

Area Highlights

LaBarque Creek Conservation Area comprises rugged, forested hills and steep, narrow valleys, canyons, bluffs and shelter caves carved into St. Peter sandstone. At least 54 species of fish have been identified in the creek and this diversity is almost three times greater than that of any of the 15 other tributaries of the Meramec River below LaBarque Creek. A variety of unique natural communities, such as sandstone glades, cliffs and seeps, exist in the watershed. Many migratory bird species breed in the area, including wood thrush, Acadian flycatcher, Eastern wood-pewee, worm-eating warbler, ovenbird, yellow-throated vireo, summer tanager and great-crested flycatcher.

Recreational Opportunities

Bird Watching – Hiking – Hunting
Outdoor Photography – Wildlife Viewing

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

- No off-road vehicles or ATVs.
- No horseback riding.
- No camping.
- No bicycling.
- Hiking: A 3-mile primitive hiking trail is located on the eastern portion of the area. The trail is signed in a clockwise direction and is rated moderate to difficult.
- No open fires or fireworks.
- No target shooting.
- Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being used or trained for hunting.
- Motor vehicles are allowed on public roadways and in parking areas.
- Nuts, berries, fruits, and mushrooms may be taken for personal use. The taking of wild greens from natural areas is not allowed. Cutting or removing other vegetation is prohibited. Digging is not permitted for any purpose.
- Swimming is prohibited.
- Bullfrogs and green frogs may not be taken with firearms.
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited.

Hunting and Trapping

Hunting is allowed under statewide regulations with the following exceptions:

- Firearms firing single projectiles are prohibited, except furbearers treed with the aid of dogs may be

taken with a twenty-two (.22) or smaller caliber rimfire firearm.

- Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. Please refer to Spring Turkey and Fall Deer and Turkey Booklets for current regulations. Only Archery methods may be used for deer hunting.
- 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.
- Decoys and portable blinds are permitted but must be removed from the area daily. Blinds may be constructed on-site, but only from willows.
- Hunters may not hunt on or within 100 feet of any trails, or roads open to vehicular traffic.
- Furbearer trapping is permitted by special-use permit.
- Removal of amphibians and reptiles is prohibited.

Nearby Department Areas

Young Conservation Area
Victoria Glades Conservation Area
Pacific Palisades Conservation Area

For local information, contact:

Missouri Department of Conservation
2360 Highway D
St. Charles, MO 63304
(636) 441-4554

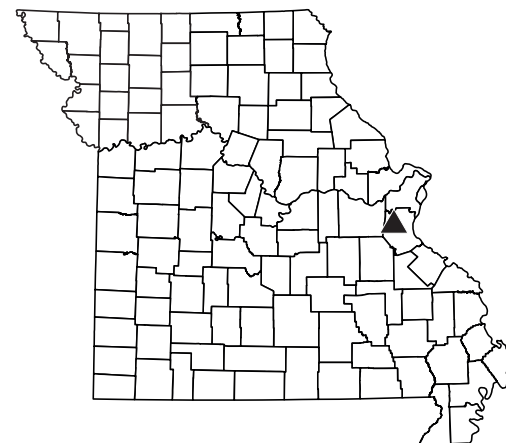
Additional area information is posted on bulletin boards located in parking areas and area offices.

04/2026

(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, religion, national origin, sex, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, veteran status, 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 Chief, Public Civil Rights, Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.

LaBarque Creek

CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION