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# The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has Announced Closures at Wappapello Lake

APRIL 06TH 2025 BY DEE LOFLIN

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has Announced Closures at Wappapello Lake

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has announced closures at Wappapello Lake due to rising water levels. Key recreational sites and access points are affected to ensure public safety and protect infrastructure.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has announced a series of closures at Wappapello Lake as water levels are expected to crest at less than 384.5 feet on April 10. The anticipated discharge is set to reach 10,000 cubic feet per second by April 13, pending no additional rainfall in the watershed. These measures are being taken to ensure public safety and protect infrastructure as the lake experiences elevated water levels.

### **Flood impact levels**

410.4 - Maximum Pool Level.

394.74 - Spillway Elevation.

359.74 - Recreational/Summer Pool.

### **Historic Crests**

400.01 ft on 05-03-2011

The closures affect a wide range of recreational and access points around the lake, according to information released Sunday morning by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Among the affected areas are Perkins Branch Road, Lost Creek Landing Boat Ramp, Warner Davis, and Berry Springs. Several campsites, including Island Campsites #2, #3, #4, and #5, are also closed. Popular boat ramps such as Walnut Cove, Paradise Point, and Cozart Point are inaccessible, along with numerous other locations.

These closures are part of a broader effort to manage the lake's water levels and ensure the safety of visitors. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has a history of implementing such measures, as seen in previous events like the cancellation of the drawdown and periodic inspection

#### **Safety Precautions and Further Information**

Visitors to Wappapello Lake are urged to exercise caution and adhere to safety guidelines. The Corps of Engineers emphasizes the importance of not driving through flooded roadways, a critical safety measure during periods of high water. For those seeking more information on the current lake level and closures, updates can be found on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers website. As the situation evolves, the Corps will continue to monitor water levels and make adjustments as necessary to ensure public safety and the preservation of the lake's infrastructure.

#### **Closures**

- Perkins Branch Road, RD-13
- Lost Creek Landing Boat Ramp, RD-9A
- Warner Davis, RD-10
- Berry Springs, RD-16
- Island Campsites #2 & 3
- Lost Creek Low Water Bridge Boat Ramp, RD-8
- Caldwell Creek, RD-31
- Lost Creek Point, 4-Mile Road Boat Ramp, RD-11
- Possum Creek Parking Area
- Walnut Cove Boat Ramp
- Paradise Point Boat Ramp
- Cozart Point Boat Ramp
- Strickland Point Boat Ramp
- Hatties ford Road South
- Piso Point Boat Ramp
- Redman Creek Beach

- Redman Creek Fishing Pier
- Holiday Landing Bridge Site
- Island Campsite #4
- Davis Schoolhouse
- Possum Creek Boat Ramp
- Island Campsites 1 & 6
- Hatties Ford Road, North
- Lost Creek Trail
- Carlton Place
- Walnut Cove
- Page Branch Boat Ramp
- Lost Creek Landing Road to Shook
- Holliday Landing Boat Ramp
- Lost Creek Recreation Boat Ramp, Lodge
- Piso Point Boat Ramp
- Joe Bill Bluff, Sheets Hole
- County Road 543, Caldwell Creek (Wayne County)
- Blue Springs Boat Ramp
- Peoples Creek Day Use and Campground
- Rockwood Point
- Island Campsite 5
- Wet Fork Access
- Otter Creek Upper Parking Lot
- North Greenville Access
- Blue Water Creek Access
- North Haggot Hole
- 34 Bridge Recreation Area
- Sulphur Spring Boat Ramp
- Rockwood Landing
- Greenville Campground and Day-Use
- Bounds Creek
- Sundowner Boat Ramp
- North Perkins Branch Boat Ramp and Road
- Lost Creek Lodge Road/ Recreation
- Chaonia Landing

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# Be Bear Aware in Bloomfield, Missouri

APRIL 21ST 2021 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Be Bear Aware in Bloomfield, Missouri](#)

Bloomfield, MO - Lots of people are talking about the BEAR in Bloomfield. Please do NOT attempt to get photos or video unless you are safe inside your home or car. Bears are territorial in nature! The Missouri Department of Conservation is aware that there is a bear roaming near J Highway in Bloomfield.

[If you would like to view a short video by Courtney Aslin click HERE.](#)

### **Stay alert and avoid confrontation**

Make noise so you don't surprise a bear - clap, sing, or talk loudly.

Pay attention to your surroundings and watch for bear sign such as tracks or claw or bite marks on trees.

Keep dogs leashed.

If you see a bear, leave it alone! Do not approach it. Make sure it has an escape route.

If you encounter a bear up close

Never corner a bear – make sure it has an escape route.

Back away slowly with your arms raised.

Speak in a calm, loud voice.

Do not turn your back to the bear.

Walk away slowly – DO NOT RUN.

### **Odors attract bears**

Keep a clean campsite. Follow these guidelines when camping in black bear country.

Store all food and toiletries like toothpaste and deodorant in a secure vehicle or strung high between two trees.

Store garbage securely in a vehicle or strung high between two trees. Never burn or bury garbage or food waste.

A FED BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR

### **Never feed a bear!**

Feeding bears makes them lose their natural fear of humans, and teaches them to see humans as food providers. They will learn to go to places like homes, campsites, and neighborhoods to look for food, instead of staying in the forest.

A bear that has gotten used to getting food from humans may become aggressive and dangerous. When this happens, the bear has to be destroyed.

Help bears stay wild and healthy, and keep yourself and your neighbors safe. Don't feed bears.

BE BEAR AWARE ON YOUR PROPERTY

Never feed a bear, on purpose or accidentally.

Don't leave pet food sitting outside. Feed pets a portion they'll eat at each meal and remove the empty containers.

Store garbage, recyclables, and compost inside a secure building or in a bear-proof container until the day of trash pick-up.

Keep grills and smokers clean and store them inside.

Don't use bird feeders from April through November in bear country. If you must, hang them at least 10 feet high and 4 feet away from any structure.

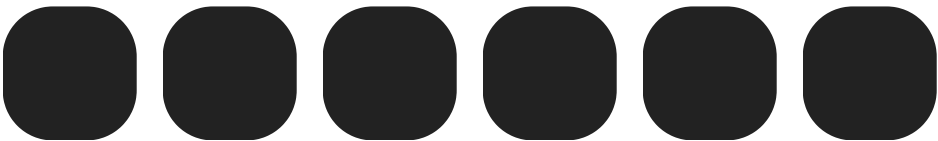
Use electric fencing to keep bears away from beehives, chicken coops, vegetable gardens, orchards, and other potential food sources. Get more detailed tips on black bear control, including electric fencing.

Contact your county Conservation Agent for help with making your property unwelcoming to bears.

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## MDC's Cape Nature Center's Two-Headed Black Rat Snake Turns 15 Years Old

SEPTEMBER 28TH 2020 BY DEE LOFLIN

### MDC's Cape Nature Center's Two-Headed Black Rat Snake Turns 15 Years Old

MDC's Cape Nature Center's two-headed black rat snake turns 15

Catch a glimpse of the snake devouring her weekly meal.

Cape Girardeau, MO - It's quite the accomplishment for a female black rat snake with four eyes, two tongues, and two brains to survive over a decade – and you can visit her in all her uniquely-conjoined reptile glory every Tuesday through Saturday at Missouri Department of Conservation's (MDC) Cape Nature Center.

MDC naturalist Alex Holmes said conjoined twinning occurs roughly one in every 100,000 black rat snake births. In the wild, those that survive probably wouldn't be able to escape predators due to their body's lack of dominate leadership, he said.

"It's very unlikely that these sisters would have survived in the wild as they seem to get confused with which direction to go," Holmes said.

**The roughly 15-year-old snake was originally found in Delta in 2005.**

During feeding times, the two heads will fight over their once-a-week frozen mice meal provided by Cape Nature Center staff, he said, and the routine consists of covering one head with a small cup as the other head feeds. She can consume 10 tiny thawed mice in one sitting.

“We feed both heads even though they share a digestive tract because we believe it is good to stimulate them both,” Holmes said.

A rat snake her size would be able to eat adult mice with no problem, he said. But the snake is only fed tiny frozen mice due to a deformity in the snake’s conjoined spine which restricts the size of prey it can swallow.

**Cape Nature Center visitors can catch a glimpse of the snake devouring her weekly meal of frozen mice the second Thursday of each month during “Feeding Frenzy.” The next virtual Feeding Frenzy event will be Oct. 8 at 1 p.m.**

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# MO Dept of Conservation Reminds People to Celebrate Safely!

