

When a Special Zone is not in effect, that a particular area is considered an Open Zone and is open to hunting, fishing, nature viewing and other uses according to statewide regulations and the special area rules and regulations outlined in this brochure.

Waterfowl Hunting Zone- October 15th to end of the North Zone Duck Season.

Refuge areas- October 15th-March 1st

No-Hunting Zone - Beginning on March 2 through October 14 this zone is a Waterfowl Refuge from Oct. 15 through March 1.

- Waterfowl may be taken in the Waterfowl Hunting Zone October 15 through the end of the North Zone duck season, according to statewide seasons and limits and special area regulations, by those waterfowl hunters who receive daily permits during a daily drawing at the area headquarters (except during the special Youth Waterfowl Hunting Day(s) when daily permits are available in self-check-in boxes at area parking lots). Daily drawings are conducted only during the North Zone Duck Season. Waterfowl hunting is permitted during established statewide shooting hours on that portion of the east of the Nodaway River. Waterfowl hunting closes at 1 p.m. on that portion of the area west of the Nodaway River during the North Zone duck season.
- No other activities are permitted in these zones, including scouting for future hunts, at any time from Oct. 15 through the end of the North Zone Duck Season.
- Waterfowl may be taken in the Open Zone (that portion of the area not included in the Waterfowl Hunting Zones or the Refuge Areas) according to statewide season and limits and special area regulations without attending the daily drawing, by obtaining a daily hunter record card (available at self-check-in on area parking lots).
- Waterfowl hunters must record their harvest at the end of the hunt and return this information to a self-check-in drop box before leaving the area.

- Reservations for disabled-accessible blind will be issued through an online preseason drawing in early September. See the MDC website to apply.
- Waterfowl hunting is closed on December 25th.
- Only portable tree stands are allowed and only from Sept. 1 through Jan. 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 Feb. 1. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any material or method that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- On the portion of the Nodaway River bordered by the portion of the Nodaway Valley Conservation Area which has been designated a Waterfowl Refuge, all hunting is prohibited from Oct. 15 through Jan. 15.

For local information, contact:

Nodaway Valley CA

(660) 446-3371

or

St. Joseph Regional Office (816) 271-3100

02/2025

(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.

Nodaway Valley

CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

About This Area

The Nodaway Valley Conservation Area is north of St. Joseph in Holt and Andrew counties. To reach the area, travel north on I-29 to Highway 59 (Exit 67) and head west for 3.5 miles. The area is then nine miles north on Highway B.

The Conservation Department purchased the area in 1991 to restore a small portion of wetlands that once flourished along the Nodaway River floodplain. A 4-mile stretch of the Nodaway River flows through the middle of the area and provides habitat for both migratory and resident wildlife species.

A major wetland development project on the Nodaway Valley Conservation Area was completed in 2002. The project enabled the restoration of more than 2,000 acres of shallow wetland habitat and more than 400 acres of prairie and bottomland hardwood forest in the Nodaway River floodplain. The development project was made possible by the contributions of a diverse group of partners, including: The North American Wetlands Conservation Act, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.; Holt County Levee District #5, The National Wild Turkey Federation, Wildlife Forever, The Missouri Prairie Foundation, Boy Scouts of America Troop 81 of Oregon, Mo., Northwest Missouri Quail Unlimited, Northland Pheasants Forever, Ideker, Inc., and the Missouri Department of Conservation.

The area is managed primarily to provide wetland habitat for a wide range of game and non-game wildlife. Management practices on the area include farming, controlled burning, planting of various trees, shrubs and grasses; and pumping and releasing water in the wetland pools.

Peak times for viewing waterfowl are mid-November and Mid-March.

Things to Do

- Hunting, nature study, wildlife viewing, nature photography and frogging
- Fishing in the Nodaway River and 1/2 acre pond.
- Primitive camping is permitted only in areas identified on area map. Camping is limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period. Total

camping days on all department lands are limited to thirty (30) days within one (1) calendar year. Groups of 10 campers or more must obtain a special use permit.

- Hiking. No designated trails exist on the area.

Rules and Regulations

Area hours: Open daily from 4 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Camping, hunting, fishing, dog training and launching and landing boats are permitted at any time when authorized.

- No littering.
- No fireworks.
- No open fires.
- No free-running pets. Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being trained or used for hunting.
- Destroying, cutting or removing vegetation is prohibited. Nuts, berries, fruits, mushrooms and wild greens may be taken for personal consumption only.
- Motor vehicles are allowed only on graveled public roadway and parking areas unless otherwise posted.
- Bicycles and horses allowed on public roadways. Bicycles allowed on designated service roads. Seasonal restrictions apply. See Hunting and Trapping section. Service roads can be located at <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places>.
- No target shooting allowed.
- Swimming and scuba diving are not allowed.

Fishing and Boating:

Fishing is permitted under statewide regulations.

The following special regulations also apply:

- On impounded waters, daily limits are six black bass and four catfish in the aggregate (channel, blue and flathead catfish) and 30 crappie. All other fish are not to exceed 20 in the aggregate. All black bass between 12 and 15 inches in total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught. Pole and line methods only, not to exceed

3 poles per person.

- Bullfrogs and green frogs may be taken during the statewide season only by hand, handnet, atlatl, gig, bow, snagging, snaring, grabbing, pole and line, a twenty-two (.22) caliber or smaller rimfire rifle or pistol, pellet gun, or crossbow, only on waters and within dates and hours those waters are open to fishing or hunting.
- Seining or trapping live bait, excluding all frogs and tadpoles in compliance with 3 CSR 10-6.605 is permitted on all impounded waters and their discharge channels.
- Salvage seining of other fish as designated in 3 CSR 10-6.550 may be permitted seasonally for personal use with a special use permit.
- Outboard motors in excess of 10 horsepower must be operated at slow, no-wake speed.

Hunting and Trapping:

Area is open to hunting under statewide regulations.

The following special regulations also apply.

- Deer may be hunted by archery methods only.
- Deer and turkey regulations are subject to annual changes. Refer to the Spring Turkey or Fall Deer and Turkey booklets for current regulations.
- Trail and game cameras are prohibited.
- Use or possession of lead shot is prohibited.
- During certain times, portions of this area are designated as Waterfowl Hunting Zones (Open only for waterfowl hunting to those waterfowl hunters who receive daily permits allocated during a daily drawing), No Hunting Zones (Hunting is prohibited the entire year. Non-hunting activities are only permitted from March 2 to Oct. 14), and Refuge Areas (Closed to ALL uses. No admittance for any purpose October 15 through March 1).
- These zones are designated on the map section of this brochure and are posted with signs around their perimeters. The remainder of the area is considered an Open Zone (open to hunting, fishing, nature viewing and all other uses according to statewide regulations and the special area rules and regulations outlined in this brochure).