Furbearer trapping is permitted by special-use permit.

Waterfowl hunting during the prescribed duck season is allocated by a daily morning drawing held approximately 1 1/2 hours before shooting time. A party with a maximum of four individuals may participate.

Waterfowl may be taken by holders of a valid hunting tag only from an assigned blind or designated area. Hunters must remain in their blinds, except when retrieving dead birds, pursuing and shooting downed cripples, or hunting from a blind within a wade and shoot unit.

Only authorized hunting parties with a valid hunting tag are permitted within the Disabled Accessible Blind Zone from October 15 to the close of the area’s prescribed duck season.

Waterfowl hunting is prohibited after 1 p.m. on designated portions of the area. Goose and teal hunting are allowed under statewide regulations during those portions of the prescribed seasons that occur outside of the prescribed duck hunting season. Light goose hunting is allowed under statewide regulations during the prescribed conservation order for light geese.

Decoys and portable blinds are permitted but must be removed daily. Blinds may be constructed on-site, but only from willows and non-woody vegetation.

Non-hunters are prohibited within the shooting areas during the waterfowl season, unless they are members of and remain with a party legally authorized to use the area.

Note: Waterfowl hunting success on this area will depend on hunters following the regulations and respecting the rights of their fellow hunters. Identify ducks before shooting and do not interfere with or spoil the hunting of others by “skyblasting” at birds that are out of range.

B. K. Leach Memorial Conservation Area consists of three tracts totaling 4,307 acres. The main tract is 3 miles south of Elsberry on Highway 79 then 3 miles east on Route M.

**Nearby Department Areas**

- Norton Woods Access
- Upper Mississippi Conservation Area
- Prairie Slough Conservation Area
- Sandy Island Conservation Area

**For local information, contact:**

Missouri Department of Conservation
St. Louis Regional Office
August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area
2360 Highway D
St. Charles, MO 63304
(636) 441-4554

Additional area information is posted on bulletin boards located in parking area.
B.K. Leach Memorial Conservation Area

Area Highlights
This area borders the Mississippi River and contains wetlands, forest and cropland. Facilities/features: waterfowl blinds, several fishable sloughs and ponds.

Recreational Opportunities

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

- No littering.
- No fireworks.
- No camping permitted.
- No open fires except in designated areas.
- No target shooting allowed.
- Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being trained or used for hunting.
- Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal use. Cutting or removing other vegetation is prohibited. Taking of wild greens from natural areas is prohibited.
- Motor vehicles are allowed on public roadways and in parking areas.
- Bicycling is allowed on roads open to vehicles.
- Horseback riding is allowed on roads open to vehicles.
- Area is closed to all non-hunting activity from October 15 to the end of the area’s duck season, except for areas open to archery hunting only from October 15 to the close of the area’s prescribed duck season.
- Swimming, scuba diving, water skiing, sailboarding, skateboarding, caving and rappelling are prohibited.
- Waterfowl refuge areas are closed to all entry during the dates specified.

Fishing and Boating
- Fishing is permitted under the following special regulations, except that fishing is not allowed on the area from October 15 to the close of the area’s prescribed duck season.
  - Daily limits are 6 black bass and 4 catfish in the aggregate (channel, blue and flathead catfish) and 30 crappies. All other fish, statewide limits, but the total number taken may not exceed 20.
  - All black bass between 12 and 15 inches must be released immediately after being caught.
  - Carp, buffalo, suckers and gar may be taken by gig, longbow or crossbow under statewide regulations, except from Oct. 15 to the close of the area’s prescribed duck season.
  - Bullfrogs and green frogs may not be taken with firearms.
  - Bullfrogs and green frogs may be taken only on waters open to fishing from the opening of frog season through Oct. 14.
  - Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited.
  - Boats may be used for fishing and wildlife activities and may not be left unattended overnight.
  - Only electric motors are permitted, except during the waterfowl season, when outboard motors are permitted in designated areas. Outboard motors in excess of 10 horsepower must be operated at slow, no-wake speed.

Hunting and Trapping
Hunting is allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions:
- Use or possession of lead shot is prohibited for hunting on this conservation area.
- Deer hunting is permitted under statewide seasons and limits except: only archery methods may be used. Deer hunting with firearms is prohibited.
- Only portable tree stands are allowed and only from September 1 through January 31. Unattended stands must be plainly labeled on a durable material with the full name and address, or conservation number, of the owner and be removed from the area before February 1. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any material or method that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Hunting of wildlife other than waterfowl is allowed during prescribed seasons, except that from Oct. 15 to the close of the area’s prescribed duck season non-waterfowl species may be hunted by archery methods only and only in designated areas.