Preserving Our past Preparing Dur buture

In 2017, Missouri State Parks commemorated the 100th anniversary of the state park system, which had its start in 1917 with the creation of a state park fund. However, the idea of a state park system for Missouri can be traced to an earlier national preservation movement that began in the late 19th century, the same movement that helped launch the National Park System. Spurred on by popular works of late 19th and early 20th century explorers and travel writers, Americans began experiencing a burgeoning interest in historic landscapes and the natural world, as well as a desire to protect these spectacular locations. As the population became increasingly mobile with the advent of the automobile and a rapidly improving highway system, individuals and families aspired to travel to see these destinations firsthand, and called on public officials to preserve them for public enjoyment.

This mindset held true for Missourians as well. The growing desire of the state's citizenry for outdoor recreation spaces was followed by a rapid expansion of the Missouri state park system in the 1920s and 30s. This led to the creation of a formal plan in 1938, which defined the role of the state park system: to "preserve Missouri's scenic and recreational resources, to provide opportunities for the people of Missouri to

enjoy them, [and] to encourage out-of-state visitors also to enjoy them." This definition was further refined by Chapter 253 of the Missouri Revised Statutes, which describes a state park as "any land, site or object primarily of recreational value or of cultural value





LEFT: collection of data at Prarie State Park; Above: prescribed burn at Hawn State Park; RIGHT: original artifacts preserved au Thomas Hart Benton Home and Studio State Historic Site

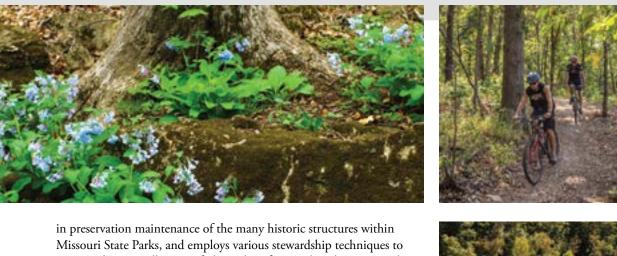
because of its scenic, historic, prehistoric, archeologic, scientific, or other distinctive characteristics or natural features."

The statute's emphasis on valuing the significant natural and cultural resources of a state park or state historic site helped to establish the mission of Missouri State Parks, which is to preserve and interpret the state's most outstanding natural landscapes and cultural landmarks, and to provide outstanding recreational opportunities compatible with those resources. This mission is what guides all stewardship and resource management activities Missouri State Parks team members employ to protect Missouri's natural and cultural estate for future generations.

Examples of management tools used to oversee the state park system's natural resources include scientific research and data collection through species inventory and monitoring, and stewardship activities, such as prescribed fire and invasive vegetation removal. To make sure special recognition and protection are afforded to the state's most noteworthy natural landscapes, Missouri State Parks preserves large wildernesslike spaces as state park wild areas, and distinguishes the most notable best-of-type native park ecosystems as Missouri natural areas or legacy landscapes. Where historic natural environments, such as tallgrass prairie, oak or shortleaf pine woodlands and Ozark glades, persist, they are protected, restored and managed to assure their scenic character, ecological values and native plants and animals may long exemplify Missouri's natural heritage.

> To protect the state's most exceptional cultural, archaeological and historic resources, team members expand their knowledge and understanding of Missouri's history through archaeological surveys and reviews of historical records. Additionally, the team actively engages

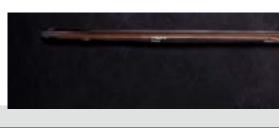




manage the vast collection of physical artifacts within the system. This makes certain these irreplaceable objects, structures and places are kept in care for future Missourians.

In addition to protecting the special natural and cultural resources found within Missouri's state parks and historic sites, the Missouri state park system also provides a wide range of recreational opportunities that allow visitors to experience firsthand the state's diverse natural and cultural heritage. Missouri State Parks help maintain the balance between resource protection and recreational access. Team members carefully plan and develop recreational amenities that sympathize with the natural environments and historic landscapes that serve as the backdrop for the many memories made in Missouri's state parks and historic sites. Additionally, operational procedures are in place to prevent resource damage, keeping visitors safe and providing the most enjoyable recreational experiences possible.

