

- Overnight camping in self-contained units is permitted only in designated areas, except during firearms deer and spring turkey seasons when all parking areas may be used. Drinking water, electric hookups and toilet facilities are not provided.
- Target shooting is permitted only at designated public shooting ranges or by special use permit.
- Swimming, scuba diving, water skiing, sailboarding, skateboarding, caving and rappelling are not allowed.

### Fishing and Boating

Fishing is permitted under the following special regulations:

- All black bass between 12 and 15 inches in total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.
- On area ponds and lakes, daily limits are six (6) black bass and four (4) catfish in the aggregate (channel, blue and flathead catfish), four (4) walleye, and 30 crappie. All walleye must be 15" or longer to keep. Walleye less than 15" long must be returned to water unharmed immediately after capture.
- Pole and line methods only are allowed.
- Bullfrogs and green frogs may be taken during the statewide season 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, including tadpoles, is prohibited on all impounded waters and their discharge channels.
- Boats may be used for fishing and wildlife-related activities only and may not be stored or left unattended overnight.
- Electric motors only are allowed on area ponds and lakes, with the exception of Indian Creek Lake, where 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.

- Hunting is prohibited in the "No Hunting Zone" located northeast of the Indian Creek Community Lake and the area surrounding the buildings on the west side of Indian Creek Community Lake.
- Only portable tree stands are permitted and only between Sept. 1 and Jan. 31. Each stand must be identified with the name and address or conservation number of the user and must be removed from the area by Feb. 1. Use of nails, 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 not be constructed on-site from woody vegetation except for willows (*Salicaceae* spp.).
- Trapping of furbearers is allowed only with a special use permit.
- Archery and firearms deer hunting is permitted for antlered or antlerless deer on the following permits only: Archer's Hunting Permit and Firearms Any-Deer Hunting Permit. No archery antlerless or firearm antlerless permits may be used. All other statewide deer seasons and limits apply.

Poosey Conservation Area has been designated an Important Birding Area (IBA).

For local information, contact:

Chillicothe Office  
15368 LIV 2386

05/2025

(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](http://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.

# Poosey

## CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

# Poosey Conservation Area

## About This Area

Poosey Conservation Area is in northwest Livingston County, six miles southeast of Jamestown, nine miles northeast of Lock Springs, 12 miles southwest of Trenton and 13 miles northwest of Chillicothe.

The Conservation Department purchased the original 814-acre tract for Poosey Conservation Area in 1979 from Robert Daugherty. Additional purchases have increased the area's size to 5,863 acres.

The area contains unique fern-draped stone walls, heavily-timbered hills of oak and hickory, rolling grass expanses and a variety of wildlife. The foliage provides brilliant and showy fall colors.

This portion of the Grand River Valley was one of the last parts of Missouri yielded by the American Indians. In 1833, the last remnants of the Shawnee tribe left the area, opening the area to settlement by people of European extraction, who came here via Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia.

The settlers, who preferred forested tracts to open prairies, were attracted by plentiful natural supplies of food, fuel, water and building materials.

The area's rugged landscape reminded some of the settlers of the Poosey region in Kentucky, giving rise to the area's name. The area continues to be known as the "Kingdom of Poosey," and travelers asking directions to it are usually informed that it is "just ahead over the next hill."

With its combination of hardwood forests and tallgrass prairie, the area supports a thriving plant and animal community. Deer, turkey, raccoons, squirrels, quail, rabbits, coyotes, foxes and many other small animals and birds are commonly seen here. Nestled among the steep, tree-covered hills

in the southern portion of Poosey Conservation Area is 192-acre Indian Creek Community Lake, which was constructed in 1987. The lake features a disabled-accessible floating fishing dock.

The area also contains a shooting range, which features 25-, 50- and 100-yard firearms targets. The range is located in the northwest portion of the area.

## Things To Do

- **Hunting.** The area provides ample upland game and limited waterfowl hunting opportunities.
- **Fishing.** nine ponds, 18-acre Pike's Lake and 192-acre Indian Creek Community Lake are stocked with largemouth bass, bluegill and channel catfish.
- **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.** All interior access roads and trails are available for hiking.
- **Nature study and birdwatching.**
- **Outdoor photography.**
- **Picnicking.**
- **Frogging.**
- **Firearms target shooting** at designated ranges.
- **Horseback riding.** Over 18 miles of trails and interior roads north of Hwy. A have been designated as horse trails.
- **Bicycles allowed** on multi-use trails and bicycles allowed on designated service roads except during all portions of the firearm deer and spring turkey seasons. Multi-use trails and service roads (if any) can be located at <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places>
- **Collection of wild edibles.** Several species of mushrooms, berries and nuts are abundant 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.** Waste should be placed in containers provided or taken off the area and disposed of properly.
- **No fireworks.**
- **Groups of 10 or more** for any use must obtain a special use permit.
- **Unattended camp or warming fires** are prohibited. All fires may be restricted during times of extreme fire danger. All fires must be contained and thoroughly extinguished when left. No firewood may be cut without a fuel wood cutting permit issued by the Area Manager.
- **No free-running pets.** Dogs must be leashed or confined when not being trained or used for hunting. Special use permits are required for field and retriever trials.
- **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 on unrestricted graveled roadways and parking areas.
- **All trails** are closed during all portions of the firearms deer season and spring firearms turkey season.
- **Horseback riding** is permitted only on designated multi-use trails north of Hwy
  - Horseback riding on non-designated service roads and "cross country" is prohibited. Horses are not to be tied to trees or ridden on pond dams. Manure and straw from trailers should be raked from parking area into surrounding grass.