

Hart Creek

CONSERVATION AREA



11/2016

(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/3csr/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.

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

About this Area

Hart Creek Conservation Area is 3/4 mile northwest of Hartsburg on Hart Creek Road.

This 657-acre area was acquired through two purchases. In 1997 the Department purchased the initial tract, 574 acres, from Vernon and Alta Fay Renner. The other tract, an adjoining 83 acres, was obtained from John W. Shettlesworth in 2000.

Recreational Opportunities

Bird Watching – Bicycling – Fishing – Hiking – Hunting – Outdoor Photography – Wildlife Viewing

Rules and Regulations

Open for public use from 4:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; hunting fishing, trapping, camping, dog training, launching and landing boats allowed 24 hours a day on areas where these activities are permitted.

- Bicycling is allowed on the designated hiking and biking trail. The bicycle and hiking trail traverses an area from the Katy Trail on the west, up a steep slope and then gently back down to Jemerson Creek Road on the east side of the area. To make a loop, ride south on Jemerson Creek Road to the community of Hartsburg, access the Katy Trail, and ride north on the Katy Trail back to Hart Creek CA.
- Camping is allowed anytime in designated camping areas as well as by walk-in/backpack camping. No amenities are provided. Seasonal closures and restrictions may apply. Campers are limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period. Groups of 10 or more need a special use permit.
- Nuts, berries, fruits, edible wild greens and mushrooms may be taken only for personal consumption.
- Pets and hunting dogs are permitted but must be on a leash or confined at all time. Hunting dogs may be used off the leash and unconfined for hunting and training purposes. Hunting permit required to train dogs in pursuit of wildlife.

Fishing and Boating

Fishing and frogging are allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions or as further restricted by signs or area brochure.

- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited in lakes and ponds.
- On Lakes and ponds, fish may be taken only with pole and line and not more than three (3) poles may be used by one (1) person at any time.
- Statewide daily and possession limits shall apply for all species, except that: In lakes and ponds, daily limits are catfish in the aggregate (channel catfish, blue catfish, flathead catfish), four (4); black bass, six (6); crappie, thirty (30); and all other fish, statewide limits, but not to exceed twenty (20) in the aggregate.
- Black bass more than twelve inches (12”), but less than fifteen inches (15”) total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.

Hunting and Trapping

Hunting is allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions.

- Only portable stands are allowed from September 1 through January 31. Unattended stands must be plainly labeled or on durable material with the full name and address or Conservation number of the owner and be removed from the area by February 1st. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any material or method that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Trapping is allowed only with special use permit. Contact area manager.
- Trail and game cameras are prohibited.
- Deer and turket regulations are subject to annual changes. Please refer to Spring Turkey or Fall Deer and Turkey summaries for current regulations.