From its inception to present day, Missouri State Parks has a proud legacy of managing the state's natural landscapes and cultural landmarks for public enjoyment, both now and into the future. As you explore one of the 93 state parks and historic sites, consider the 100-year history that has gone into achieving the phenomenal collection of natural and cultural gems that make up the Missouri State Parks system, and the ongoing dedication that maintains it for your enjoyment.





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MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PO Box 176 Jefferson City MO 65102 mostateparks.com

GUIDE TO STATE PARKS



STATE PARKS

A Message From the Governor and First Lady





If you enjoy history, Missouri state parks and historic sites will help you travel back in time. Visit a state historic site and see how some of Missouri's finest cultural landmarks have been preserved. From touring the historic home of a past president to visiting covered bridges and historic mills, you can get a glimpse of how life used to be. Don't forget to visit Missouri's first state capitol as well as the homes of famous Missourians, such as Nathan and Olive Boone, Scott Joplin and Mark Twain.

You can also find many outdoor recreational opportunities throughout the state parks. Explore Missouri, and you'll find scenic overlooks that provide amazing views, miles of trails for hiking, biking or horseback riding, and ample places to camp, as well as numerous other outdoor activities, such as fishing, kayaking, spelunking and even playing a round of disc golf. We encourage you to get outside and make some memories at a Missouri state park!

Feresa Parson First Lady



ABOVE: Missouri Governor Mike Parson and first lady Teresa Parson, photo courtesy of Missouri Division of Tourism **FRONT COVER:** *Lake of the Ozarks State Park*

TOP: blue bells at St. Francois State Park, biking at Stockton State Park; MIDDLE: anoeing at Cuivre River State Park; BOTTOM: the rifle of Missouri's first governor, Alexander McNair; featuring ntricate metalwork on the stock



As farmers, we've always appreciated the beauty of nature and what it brings to our lives. From providing food on the table to offering a peaceful respite from the busyness of life, our natural resources are a gift. And being a good steward of those resources is an awesome responsibility.

With 93 state parks and historic sites, our state park system offers you a multitude of opportunities to get outside and connect with nature and our cultural heritage. Whether you are a veteran parks visitor or a first-time tourist, we welcome you.

Missouri State Parks strives to preserve and interpret the finest examples of Missouri's natural landscapes. Throughout the state, you'll find prairies and forests, lakes and streams, mountains and canyons. Each park offers its own display of beauty, each different

