Deer Hunting:

- Deer hunting is allowed during all deer seasons but may be taken by archery methods only.
- Only portable tree stands are allowed and only from Sept. 1 through Jan. 31. Unattended stands must be plainly labeled on a durable material with the full name and address, or Conservation Number of the owner and must be removed from the area before Feb. 1. Use of nail, screw in steps and any material of method that would damage the tree is prohibited.

Small Game Hunting:

- Beginning Jan. 1 areas outside the Waterfowl Hunting Only Zones and Refuges are open to small game hunting.

Fishing and Boating:

Fishing is permitted under statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply.

- On Grand River, Locust Creek, and Parsons Creek, statewide limits and methods apply. On area ponds and Jo Shelby Lake, daily limits are six black bass and four catfish in the aggregate (channel, blue, and flathead catfish) and 30 crappie. All other fish, statewide limits, but the total number taken may not exceed 20 in the aggregate. Fish may be taken only by pole and line and no more than three poles and lines may be used by any one person.
- On Che-Ru Lake, the methods and daily limits are the same except the limit for walleye is four.
- On area ponds and Jo Shelby Lake, all black bass between 12 and 15 inches total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.
- On Che-Ru Lake black bass and walleye less than 15 inches in total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.
- Jo Shelby Lake and numbered ponds are closed to fishing year-round.
- Che-Ru Lake and Goose Pond are closed to all uses Oct. 15 through March 1.
- Boats may be used for fishing and wildlife-related activities only. Boats may not be stored or left unattended overnight.
- Electric motors only are allowed on Jo Shelby Lake and area ponds.
- Outboard motors in excess of 10 horsepower are permitted on Che-Ru Lake and all wetland pools but must be operated at slow, no-wake speed.
- Carp, buffalo, suckers, and gar may be taken by gig, bows and crossbow during the statewide season.
- Seining or trapping live bait, excluding all frogs and tadpoles, in compliance with 3 CSR 10-6.605 is permitted on designated lakes and ponds excluding Che-Ru and Jo Shelby Lakes, Bittern Marsh, Goose Pond, and all numbered ponds.
- Salvage seining of other fish as designated in 3 CSR 10-650 may be permitted seasonally for personal use with a special use permit.

For local information, contact:
Fountain Grove Conservation Area
32988 Blackhorn Drive
Meadville, MO 64659
660/938-4124
or
Chillicothe Office
660/646-6122

8/2019
Fountain Grove Conservation Area

About This Area

Fountain Grove Conservation Area sits in the floodplain of the Grand River and serves as an important migration stop for a variety of wildlife. It also plays an important role in providing wintering habitat for Canada geese of the Eastern Prairie Population.

The area was the first wetland area developed by the Conservation Commission and has grown from its original 3,433 acres in the 1940’s to its present size of 7,959.4 acres.

The area is managed to provide diverse wetland habitats, including marshes, bottomland forests, grain fields, oxbow lakes and sloughs. Bald eagles are commonly seen on the area throughout the winter.

Rules and Regulations:

Area hours: Open daily from 4 a.m. to 10 p.m.

• Campers and campers hunting pools are allowed until 1:00 p.m.
• Hunting tags are required only on trails designated for their use and on roads and trails open to vehicular traffic, unless otherwise posted.
• No target shooting allowed.
• Swimming, scuba diving, water skiing, sailboarding and skateboarding are not allowed.

Hunting and Trapping:

Area information, Daily Hunting Tags and area maps are located and accessible 24 hours a day at the Area Headquarters Hunter Check-In Room and at the South Side Wetland Complex information bulletin board.

• To monitor harvest of all game species, all hunters are required to accurately fill out a Daily Hunting Tag prior to their hunt.
• All waterfowl hunters must possess a Daily Waterfowl Hunting Tag.
• All hunters must check out immediately after the close of their hunting trip by accurately recording their harvest and returning this information to the Hunter Check In Room or South Side Wetland Complex information bulletin board.
• Deer may be hunted by archery methods only.
• Use or possession of lead shot is prohibited.
• Trail and game cameras are prohibited.
• The area is closed to waterfowl hunting on Christmas Day.
• Trapping of furbearers is permitted only as specifically authorized by special use permit.

Waterfowl Hunting:

• All lands north of the Grand River are closed to Canada goose hunting during early portion of the Canada goose season.
• Refuge Areas are in effect Oct. 15 through March 1 and are closed to all uses. Refuge Areas are closed to hunting from March 2 through March 31.
• The South Side Wetland Complex is an Open Hunting Zone and is open to statewide regulations except deer may be hunted by archery methods only.
• March 2 through Oct. 15 all lands north of the Grand River are open to hunting under statewide regulations except during teal season, the early portion of Canada goose season and the spring Conservation order.
• Oct. 15 to the end of the Canada goose season, all lands north of the Grand River are closed to hunting except as follows:

Waterfowl Hunting: Only zones from Oct. 15 through Feb. 15 and are designated for waterfowl hunting only during that time.
• Non-Hunters and Fisherman are prohibited in waterfowl hunting only zones from Oct. 15 through Feb. 15.
• During the north zone duck season, daily morning draws are conducted to allocate waterfowl hunting opportunity north of the Grand River. Waterfowl hunters are only allowed in these designated locations. Waterfowl hunting from an assigned water blind or blind mound is permitted during established statewide shooting hours.
• Waterfowl hunters hunting in designated walk-in hunting pools is allowed until 1:00 pm.