

Rules and Regulations

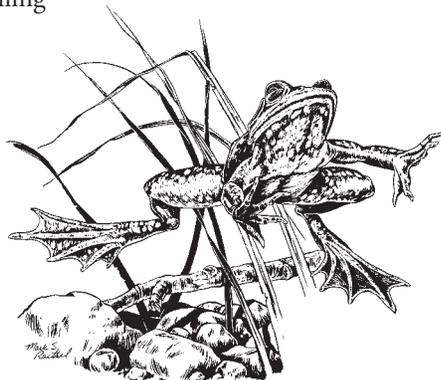
Area hours: Open daily from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Hours are subject to change during managed hunts. The area is closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day and all state holidays.

Please check bulletin boards for special area regulations.

- Motor vehicles are restricted to roadways and parking areas. Please drive in a safe and orderly manner. 25mph max.
- Bicycles are allowed only on roads open to vehicles (not allowed on trails).
- No littering. Waste containers may be used only for disposal of trash generated on area.
- The harvesting of nuts, berries, fruits or wild greens is prohibited. Mushrooms may be collected only for personal consumption.
- The area is closed to hunting and fishing, except during managed hunts and fishing programs.
- Area is closed to trapping.
- Area is closed to all group running.

The following are prohibited on the area:

- Pets
- Fires
- Fireworks
- Trail and Game Cameras
- Target Shooting
- Horseback Riding
- Camping
- Swimming
- Skateboarding
- Skating
- Repelling



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 Burr Oak Woods Conservation Area belongs to private landowners. The boundaries adjoining private property are clearly marked. Please respect landowners' rights with these simple courtesies: obtain permission before going on private property, pick up all litter and do not damage property.

Nearby Department Areas:

Baltimore Bend Conservation Area
Ferguson-Herold Conservation Area
Lipton Conservation Area
Lone Jack Lake Conservation Area
Maple Leaf Lake Conservation Area
James A Reed Memorial Wildlife Area
Saeger Woods Conservation Area

For local information, contact:

Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center
1401 NW Park Rd
Blue Springs, MO 64015
816/228-3766

11/2019

(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.) 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.

Burr Oak Woods

CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Burr Oak Woods Conservation Area

About This Area

Burr Oak Woods Conservation Area is a 1,071 acres property located in Blue Springs just north of I-70. Burr Oak Woods Conservation Area was purchased in 1977 and has been managed to provide the public with unique wildlife viewing and learning experiences. The property is well known for its trail system that provides an escape from its urban surroundings. The Nature Center was the first built in the State of Missouri back in 1982.

Features on the area include but are not limited to steep forested hillsides along Burr Oak Creek (the namesake of the property), large limestone boulders and outcrops, prairie and woodland restoration sites.

Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center

The nature center opened in 1982 and features state of the art hands-on conservation exhibits. Check out the larger than life children's area and the brand new exhibits added in 2016 featuring streams and forests.

The center serves as a focal point of nature interpretation and conservation education with its 168-seat auditorium and 3000-gallon aquarium. Meet native fish and live reptiles and amphibians up close. Special events and programs are scheduled throughout the year. Conservation programs are available to organized groups upon advance request.

The nature center is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. The nature center is closed Sunday, Monday, and all state holidays.

Things to Do

• Wildlife viewing

Burr Oak Woods has a rich diversity of wildlife species. Deer, turkey, squirrels, raccoons, coyotes, and songbirds are commonly seen. A special bird watching area is available in the nature center.

• Outdoor photography

• Picnicking

There are two picnic areas available on a first-come basis. Each includes tables and a privy, the lower picnic area includes a shelter. Fires are not permitted.

• Hiking: six self-guided nature trails

1. *Missouri Tree Trail* (.75 mile level: easy)

A concrete surface trail located just west of the nature center. The trail travels through the forest edge next to two prairie plantings, a pond, and an overlook in a managed woodland above a restored glade. Many trees native to Missouri are labeled along the trail.

2. *J. Ernest Dunn Jr. Discovery Trail* (.5 mile level: easy)

A paved trail that moves through a mature forest just behind the Nature Center. Your family will love exploring and creating in the Discover Nature classroom next to the trailhead. The trail provides many fun learning opportunities for children.

3. *Wildlife Habitat Trail*

(1.5 miles level: moderate)

A self-guided, educational, gravel surface trail that shows how tree harvesting and thinning helps to improve forest health and wildlife habitat. Features along the trail include a hidden pond, restored woodlands, and glades. The educational trail is only on the shorter loop option (.9 mile).

4. *Bethany Falls Trail*

(1.33 miles level: moderate)

An award winning hiking trail in the Kansas City area. A gravel surface trail that passes by a restored woodland, savannah, and a native prairie planting. The trail passes remnants of an old homestead and through the scenic Bethany Falls limestone out cropping.

5. *Hickory Grove Trail*

(1.15 one way level: moderate)

A gravel surface, linear trail that travels through outlying areas of Burr Oak Woods.

6. *Prairie Connector Trail* (.5 mile level: easy)

Connects the J. Ernest Dunn Jr. Discovery Trail and Missouri Tree Trail Complex to the Bethany Falls Trail.