Zyran Erson



FACILITY NAME Arrow Rock SHS	CONTACT NO. 660-837-3330	
Dr. Edmund A. Babler Memorial SP+	636-458-3813	•
Sam A. Baker SP	573-856-4411	•
Battle of Athens SHS	660-877-3871	•
Battle of Carthage SHS Battle of Island Mound SHS	417-682-2279	
Battle of Lexington SHS	660-259-4654	
Battle of Pilot Knob SHS	573-546-3454	
Bennett Spring SP	417-532-4338	•
Thomas Hart Benton Home and Studio SHS Big Lake SP+	816-931-5722 660-771-6341	
Big Oak Tree SP	573-649-3149	
Big Sugar Creek SP	417-847-2539	
Bollinger Mill SHS Nathan and Olive Boone Homestead SHS	573-243-4591	-
Boone's Lick SHS	417-751-3266 660-837-3330	
Bothwell Lodge SHS	660-827-0510	
Bryant Creek SP	417-683-2520	
Castlewood SP	636-227-4433	
Clark's Hill/Norton SHS Confederate Memorial SHS	573-449-7402 660-584-2853	
Edward Ted and Pat Jones-Confluence Point SP	636-899-1135	
Crowder SP	660-359-6473	•
Cuivre River SP	636-528-7247	•
Current River SP Deutschheim SHS	573-858-3015 573-486-2200	
Deutschneim SHS Dillard Mill SHS	573-486-2200 573-244-3120	
Echo Bluff SP	573-858-3015	•
Elephant Rocks SP	573-546-3454	
Finger Lakes SP First Missouri State Capitol SHS	573-443-5315	•
Graham Cave SP	636-940-3322 573-564-3476	•
Grand Gulf SP	417-264-7600	
Ha Ha Tonka SP	573-346-2986	
Hawn SP Hunter-Dawson SHS	573-883-3603 573-748-5340	•
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Johnson's Shut-Ins SP	573-546-2450	•
Scott Joplin House SHS	314-340-5790	
Katy Trail SP Knob Noster SP+	573-449-7402 660-563-2463	
Lake of the Ozarks SP+	573-348-2694	•
Lake Wappapello SP	573-297-3232	•
Lewis and Clark SP+	816-579-5564	•
Long Branch SP Mastodon SHS	660-773-5229 636-464-2976	•
Meramec SP	573-468-6072	•
Missouri Mines SHS	573-431-6226	
Missouri State Museum	573-751-2854	
Montauk SP+ Morris SP	573-548-2201 573-297-3232	
Onondaga Cave SP	573-245-6576	•
Osage Village SHS	417-682-2279	
Gen. John J. Pershing Boyhood Home SHS	660-963-2525	
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Prairie SP	417-843-6711	•
Roaring River SP+	417-847-2539	•
Robertsville SP	636-257-3788	•
Don Robinson SP Rock Bridge Memorial SP	636-257-3788 573-449-7402	
Rock Island Trail SP	573-489-8780	
Route 66 SP	636-938-7198	
St. Francois SP	573-358-2173	•
St. Joe SP Sandy Creek Covered Bridge SHS	573-431-1069 636-464-2976	•
Stockton SP	417-276-4259	•
Table Rock SP+	417-334-4704	•
Taum Sauk Mountain SP	573-546-2450	•
Thousand Hills SP Trail of Tears SP	660-665-6995 573-290-5268	•
Harry S Truman Birthplace SHS	417-682-2279	
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Mark Twain Birthplace SHS	573-248-9980	
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Washington SP	636-586-5768	•
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GRID KEY												
SHS	=	State historic site	MB	=	Mountain biking							
SP	=	State park	MC	=	Museum/center							
•	=	Available	MT	=	Motel							
В	=	Swimming beach*	0	=	Open shelter/structure							
BP	=	Backpacking trail	0C	=	Outpost cabin							
BR	=	Bike rental	0T	=	Other swimming							
С	=	Cabin	Ρ	=	Pool							
CC	=	Camper cabin	PD	=	Pond							
Е	=	Enclosed shelter/structure	R	=	River							
EQ	=	Equestrian trail	RA	=	Boat ramp							
GT	=	Guided tour	S	=	Stream							
HS	=	Hard surface	SG	=	Self-guided tour							
L	=	Lake	W	=	Water							
MA	=	Marina	WR	=	Watercraft rental							
*Water	quali	ty tested	Y	=	Yurt							

Retail selections vary by facility. For more information on what items are available, contact the facility. *Self-guided tour – Tour is not led by an interpreter, but interpretive panels are provided. Guided tour – Tour is led by an interpreter, this includes both panels and verbal narrative on the specific site. ****Food Service - food service varies by location from ice cream to full meal service. +Camping improvements coming soon.

These facilities preserve a part of Missouri's history but do not offer any of the amenities listed on the grid: Gov. Daniel Dunklin's Grave, Jewell Cemetery, Locust Creek Covered Bridge Sappington African American Cemetery, Sappington Cemetery, Towosahgy and Union Covered Bridge state historic sites.

Memories of Adventure

You can begin creating memories as soon as you enter a Missouri state park or historic site. From hiking through ancient forests, to exploring a mysterious cave, to paddling on crystal-clear waters, to learning more about Missouri's rich and varied cultural history, we offer we offer memorable adventures.

TRAILS

There is no better way to make memories than by setting out on a new trail, and you'll find some of Missouri's very best trails in our state parks system. More than 60 of our parks and historic sites together form an extraordinary system of trails totaling more than 1,000 miles – not just for hiking, but also for walking, backpacking, bicycling, horseback riding and paddling.

HOOFING IT Walking trails provide a way for visitors of all abilities to explore state parks at their own pace, while hiking and backpacking trails take the thrill-seeking hiker into some of the state's most remote and ruggedly beautiful areas. Or saddle up a horse and experience the terrain like the explorers and pioneers.