JUNE 29TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

## MO Dept of Conservation Reminds People to Celebrate Safely!

***Be careful with fireworks, campfires, other sources of fire that could cause a wildfire.***

### **FIREWORKS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON MDC AREAS.**

**Jefferson City, Missouri** - As people celebrate this summer, the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) reminds everyone to be extremely careful with fireworks, campfires, and other sources of fire that could cause a wildfire.

### **FIREWORKS**

Don't light fireworks in any areas where the sparks could ignite dry grass, leaves, or other potential fire fuel. Always have an approved fire extinguisher and an available water supply to douse sparks or flames. Wet the area around where fireworks are being discharged. Check with local ordinances and authorities for bans on fireworks and open burning.

### **OUTDOOR BURNING**

Don't burn during wrong conditions. Dry grass, high temperatures, low humidity, and wind make fire nearly impossible to control. Check with local fire departments regarding burn bans that may be in place. A person who starts a fire for any reason is responsible for any damage it may cause.

### **DRIVING OFF ROAD**

Wildfires can start when dry fuel, such as grass, comes in contact with catalytic converters. Think twice before driving into and across a grassy field. Never park over tall, dry grass or piles of leaves that can touch the underside of a vehicle. When driving vehicles off road, regularly inspect the undercarriage to ensure that fuel and brake lines are intact and no oil leaks are apparent. Always carry an approved fire extinguisher on vehicles that are used off road. Check for the presence of spark arresters on ATV exhausts.

### **MAKING A CAMPFIRE**

Clear a generous zone around fire rings. Store unused firewood a good distance from a campfire. Never use gasoline, kerosene, or other flammable liquid to start a fire. Keep campfires small and controllable. Keep fire-extinguishing materials, such as a rake, shovel, and bucket of water, close. Extinguish campfires each night and before leaving camp, even if it's just for a few moments.

### CALL FOR HELP

Call 911 at the first sign of a fire getting out of control.

### REPORT FOREST ARSON

Wildfires are sometimes set by vandals. Help stop arson by calling 800-392-1111 and reporting any potential arson activities. Callers will remain anonymous and rewards are possible.

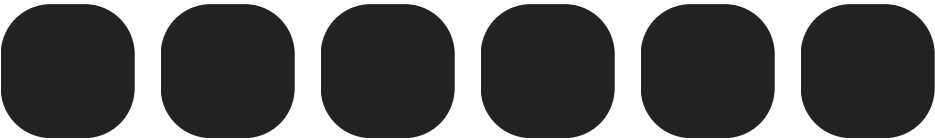
### MANAGED FIRE

Fire used in the wrong way can create disasters. Used in the right way, fire can help create habitat for wildlife.

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# MO Dept of Conservation Accepting Online Applications

JUNE 29TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

## MO Dept of Conservation Accepting Online Applications

**Apply online from June 25 – Aug. 5 at [short.mdc.mo.gov/ZcS](http://short.mdc.mo.gov/ZcS)**

Jefferson City, Missouri - The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) is accepting online applications from June 25 through Aug. 5 for its next class of conservation agent trainees.

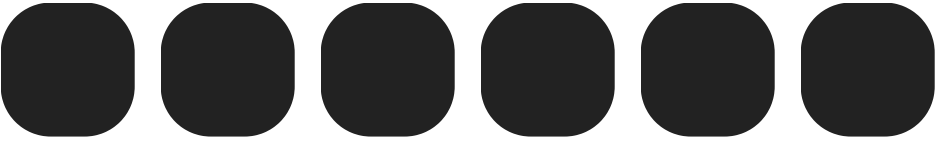
To apply -- and for more information including salary range, duties and responsibilities, degree requirements, qualifications, and special-ability requirements -- visit the MDC website directly at [short.mdc.mo.gov/ZcS](http://short.mdc.mo.gov/ZcS). Applicants can also go to the MDC homepage at [mdc.mo.gov](http://mdc.mo.gov) and search “careers.” Then click on Job Openings on the Careers page.

Selected candidates will undergo 26 weeks of intense training in all facets of law enforcement and resource management. Those who make the grade will receive county assignments and become the face of conservation in their assigned communities – enforcing the Wildlife Code of Missouri and helping the public with issues such as nuisance wildlife and land management.

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