

## HUNTING, FISHING & OUTDOORS GUIDE

# Spring Fever

## Get a nature boost from MDC during Missouri Outdoors Month

BY JILL PRITCHARD  
Mo. Dept. of Conservation

Missouri is blessed to have a variety of stunning landscapes to explore. From forests and woodlands to waterfalls and wetlands – there’s something for everyone. The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) encourages you to get outside and explore all the state has to offer during the month of April.

### TURKEY HUNTING

Missouri’s spring turkey season kicks off April 18 and runs through May 8. Wild turkey is one of the most popular gamebirds and can be found statewide.

Get your turkey hunting permit online at <https://short.mdc.mo.gov/43N>. Find more turkey hunting information from MDC’s 2022 Spring Turkey Hunting Regulations booklet at <https://short.mdc.mo.gov/43x>.

### FISHING

Test your snagging skills during Missouri’s paddlefish season through April 30. Popular paddlefish snagging waters include the Lake of the Ozarks, Harry S. Truman Reservoir, and Table Rock Lake. Find more information and weekly paddlefish reports at <https://short.mdc.mo.gov/43f>.

Maybe a smaller species is more your speed? Crappie is another popular

prospect in the spring season and makes for great table fare following a successful fishing trip. In spring when crappie are spawning in the shallows, anyone can cast a minnow and bobber toward the bank and catch plenty of fish. Learn more about crappie fishing in Missouri at <https://short.mdc.mo.gov/4JA>.

### BIRDING

Birding is popular because it’s easy to get started, and it offers increasingly greater rewards the more you learn. Spring is a great time to enjoy migrating songbirds across the state, and you can see many in your own backyard from nesting bluebirds and incoming purple martins, to brown thrashers and ruby-throated

hummingbirds.

Learn how to identify birds and best places to watch them in Missouri at <https://short.mdc.mo.gov/Zvs>.

### WILD MUSHROOMS

The start of spring is a long-awaited time for another type of hunting – for wild mushrooms! Mushroom hunting is a great way to get outside in search of these tasty edibles, but identification is key! Whether you’re out looking for the coveted morels or the savory chanterelles this season, keep MDC’s Guide to Missouri’s Edible and Poisonous Mushrooms handy. Find the free publication at MDC offices and nature centers, or online at <https://short.mdc.mo.gov/43Y>.

For more ideas on how to discover nature in April, visit <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature>.

To see MDC events offered in your area, visit [mdc.mo.gov/events](https://mdc.mo.gov/events).

To find a Place to Go in Missouri for a nature boost, visit <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places>.

Find Things to Do in Missouri at <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/activities>.

Get help identifying native plants and animals with MDC’s online Field Guide at <https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide>.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

## MDC encourages public to steer clear of invasive Callery pear trees

BY JILL PRITCHARD  
Mo. Dept. of Conservation

JEFFERSON CITY – Spring is an opportune time to plant a new tree, but the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) encourages the public to steer clear of one species – the Callery pear.

The Callery pear, also known as the Bradford pear, Cleveland Select, Autumn Blaze, or Aristocrat, is a non-native and highly invasive species that multiplies quickly and crowds out Missouri native plants.

“The Callery pear became a popular ornamental landscape tree in the 1960s because it was inexpensive, it grew fast, and provided those eye-catching blooms in the spring,” explained MDC Forestry Program Supervisor Russell Hinnah. “But that’s where its benefits end. Different varieties of the tree were planted close to each other, which resulted in cross pollination and they took over natural areas.”

The Callery pear is infamous for its stinky smell, but also has a poor branch structure. The trees don’t fare well in storms, often losing limbs or splitting apart.

MDC encourages homeowners and landscapers to grow native when picking a tree to plant.

“The best option is to select species native to Missouri, and there are many great trees to substitute,” said Hinnah. “Serviceberry trees produce similar showy white blooms in the spring and have small red fruits that attract wildlife.”

Other great alternatives include American plum, hawthorn, eastern redbud, and Missouri’s state tree, the flowering dogwood. Hawthorns provide bountiful fruit and attractive fall color. Dogwoods thrive in shady areas, but can be difficult to grow.

### CALLERY PEAR BUY-BACK EVENTS

Missourians with Callery pear trees on their property have the option to cut down their trees and receive a free, non-invasive tree at several “buy-back” events around the state April 26. The events are sponsored by Forest ReLeaf of Missouri, Missouri Invasive Plant Council, and MDC.

Participants must register by visiting [moinvasives.org](https://moinvasives.org). They will also need to submit a photo of themselves next to their cut-down Callery pear tree



**THE INVASIVE** Callery (Bradford) pear tree was introduced as an ornamental tree in the 1960s, but has since become an environmental nuisance. MDC encourages the public to plant native when selecting trees this spring.

in order to receive one replacement tree.

Callery pear Buy-Back events are planned for April 26 from 3 p.m. – 6 p.m. in the following locations:

- MDC Central Regional Office in Columbia
- MDC Cape Girardeau Nature Center
- MDC Shoal Creek Conservation Education Center in Joplin
- Lakeside Nature Center in Kansas City
- CommuniTree Gardens in St. Louis
- MDC Southwest Regional Office in Springfield

For more information about the buy-back events and how to participate, visit [moinvasives.org](https://moinvasives.org).

To learn more about native trees for landscaping, planting tips, backyard tree care, and more, visit <https://mdc.mo.gov/trees-plants/tree-care>

“If people concentrated on the really important things in life, there’d be a shortage of fishing poles.”

— Doug Larson

# A NEW SEASON STARTS WITH BIG SAVINGS.

0% Financing<sup>1</sup> | Cash Back Available<sup>2</sup>

GO BIG WITH PRESEASON SAVINGS DURING DEALER DAYS.

It’s never too early to plan for the new season ahead—or save. Take advantage of big savings available now on a wide range of reliable New Holland tractors, haytools and material-handling equipment. New Holland has everything you need to go big this year—and the savings to make it easier. Trade-ins are welcome!

Hurry, offers end June 30, 2022. Stop by today or visit [nhoffers.com](https://nhoffers.com)

**Rosebud Tractor & Equipment Company**  
241 Hwy. 50 • Rosebud, Mo. • 573-764-3393

**RTE of Linn**  
1325 Main Street • Linn, Mo. • 573-764-2249

**NEW RTE of Morrison**  
1073 Hwy. 100 • Morrison, Mo. • 573-294-7191

<sup>1</sup> For Commercial use only. Customer participation subject to credit qualification and approval by CNH Industrial Capital America LLC or CNH Industrial Capital Canada Ltd. See your participating New Holland dealer for details and eligibility requirements. Down payment may be required. Not all customers or applicants may qualify for this rate or term. CNH Industrial Capital America LLC and CNH Industrial Capital Canada Ltd. standard terms and conditions apply.

<sup>2</sup> Cash back amounts vary and are applied at time of sale. Cash back offers are only available when financing purchase with CNH Industrial Capital America LLC or CNH Industrial Capital Canada Ltd.

Offers end June 30, 2022; subject to change or cancellation without notice.

© 2022 CNH Industrial America LLC. All rights reserved. CNH Industrial Capital and New Holland are trademarks registered in the United States and many other countries, owned by or licensed to CNH Industrial N.V., its subsidiaries or affiliates.



## MDC invites you to celebrate native trees through Arbor Days in April

BY JOE JEREK  
Mo. Dept. of Conservation

JEFFERSON CITY – The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) invited people to celebrate the value of Missouri trees and forests during Arbor Days in April by planting native trees and practicing proper tree care. Missouri Arbor Day is Friday, April 1. Missouri has been observing the state's official Arbor Day on the first Friday in April since 1886 when the General Assembly declared that day be set aside for the appreciation and planting of trees. National Arbor Day is recognized on the last Friday of April, which is April 29 for 2022.

Get information on backyard tree care – including types of trees for urban and other landscapes, selecting the right tree for the right place, planting tips, watering and pruning info, and more – at [mdc.mo.gov/trees-plants/tree-care](http://mdc.mo.gov/trees-plants/tree-care).

The MDC George O. White State Forest Nursery near Licking offers a variety of low-cost native tree and shrub seedlings for reforestation, windbreaks, erosion control, and wildlife food and cover. Orders are accepted to April 15. For more information,



PHOTO COURTESY OF MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

visit [mdc.mo.gov/seedlings](http://mdc.mo.gov/seedlings).

Communities around the state also hold local Arbor Day activities. For more information on Arbor Day and Missouri's Tree City USA communities, visit the Arbor Day Foundation at [arborday.org/](http://arborday.org/).

Missouri forests cover about one-third of the state and provide outdoor recreation, wildlife habitat, natural beauty, and wa-

tersheds for stream and rivers. Spending time in Missouri forests can provide a natural health benefit, too. Exposure to nature contributes to physical well-being, reducing blood pressure and heart rate, relieving stress, and boosting energy levels. Get more information at [mdc.mo.gov/trees-plants/forest-care](http://mdc.mo.gov/trees-plants/forest-care).

### OUTDOORS IN THE OZARKS

## An owl before dawn

There is no more efficient predator than a great horned owl. Silent and deadly, he can eat whatever he wants, up to and including a roosting wild turkey. Their flight is completely silent, and they occasionally break the neck of roosting turkeys in the darkness before the dawn. But that does not happen often if there are plenty of rabbits and small ground mammals to feed upon.

Did you know that one of a great horned owl's regular prey is skunks? For some reason, the scent of a skunk is something that doesn't bother an owl. When the moon was bright, I watched rabbits playing around my place, in the pre-mating season antics which include games like jumping over each other and kicking their heels up as if they had never heard of a great horned owl.

Certainly the semi-civilized atmosphere around my home, and the presence of my Labradors, eliminated the threat of foxes and coyotes, which stay down in the woods behind the pond. So this became a sort of haven for cottontails, especially with all the brush piles I have here on Lightnin' Ridge.

Of course, I would probably opt for not having one house mouse or Norway rat in the whole Ozarks, but I like the idea of some ground mammals like the woodrat and harvest mice and white-foot mice. And I'd lot rather have cottontails and quail than hardly anything I can think of. My one covey seems to not expand much. If I could do it, if God gave me the power of eliminating some of his creation, I would get rid of only a few things beside the house mouse, and that would be ticks, brown-recluse spiders, starlings, copperheads and rattlesnakes, carp, gar, armadillos and maybe cormorants.

But even though I would do it, I would feel guilty about it. It seems selfish to try to create a perfect world up here on my ridge-top when so many people have to live in suburbs and can't do a thing about it. I sincerely suspect that the thing that would make this old world work better is the elimination of about half the people who are overcrowding it, and what worries me about that is, what if I am one of the half which should be eliminated?

My grandfather, who always lived out in the woods or on the river somewhere, sawed the top out of medium sized trees up about twenty feet from the ground, to create a flat landing place for the great horned owl, and then would set a steel trap there, and bait it with a wood rat or small squirrel. He was paid a small bounty at the county courthouse for the feet of owls, but he also saw no good in them, and believed in maintaining them only in strong enough numbers so that they survived along the river miles from

where he kept a few chickens.

Grandpa liked to eat eggs and the owls liked to eat chickens, and he was much more inclined to believe in the survival of things he liked to eat, like rabbits, quail and ducks, than things he didn't eat. There were so fewer men back then than there are today. Grandpa wasn't so far removed from a time when a man's greatest concern wasn't so much economics and gas prices, but what he was going to eat and perhaps what might be about to eat him. Who could believe we would ever make a great and drastic impact on the land, and perhaps endanger our own existence in time?

When I was 15 years old, Grandpa and I floated a particular Ozark river in a wooden johnboat he built, and caught some nice fish from it. Today that stream is completely and totally dry. If I mention it on occasion when I speak to a live audience somewhere it quickly comes to me they would rather I didn't. So more often, I talk about the funny stories that came from the old men in the pool hall back in that time.

I figured out long ago that even if you know something, it isn't always wise to try to explain it to anyone. That's true of things like the spreading of billions of gallons of chemicals, all over the Ozarks.

Nothing will stop it, and what is going to come from it is going to come from it, and that's that.

Maybe God himself knows this, and is just watching and waiting, ready to reclaim, rebirth and regrow the perfect earth he created, sometime in the future. I guess it follows then, that the best thing to do is the best we can, to try to get our grandkids someplace where there are songbirds still singing and the water still has some crawdads and kingfishers and there are more trees than there are stumps. But, not many of the grandkids in the world today care about those things. They are more interested in new boxes! The latest computers and smart phones. To each his own I guess. More kids today will choose drugs than old fashioned things like clean water and forests.

If you wonder how any of this has anything to do with that owl, I can't explain it. I just thought about some of those things while I was listening to him one night, mice and rabbits and water. It was awfully quiet and peaceful up here on Lightnin' Ridge, with the moon so bright it was casting shadows on my lawn as it sunk toward the west well before dawn. And it was so still. That old owl is likely sitting in a hollow tree somewhere right now, getting some sleep, and maybe a little bit hungry because there aren't enough mice and rabbits around my place. Some of that may be his own darn fault. But at least he has no steel traps to contend with now.

Read what I write and see what I photograph each week on [www.larrydablemontoutdoors.blogspot.com](http://www.larrydablemontoutdoors.blogspot.com). E-mail me at [lightninridge47@gmail.com](mailto:lightninridge47@gmail.com) or write to me at Box 22, Bolivar, Mo. 65613



by LARRY DABLEMONT

"A duck call in the hands of the unskilled is one of the conservation's greatest assets."

– Nash Buckingham

## Need a Water Well?

### CALL CUSTOM PUMP!

When deciding how to construct a new well the geological conditions in your immediate area determines casing depths, total well depths, and if the well may need an inner liner. All wells drilled by Custom Pump shall be certified with MO DNR and shall meet or exceed all state requirements. It is our promise that with everything Custom Pump has to offer you will be very satisfied with every aspect of our services.

Custom Pump's service technicians are certified through the Department of Natural Resources to service and maintain any water well in the state of Missouri. If you have a problem with your pumping equipment Custom Pump will be there when you need us.

- Water Well Drilling • Geothermal Drilling • Pump Sales & Service
- Water Line Repair & Installation

LICENSED MISSOURI WATER WELL CONTRACTORS  
"Serving The Entire Area Since 1968"



Complete Water Services

Mention this Ad to receive a special discount on any new well project or service work!

2022 Highway 28  
Owensville, MO  
573.859.6107

[custompump.net](http://custompump.net)

## 278 Acres | Recreation Land Highway Z

Great Deer Hunting property in Maries County

## 160-111-7 Acres | Wooded Acres Maries County

Natural state-filled with abundant wildlife. Great Deer and Turkey hunting.

National Exposure... Local Expertise.



REALTREE UNITED COUNTRY  
HUNTING PROPERTIES

MARK JAMES ~ Agent/Broker

800-341-3802 | 573-405-0112

204 W Fourth St | Vienna, MO

11000 Dillon Outer Rd | Rolla, MO

Email: [markj@ucresultsrealty.com](mailto:markj@ucresultsrealty.com)



See complete listings online at [rolla-mo-real-estate.com](http://rolla-mo-real-estate.com)

For hunting property visit [ozarkhuntingground.com](http://ozarkhuntingground.com)

## BAD BOY MOWERS IS GIVING BACK WITH OUR ALL-NEW BAD BOYS OF AMERICA PROGRAM



ZERO TURNS FOR OUR HEROES: UP TO 25% OFF MSRP ON ALL QUALIFYING BAD BOY MOWER MODELS

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE BAD BOYS OF AMERICA PROGRAM:

- ACTIVE MILITARY & VETERANS
- FIRST RESPONDERS / EMERGENCY PERSONNEL
- LAW ENFORCEMENT • FIRE FIGHTERS



Bad Boy Mowers and our nation-wide dealer network want to give back to all of those that risk their lives everyday to protect and defend our Great Nation. To reward a great job done and to acknowledge our Heroes for the services & sacrifices they provide.

[www.PrecisionOwensville.com](http://www.PrecisionOwensville.com)

573-437-4350

Hwy. 28 (302 W. Lincoln) • Owensville

**Precision Water & Power Sports**

[www.teampwps.com](http://www.teampwps.com)

573-395-4044

10103 Marina Road • Jefferson City

CALL 573-437-2323 today to subscribe to the Maries County Advocate and save

The Bad Boys Of America Program is open to all current and retired fire, police and EMT personnel, as well as active duty military and military veterans. Proof of service must be presented to dealership at time of sale. Discount is based off MSRP. Discount is valid on all qualifying new and unused models, and cannot be combined with other promotions. Discount does not apply to parts. Not valid for past purchases. Participating Bad Boy Mowers dealerships only, please see dealership for full details. Bad Boy Mowers may use the information collected to contact customers for future program purposes. The Bad Boys Of American program begins February 1, 2021. Offers subject to change at any time without notice or obligation. Not available in National Retailers. Available only in Independent Dealerships.



# MDC sets 2022 elk, bear seasons with permit applications in May

BY JOE JEREK  
Mo. Dept. of Conservation

JEFFERSON CITY – The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) will offer five permits to hunt bull elk in Missouri this fall with at least one permit designated for qualifying area landowners and the remaining permits for the general public. MDC will also offer 400 permits for the taking of a maximum of 40 black bears during the second Missouri black-bear hunting season this fall. At least 10 percent of black bear permits will be allocated to qualifying area landowners. Only Missouri residents who will be at least 11 years of age by the first day of the hunt for which they are applying are eligible to apply for elk and bear permits during the application period of May 1-31. All permits will be assigned through a random drawing.

The Missouri Conservation Commission gave final approval to both elk and bear recommendations from MDC during its March 25 open meeting in Jefferson City.

## ELK HUNTING

For elk hunting, MDC has designated a nine-day archery portion running Oct. 15-23 and a nine-day firearms portion running Dec. 10-18. The five permits will be for bull elk and will be valid for both portions.

MDC will require a \$10 application fee for elk-permit applicants. Those selected

will then be eligible to buy a permit at a cost of \$50. All elk-hunting permits, including those allocated to approved area landowners, can be used in Carter, Reynolds, and Shannon counties, except the refuge portion of Peck Ranch Conservation Area.

The allowed hunting methods for each season portion will be the same as for deer hunting. The permits will allow for the harvest of one bull elk with at least one antler being six inches or greater in length.

For more information on elk and elk hunting in Missouri, visit [mdc.mo.gov/elkhunting](http://mdc.mo.gov/elkhunting).

Apply for the elk-permit random drawing May 1-31 online at [mdc.mo.gov/buypermits](http://mdc.mo.gov/buypermits), through MDC's free MO Hunting app, through a permit vendor, or by calling 1-800-392-4115. Results of the elk-permit random drawing will be available online by July 1.

## BEAR HUNTING

MDC will offer 400 permits for the taking of a maximum of 40 black bears during the second Missouri black-bear hunting season running Oct. 17-26. There is a fee of \$10 per applicant. Applicants must select one of three Black Bear Management Zones (BMZ). Those selected will then be eligible to buy a BMZ-specific permit at a cost of \$25.

MDC has established three Bear Management Zones (BMZ) in southern Missouri and will issue annual permit numbers and harvest quotas for each of

the three BMZs. Each permit will be for a specific BMZ and may be used on public or private property within the BMZ. Once the specific harvest quotas are filled for each BMZ, the season for that BMZ will be closed.

Permit and harvest quotas for the upcoming Oct. 17-26 bear season will be:

- BMZ 1: Permit quota of 200 issued with a harvest quota of 20 bears.
- BMZ 2: Permit quota of 150 issued with a harvest quota of 15 bears.
- BMZ 3: Permit quota of 50 issued with a harvest quota of 5 bears.

Hunting hours will be a half-hour before sunrise to a half-hour after sunset. Hunters must call MDC prior to hunting each day to determine the closure status of the BMZ for which they are permitted. Hunters will be allowed to use both archery and firearms equipment with allowable methods being the same as those for deer and elk, except the use of an atlatl. Baiting and the use of dogs will not be allowed.

The harvest limit will be one bear per permit. Only lone black bears may be taken. Hunters may not take bears that are known to be in the presence of others bears, including female black bears with cubs. Bears may not be disturbed, pushed, harassed, or taken from a den.

Learn more about black bears and bear hunting in Missouri at [mdc.mo.gov/bearhunting](http://mdc.mo.gov/bearhunting).

Apply for the bear-permit random drawing May 1-31 online at [mdc.mo.gov/](http://mdc.mo.gov/)

buypermits, through MDC's free MO Hunting app, through a permit vendor, or by calling 1-800-392-4115. Results of

the bear-permit random drawing will be available online by July 1.

## Get Your ATV or UTV ready for HUNTING SEASON

Servicing All Makes & Models of:

- ATVs/UTVs • Motorcycles
- Side-by-Sides
- Lawn Mowers

## POWERSPORTS Service & Repair

Kirk Terrill ~ 30+ Years Experience  
1490 Hwy. 28 • Bland • 573.789.6593

2 Miles West of Owensville at Canaan

Follow us on Facebook



## VIENNA MARINE & SPORTING GOODS, LLC

Service • Parts • Boat Accessories • Floating/Pulling Tubes • Big Selection of Tackle Rod-N-Reels

Your Mercury, Southfork, Outboard Jets and River Craft Dealer

### Sporting Good Accessories

Red Wigglers - Wax Worms - Shad Guts - Shiners - Chicken Liver - Goldfish - Whole Shad - Tuffies - Shrimp - Shad Sides - Nite Crawlers - Aluminum Fabrication

202 Hwy 63 S • Vienna, MO 65582  
573-422-6100  
[www.ViennaMarine.net](http://www.ViennaMarine.net)



THE MISSOURI Conservation Commission gave final approval to MDC to expand hunting and trapping seasons for furbearers, such as coyotes (pictured), in an effort to provide additional harvest opportunity. The new regulations become effective June 30.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

# MDC approves expansion of furbearer hunting, trapping seasons

BY JILL PRITCHARD  
Mo. Dept. of Conservation

JEFFERSON CITY – The Missouri Conservation Commission gave final approval to the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) at its March 25 open meeting on regulation changes that will extend current furbearer hunting and trapping seasons for abundant furbearer species. The extension comes in response to stakeholder requests to provide additional opportunity for the taking of multiple furbearer species.

Furbearers are mammal species that have traditionally been trapped or hunted for their fur, such as coyotes, raccoons, and skunks. Many furbearers are also considered small game species, for which there are small game hunting seasons.

According to MDC, many furbearer populations have experienced long-term population increases, allowing for additional harvest opportunity.

Furbearers play important ecological roles, and trapping and hunting are critical wildlife management tools. MDC strives to provide the opportunity to harvest these species, while considering pelt-primeness during the fur harvest season, the potential for opportunity outside of the traditional fur harvest season, the potential for conflict with other hunting seasons, and landowner opportunity.

MDC's Furbearer Program staff reviewed furbearer harvest seasons and developed a framework that provides for additional opportunity for harvest in response to stakeholder requests. Based on this review and stakeholder input, the following changes were approved:

- Extending the hunting season and trapping season for bobcat, raccoon, opossum, and striped skunk from Nov. 15 to the last day of February, and extending

the trapping season for coyote from Nov. 15 to the last day of February.

- Extending the trapping season for mink, muskrat, and river otter from Nov. 15 to the last day of February.

- Establishing an early hunting and trapping season for raccoon, opossum,

and striped skunk to run Aug. 1 – Oct. 15.

- Extending the trapping season on private land for coyote, raccoon, opossum, and striped skunk to March 1 – April 14.

The regulation changes become effective June 30.



## Smart Move.

Portable grain augers, like other farm equipment, require extra caution when they're used or moved near power lines. Any contact with electric lines is potentially lethal.

Always lower the auger before you move it, even if only a few feet. Keep all machinery at least 10 feet away from power lines, and get someone to help you watch for lines whenever you move equipment.



With offices in Linn and Brazito • (800) 892-2251 • [threeriverselectric.com](http://threeriverselectric.com)

© 2009 Associated Electric Cooperative Inc. All rights reserved.

# Joe's Market

BEER • WINE • LIQUOR

We make sandwiches to go!



Get your hunting and fishing permits and tags here!

Store Hours:

Monday - Thursday 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Friday 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Sunday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Hwy. 63, Westphalia, MO

Phone: 573-455-2307





## Illinois man now holds Missouri paddlefish state record

BY JILL PRITCHARD  
Mo. Dept. of Conservation

JEFFERSON CITY – The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) congratulates Jim Dain of Pittsfield, Ill. for snagging a monster 140-pound, 10-ounce paddlefish March 18 at the Lake of the Ozarks. The latest record breaks the previous record of 140-pounds, 9-ounces set in 2015 on Table Rock Lake.

Dain said he was on a fishing trip with his family and almost didn't get the boat out that day because the weather kept changing.

"The forecast was calling for storms, and then it changed to no rain, so we went out, but it just kept getting colder," Dain recalled. "We weren't having much luck, but decided to fish for another hour so we took another turn. And that's when the drag on the reel started. It felt like a tree was on the line!"

Dain said it took at least 20-minutes before they ultimately got the fish in the boat. After getting back to the boat ramp, Steven Henson of Bonne Terre, who happens to hold the Missouri state record for river carpsucker, was in the area and mentioned Dain should get in touch with MDC.

"He was at the boat ramp and happened to hold a state record," said Dain. "He's looking at the fish and says to me, 'Boy, I think you should get that checked out because it could be a state record.'"

Dain contacted MDC Camden County Agent Tyler Brown, who advised him to go



**MDC CONGRATULATES** Jim Dain of Pittsfield, Ill. on becoming the second state record holder of 2022 after snagging this 140-ound, 10-ounce paddlefish at the Lake of the Ozarks March 18. **PHOTO COURTESY OF MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION**

to Tom's Slaughterhouse in Montreal to use a certified scale that could handle weight more than 100-pounds. His paddlefish is the second state record fish caught in 2022.

"We got 16 one-gallon bags of meat out of this catch," laughed Dain. "We've fried it, grilled it and made paddlefish tacos the other night. We'll be having paddlefish for a while!"

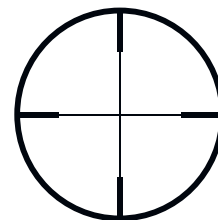
Missouri state record fish are recognized in two categories: pole-and-line and alternative methods. Alternative methods include: trotline, throwline, limb line, bank line, jug line, gig, bow, crossbow, underwater spearfishing, snagging, snaring, grabbing, or atlatl.

For more information on state record fish, visit <http://bit.ly/2efq1vl>.

"Immerse yourself in the outdoor experience. It will cleanse your soul and make you a better person."

– Fred Bear

Hunting for a **Great Trailer** to haul your gear?



Look no further.

**JT TRAILERS**

Sales, Service and Parts

2073 South Highway 19 • Swiss, MO • 573-486-0212  
[www.JT-Trailers.com](http://www.JT-Trailers.com) | [@JandTTrailers](https://www.facebook.com/JandTTrailers)



**MDC CONGRATULATES** Josh Lawnmaster of La Russell on the first state record fish of 2022 — an 8-pound, 5-ounce quillback taken from Table Rock Lake March 15. **PHOTO COURTESY OF MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION**

## Jasper County bowfisher swipes first state record of 2022

BY JILL PRITCHARD  
Mo. Dept. of Conservation

JEFFERSON CITY – The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) confirms Josh Lawmaster of La Russell is the first state-record holder of 2022 after shooting an 8-pound, 5-ounce quillback from Table Rock Lake. Lawmaster was bowfishing March 15 when he shot the fish. His current record breaks the previous record of 7-pounds, 10-ounces set in 2015.

Lawmaster said he was out with his bowfishing team the day he shot the record. "We were actually fishing for common carp that day when I had just come across this little dude," said Lawmaster. "We knew it was pretty good size, but it wasn't until the next morning we were thinking about it and decided to contact the department."

Quillback is a non-game species that's often confused with river carpsucker. This species is widely distributed, and most common in the clearer prairie streams of central and northeastern Missouri. It's also fairly common in the upper Mississippi River and in large reservoirs of the Ozark Uplands.

MDC staff verified the fish's weight on a certified scale at MDC's Southwest Regional Office in Springfield.

"I wasn't at all expecting to get a state record, so it's pretty neat," said Lawmaster. "Now I can say I actually accomplished something!"

Missouri state record fish are recognized in two categories: pole-and-line and alternative methods. Alternative methods

include: trotline, throwline, limb line, bank line, jug line, gig, bow, crossbow, underwater spearfishing, snagging, snaring, grabbing, or atlatl.

For more information on state record fish, visit <http://bit.ly/2efq1vl>.

# B & H

## Thanks

to all the local farmers who have given so much support to our business over the past 29 years!

- Complete Water Well Installation
- Repair On Existing Equipment
- Geo Thermal Wells & Looping
- Cobett Waterers and Water Lines Installed

**We Hope We Can Help In The Future!**

3 Service Trucks & 2 Drill Rigs Available at all times

**FREE ESTIMATES ON NEW WELLS**

**573-455-9111**  
**bhwelldrilling.com**



**FEATURING THE BEST SELECTION OF ALUMACRAFT & EXCEL BOATS IN JEFFERSON CITY!**

**PRECISION WATER & POWER SPORTS**

10103 MARINA RD • JEFFERSON CITY, MO | (573) 395-4044

**ALUMACRAFT**

**EXCEL BOATS**

CALL 573-437-2323 today to subscribe to the Maries County Advocate and save