ROLLING ALONG Twenty-seven of our facilities offer trails designed for bicycles, and four parks have bicycles for rent. Biking trail surfaces vary from hard-packed and paved to natural. Mountain bikers can choose from a range of challenging trails with all types of terrain, including the bicycle pump track at Finger Lakes State Park and the skills course at Echo Bluff State Park – both favorites of avid mountain bikers. Anyone who likes getting off-road on all-terrain vehicles can find trails made especially for them at both St. Joe and Finger Lakes state parks.

PADDLE POWER Lakes and streams might not be considered trails, but at Missouri State Parks, we think paddling along in a canoe or kayak is a great way to explore the park in a different way. Six of our parks offer water trails that visitors can use to explore what they have to offer: Finger Lakes, Ha Ha Tonka, Lake of the Ozarks, St. Joe, Stockton and Wakonda state parks.

WATER FUN

With more than 40 state parks offering access to rivers, streams or lakes, you can find endless ways to make memories on Missouri waters. We offer a range of facilities for boaters, from full-service marinas on major lakes to simple boat ramps and docks. You can also cast off from state parks to float on some of Missouri's best paddling streams. And many state parks rent canoes and kayaks. Of course, some of the best memories are made with a fishing rod in hand. From wading in a stream to testing your fly-fishing skill against elusive trout to relaxing on a lake bank with a worm and bobber, enjoy your style of fishing fun at a Missouri state park. Then, when the hot sun threatens your summer entertainment, head to one of our swimming beaches to cool off and beat the heat.

ACCESSIBILITY

Missouri State Parks takes pride in making our parks and historic sites accessible for all visitors. For our guests with visual impairments, we have the Braille Trail at Elephant Rocks State Parks. Our guests with mobility issues can reserve one of our track chairs to explore trails their conventional wheelchairs won't traverse. Currently, a track chair is located in each region – one at Elephant Rocks State Park, one at Bryant Creek State Park and one at Battle of Lexington State Historic Site – with more purchases planned. Those who want to partake in water activities at our beaches can reserve one of our swim chairs.

Make Your Reservations

Most shelter reservations can be made online or by calling the park or state historic site.

Camping Reservation Information

More than 3,500 campsites are available for reservation at 38 state park and historic site campgrounds. You can call or go online beginning 12 months in advance and up until 7 p.m. on the day of arrival.

TO MAKE A RESERVATION

- Call toll-free 877-ICampMO (877-422-6766) 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. CT seven days a week.
- Or visit mostateparks.com 24 hours a day.

RESERVATION FEES***

To MAKE a reservation*: Website:

\$ 6.50 – General Camping **\$ 6.50** – Group Tent Area *Same-day reservations do no

have a reservation fee.

Call Center: \$ 8.00 – General Camping **\$ 8.00** – Group Tent Area

To CHANGE a reservation Website/Call Center: **\$ 5.25** – General Camping \$ 10.00 – Group Tent Area

\$ 10.00 – MSP Lodging

To CANCEL a reservation

- Website/Call Center: \$ 10.00 - General Camping
- \$ 10.00 Group Tent Area \$ 20-25.00 - MSP Lodging**

**Lodging fee based on unit

Lhe reservation fee applies to each site reserved for a future arrival date, whether for one or 15 days, and is nonrefundable.

When making reservations there are various options for payment, including credit cards, debit cards camping coupons and gift cards. Check mostateparks. com for more information



Stay the Night **CAMPING OPPORTUNITIES**

Pack up your tent or stock up your recreational vehicle for a great way to experience nature and explore Missouri's state parks. Thirty-eight reservable campgrounds provide more than 3,500 campsites for everyone – from walk-in sites tucked away in the trees to drive-in sites ready for today's modern RVs. Facilities range from basic sites to sites with sewer, water and electric service.

CAMPING SEASON AND RATES

Camping is available year-round at many state parks, with water turned off in the campgrounds for much of the winter season. The camping on-season for most state parks is April 1 through Oct. 31. At Roaring River, Bennett Spring and Montauk, the on-season begins Feb. 25. Some northern parks begin on-season operations April 15. The on-season for Table Rock State Park runs from March through November.

