – September 14

PARMA WOODS

Friday – Sunday
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. starting
May 1 – September 30

discuss the various shooting disciplines, teach skills and shoot on the range. All programs are facilitated by women who have a

passion for the shooting sports.

Participants in the women's program meet at the range twice a month for hands-on experience with a variety of shooting disciplines. Archery, pistol, rifle and shotgun are the most popular. The basics of cleaning, maintenance and storage of bows, arrows and firearms

are offered as well. Whether a first time shooter or an experienced shooter, there is always something new to learn, and it's always fun to learn with other women.

The most popular program is the Women's Firearm Safety class, Phases I and II. These programs are specifically designed with women in mind and give students the opportunity to learn the sport of pistol shooting in the company of other women. These two different sessions give women the chance to grow and improve their skill. The class covers shooting fundamentals, different types of handguns and calibers, storage and maintenance.

Lake City is also offering a new program, the NRA's Women on Target program. This program is a safe and fun way to enjoy shooting in a friendly and safe environment on ranges managed by the Lake City staff. The program covers skills with rifles, pistols, shotguns, archery and atlatl. One-on-one coaching will give you and your friends the support to obtain the skills of a basic shooter. You will also get a better understanding of what the sport of shooting can offer you.

If you are interested in any of these women's programs offered at the Lake City Shooting Range, please call 816-249-3194 to register.

—Kellie Zurowski, Range Officer

Calling all gardeners for annual plant exchange

The Eighth Annual Citywide Plant and Seed Exchange will be from 9:30 a.m. to noon on May 3 at the Discovery Center. All gardeners are encouraged to pot extra plants and cuttings, label them and bring them to trade with other gardeners. Feel free also to bring in seeds, bulbs, tubers and cuttings. Please make sure they are plainly marked.

Plan on this event and give yourself time to dig up extras to share with others. The plants need to be potted several days to two weeks ahead of time. No freshly dug or bare root plants allowed.

While here, visit the Discovery Center's rain, wildflower and butterfly gardens. These gardens are planted to attract wildlife for viewing and you can use the same designs at home.

Please do not bring weedy, invasive or super-common plants. Bring a few, take a few; bring a lot, take a lot. Everyone is invited and it's Free!

SeedSavers-KC Seed Library now at Discovery Center

SeedSavers-KC is a not for profit community project that wants to improve the diets of people in the area by providing a seed library as a resource to get them started gardening. SeedSavers-KC promotes the use of our sturdy, useful and often edible native plants by providing their seeds to grow in flower and vegetable gardens. Natives help encourage beneficial insects in your garden. The purpose of the seed library is to teach people about seed saving.



SeedSavers-KC has free classes on seed saving and gardening available at Discovery Center. To learn more or join the library,

visit the Facebook page: SeedSavers-KCSeedsavers-KC website is: www.seedsaverskc.org





OUTDOOR SKILLS CAMP

BECOME A PART OF THE OUTDOOR SKILLS ADVENTURE!

June 2014

Morning Block: 8:30 AM-NOON

Afternoon Block: 12:30-4 PM

Burr Oak Woods

Conservation Nature Center/Area

1401 NW Park Road

Blue Springs, MO 64015

These are free programs!

REGISTRATION FOR OUTDOOR SKILLS

will begin at 7:00 AM
on Tuesday, May 20 for

FIRST TIME PARTICIPANTS ONLY.

Returning participants may begin
registering on

Wednesday, May 21 at 7:00 AM.

Telephone registration only.

Ages 8-11 or 12-18

If you love to have fun outdoors, and would like to learn new skills, then this program is for you! Teamwork, safety, and leadership are stressed. Join us in June as we learn the basics of these outdoor skills.

Block I: Air Rifles, Archery, Canoeing

**Block II: Fishing, Orienteering,
Primitive Hunting Skills**

Ages 8 - 11

DATE	8:30-NOON	12:30-4:00 PM
JUNE 3	Block II	Block I
JUNE 4	Block I	Block II
JUNE 5	Block I	Block II
JUNE 10	Block I	Block II
JUNE 12	Block II	Block I
JUNE 17	Block I	Block II
JUNE 18	Block II	Block I

Ages 12 - 18

DATE	8:30-NOON	12:30-4:00 PM
JUNE 6	Block I	Block II
JUNE 11	Block II	Block I
JUNE 13	Block I	Block II

Save the Date: June 19 or 20

Show off your new skills. After completing Blocks I & II, register for **Take Your Parent to Outdoor Skills Camp.**

discover nature programs...

- Help Missourians discover and explore nature
- Provide expert instruction and hands-on activities
- Are available statewide

mdc.mo.gov



Serving nature and you®