Recreational Opportunities

Bird watching - Bicycling - Fishing - Hiking - Hunting
Outdoor Photography - Wildlife Viewing

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

• No littering. Waste containers may be used only for disposal of trash generated on area.
• No fireworks allowed.
• No open fires except in designated camping areas.
• Dogs must be leashed when not used for training or hunting. Special-use permits are required for field and retriever trials.
• Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms, and wild greens may be taken for personal use. Cutting or removing other vegetation is prohibited.
• Motor vehicles are allowed only on public roadways and in parking areas.
• Horseback riding is permitted only on roads open to vehicles.
• Primitive camping is permitted at the designated camping area (see area map). Campers are limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period. Groups of 10 or more campers need a special-use permit.
• Bicycling is allowed on service roads and roads open to vehicles.
• Target shooting not allowed.

Hunting and Trapping

Hunting is allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions:

• Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. Please refer to the Spring Turkey or Fall Deer and Turkey Hunting pamphlets for current regulations.
• Portable tree stands may be used between Sept. 1 and Jan. 31. Stands must be identified with the name and address, or conservation number of the user. Screw-in steps or other materials that would damage the tree are prohibited.
• Decoys and portable blinds are permitted but must be removed from the area daily. Blinds may be constructed on-site, but only from willows and non-woody vegetation.
• Furbearer trapping is permitted by special-use permit.

Fishing and Boating

Fishing and frogging are allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions:

• Ponds and strip pits are open to fishing unless otherwise posted.
• Fish may be taken only by pole and line and not more than 3 poles may be used by any person.
• Black bass between 12 and 15 inches must be released immediately after being caught.
• Daily limit is 6 black bass, 4 channel catfish and 30 crappie. Total number of all other fish may not exceed 20.
• Other restrictions may apply to specific ponds, lakes and stream segments.
• Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited.
• Salvage seining of non-game fish for personal use is permitted only with written authorization.
• Boats may be used only for fishing and wildlife activities and may not be left unattended overnight.
• Only electric motors are permitted.

From Mindenmines go east on Highway 160, take Route M south 1 mile to the area.

For local information, contact:
Missouri Department of Conservation
2630 N Mayfair
Springfield, MO 65803
(417) 895-6880

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

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