Camping rates vary depending on the park or historic site, the time of year and the type of utilities available (water, sewer, electric). Nine state park campgrounds offer value camping with lower rates, depending on the day and season. More than 1,300 campsites offer 50-amp electrical service, ideal for contemporary recreational vehicles. To see each facility's camping rates, visit mostateparks.com.

A \$2 per night camping discount is available year-round for senior citizens (65 years and older); people with disabilities; and military personnel (retired, veteran and active-duty). Proof of age, disability or military status is required at check-in. Visit mostateparks.com for more information.

CUSTOMER REWARDS PROGRAM

Enroll in the Customer Rewards Program at a Missouri State Parks location or when speaking with the call center team, or update your online customer account at icampmo.com and visit mostateparks.com for more information



Table Rock State Park

CAMPING TYPES AND AREAS

There's a campsite tailored just for you and your next visit to a Missouri State Parks campground. You can choose from a secluded walk-in site; a basic campsite; or a paved pad with sewer, water and electric hookups for your recreational vehicle.

For those wanting to camp with their family and friends, family campsites are a great solution. These sites consist of two camping pads, as well as two tables, grills and lantern posts so everyone can share in the fun and good times together.

There are campgrounds designed for equestrian users in four state parks; 12 organized group camps in seven state parks; and special-use camping areas for nonprofit organizations and others, in many state parks. The Pin

🔥 Making Our Parks Accessible

Oak Facility at Lake of the Ozarks State Park features a lodge, a group camp, cabins and recreational facilities. Several of the parks with backpacking trails offer primitive camping in designated areas along the trails. Check the grid in this brochure for more information on where these and other special camping areas are located.

SPENDING THE NIGHT

Reserve a site in advance by taking advantage of the Centralized Reservation System. All reservable campsites that are not reserved may be available by walk-up registration.

At most state parks, single-night reservations are allowed on the weekend. Parks that require a two-night minimum stay on the weekend (Friday/Saturday or Saturday/Sunday) are Big Lake, Lake of the Ozarks, Mark Twain, Pershing, St. Joe, Table Rock, Wakonda, Wallace and Watkins Mill state parks.

EXPERIENCE CAMPING WITH COMFORTABLE LODGING

If you crave the fun of camping and prefer a more comfortable lodging experience, Missouri State Parks offers several options.

Enjoy the perfect home away from home with lodging opportunities ranging from rustic cabins to modern motel rooms with all the amenities.

Camper Cabins

A camper cabin, a cross between a housekeeping cabin and a campsite, gives the feeling of camping without the hassle. Bring your own sleeping bag and enjoy the comforts of electricity, heating and air conditioning, and access to campground amenities.

Camper cabins are available at Johnson's Shut-Ins, Mark Twain, Stockton, Pomme de Terre and Lake Wappapello state parks. Lake of the Ozarks State Park offers Outpost cabins that are similar to camper cabins.

Premium camper cabins are offered at Big Lake State Park. In addition to electricity, heating and air conditioning, these premium cabins offer running water and restrooms.

Yurts

For a more tent-like experience, try a yurt at Lake of the Ozarks or Pomme de Terre State Park. A yurt is a circular structure with a fabric cover and a wooden frame, making it strong and weather tight. The yurts feature the comforts of electricity, heating and air conditioning, and access to campground amenities.

The premium yurt at Table Rock State Park offers running water, a full kitchen and a restroom, in addition to electricity, heating and air conditioning.

Cabins built in the 1930s retain the rustic feel, but have been renovated and updated for today's visitors. Cabins and modern duplexes and fourplexes vary between each park and provide a cozy setting for two people or an entire family.

Six state parks offer modern motel rooms for overnight parks, while a few offer accommodations year-round. With all the comforts of home, they provide the perfect

DINING

Hearty appetites go hand in hand with state park adventures. For those who don't want to fix their own meals, 13 state parks have dining facilities that range from modern restaurants and rustic dining lodges offering full meals to a simple grill for a quick snack.

Campground stores are also available to pick up snacks and groceries in many locations.





mostateparks.com\accessibility-information.

Cabins and Duplexes

There is a cabin to fit everyone's taste and interest.

Motels

guests. Lodging is available seasonally at most state place to stay as you explore Missouri's state parks.







