

About This Area

The Conservation Department purchased this 160-acre tract of land in 1982. It contains one of the best quality examples of lowland swamp and bottomland forest in Missouri. A 76-acre portion of the area is designated as a Missouri Natural Area and is managed and protected for its outstanding educational and scientific values. The area's bottomland forests support bald cypress, swamp tupelo, water locust, sweetgum, nuttall oak, willow oak, overcup oak, water hickory, swamp chestnut oak, water elm, swamp privet, and many other species. A 7-acre natural lake, near the center of the area, is ringed with cypress-tupelo swamp. Some of the bald cypress trees are over 500 years old. The lake contains swamp species, including the endangered taillight shiner and swamp darter. A boardwalk and platform have been constructed on the western side of the lake for nature viewing and photography. Tree seedlings and acorns have been planted in most open fields to help restore the diverse forest communities that the land once supported. Over time, these areas will add to our dwindling supply of lowland bottomland forests.

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Bird Watching — Hiking
Outdoor Photography — Wildlife Viewing

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

- Bicycles and horses allowed on public roadways year-round.
- No littering.
- No fireworks or open fires allowed.
- No camping permitted.
- Vehicles are restricted to public roadways and parking lots unless otherwise allowed by area regulations.

- Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal consumption only. Taking of wild greens from natural areas is not allowed. Destroying, cutting or removing vegetation is prohibited.
- Dogs must be leashed.
- Swimming and scuba diving are not allowed.
- Target shooting is not allowed.

Fishing and Boating

- Fishing is prohibited.
- Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited.
- Non-motorized boats only are permitted during daylight hours only. Boats must be carried to the lake from the parking lot and cannot be stored overnight.

Hunting and Trapping

- Area is closed to hunting.
- Furbearer trapping is permitted by special use permit.
- Trail and game cameras are prohibited.

For information, contact:

Missouri Department of Conservation
2302 County Park Drive
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
573-290-5730

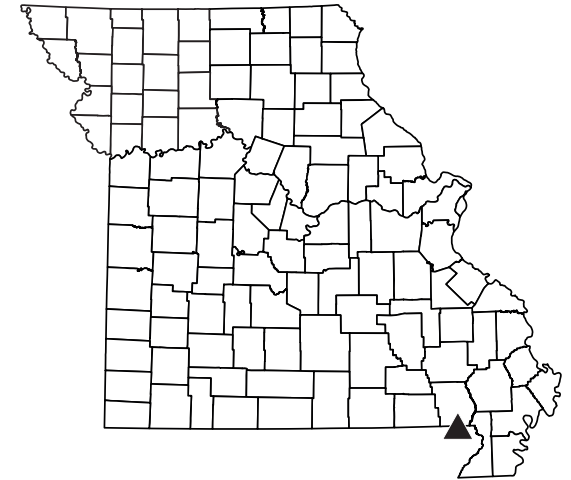
Additional area information is posted on bulletin boards located in parking areas and area offices.

4/2026

(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/csri/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, PO 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.

Allred Lake

NATURAL AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION