

Approved Special Management Regulations

After-Hours Fishing Access Permit

Watkins Woolen Mill State Park and State Historic Site

An after-hours fishing access permit must be obtained to be on site grounds for fishing after closure time. The permit must be purchased at the visitor center. The fee is subject to change.

Alcohol

Castlewood State Park

Alcohol is prohibited in the main day-use area from the Union Pacific Railroad easement south to the Meramec River, with the exception of permitted special events.

St. Joe State Park

Alcohol is prohibited in the Pim Day-Use Area because of its proximity to the ORV staging area.

Allowance of Boat/ATV Trailer Parking at Campsites

Facilities that permit the parking of watercraft or all-terrain vehicle (ATV) trailers off of the campsite pad (usually in the grass) are:

Sam A. Baker State Park	Stockton State Park
Big Lake State Park	Table Rock State Park
Lake of the Ozarks State Park	Thousand Hills State Park
Lake Wappapello State Park	Harry S Truman State Park
Lewis and Clark State Park	Mark Twain State Park
Meramec State Park	Watkins Woolen Mill State Park and State Historic Site
Pomme de Terre State Park	

Battlefield Use

Battle of Pilot Knob

The core battlefield area of the historic site shall not be used for weddings or other events, except that living histories, reenactments, and the community 4th of July Fireworks display can use any parts of the field designated for such use by the site administrator. Other public events will require Division of State Parks, Eastern Region approval to use the core battlefield.

Boat Slip Rental

Long Branch State Park

The park's marina store may rent boat slips not under an annual lease on a daily basis. Covered boat slips and uncovered boat slips have set rates that are subject to change annually.

Camper Transportation

St. Francois State Park

All campers must have an immediate means of motorized transportation in case of evacuation due to flooding. Campers participating in long-distance bicycle tours traveling without support are exempt.

Campsite Capacity Exceedance

Roaring River State Park, Table Rock State Park

When a campsite capacity exceedance occurs and all other campsites are occupied, park staff may charge the camping party a fee equivalent to the current nightly rate of the campsite type used for each night the site is occupied and exceeding capacity.

Electric Cars – charging fee

Arrow Rock, Graham Cave, Hann, Lake of the Ozarks, Long Branch, Onondaga Cave, Pomme de Terre, St. Joe, Table Rock, Wakonda State Park, Washington, Watkins Woolen Mill

Allow park staff to charge a fee for a non-camper to use a vacant electric premium campsite for a period to not exceed 1 hour for the purpose of charging their electric vehicle. This would be allowed as long as a vacant premium electric campsite is available for them to use at that time.

Equestrian Campground

Sam A. Baker State Park

Equestrian and non-equestrian campers may occupy sites in the Equestrian Campground via a camping reservation or first-come, first-serve basis.

Cuivre River State Park

No generators may be used during quiet hours (10 p.m. to 6 a.m.). Straw and manure must be put in the provided bin and debris in the trash can. Horses must be tied at the back of the campsite at the hitching post, unless saddling or unsaddling them.

Cuivre River State Park

Park staff may offer coupon or monetary refunds to campers in the Equestrian Campground should said customers approach staff due to equestrian trail conditions or temporary closure; this only applies during times when the trail has been closed to equestrian use and/or equestrian use is not recommended due to unsuitable conditions

Generators

Crowder, Knob Noster, Pershing and St. Joe state parks

The use of generators is prohibited in the campground, unless approved by the facility manager. Special consideration will be given for use of generators relating to customer health and safety.

Group Tent Areas

Meramec State Park

Meramec State Park offers three group tent areas (A, B and C) in addition to their regular campsites. Each tent area contains a paved parking lot for approximately 16 vehicles, eight picnic tables, two fire grills and two lantern posts. The minimum group size per area is 15 persons and the maximum size is 50 persons. A showerhouse is conveniently located in the area.

The group areas are open and reservable year-round. The three group tent areas can be reserved using the centralized reservation system.

Lake Restrictions

Wakonda State Park

Agate and Wakonda lakes are designated idle speed only (no horsepower limit).

Agate Lake is closed Nov. 1 through Jan. 31 and Feb. 15 through March 31 to allow for waterfowl refuge during fall and spring migrations.

Jasper Lake is open to public access and use with small carry-in boats; trolling motors only, no gas engines. The lake is closed for waterfowl migration Feb. 15 through March 31 and Oct. 15 through Dec. 31.

Late Rental Return Fee

Cuivre River, Long Branch and Wakonda state parks

When a customer returns a watercraft rental after the designated rental time period has ended, staff may charge a late return fee. The fee is dependent on the type of watercraft and is determined by the facility manager.

Maximum Stay Limit

Dr. Edmund A. Babler Memorial State Park

Campers at Babler State Park may exceed the maximum stay rule (15 days within a 30-consecutive-day period at one park) during the off-season (November through March).

Roaring River State Park

Campers at Roaring River State Park may exceed the maximum stay rule (15 days within a 30-consecutive-day period at one park) from the Tuesday after Labor Day to the Friday prior to Memorial Day (observed). From the Saturday prior to Memorial Day (observed) through Labor Day, the maximum stay rule does apply.

Table Rock State Park

Campers at Table Rock State Park may exceed the maximum stay rule (15 days within a 30-consecutive-day period at one park) from November through March 31.

On-Seasons -- Alternate

Bennett Spring, Montauk and Roaring River state parks

On-season runs from Feb. 25 through Oct. 31.

Table Rock State Park

On-season runs from March 1 through Nov. 30.

Big Lake, Crowder, Cuivre River, Lewis and Clark, Pershing, Van Meter, Wakonda, Wallace, Watkins Woolen Mill (SP and SHS) and Weston Bend state parks

On-season runs from April 15 through Oct. 31.

Overflow Camping Area

St. Joe State Park

The area at the intersection of Loughboro and Pimville Road has been designated as an overflow camping area which can be used when the regular camping areas are full. St Joe State Park is a destination park for most campers because of the ORV riding area. Campers are allowed to camp in the overflow area on a nightly basis as long as the regular camping area remains full.

Arrow Rock State Historic Site and Hann, Lake Wappapello, Trail of Tears and Washington state parks

When all campsites are occupied, staff may permit campers to set up in a designated overflow camping area and may charge the customer the current nightly value of a basic camping fee.

Overflow Parking Area

Dr. Edmund A. Babler Memorial and St. Joe state parks

Park staff may charge an overflow parking fee per vehicle to allow parking in designated overflow parking areas when the campsite vehicle capacity is exceeded.

Parking in Grass

Arrow Rock State Historic Site

Parking is allowed on the grass in most areas throughout the historic site.

Picnic Shelters

Castlewood State Park

Visitors can no longer reserve picnic shelters for half day. They can be rented for full-day use only, 5 days a week. Reservations can be made Monday through Friday. Reservations not offered Saturday, Sunday, or the following holidays: Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day. If not reserved, on a first-come, first-serve basis for free.

Weston Bend State Park

Reservations for Bee Creek Shelter are accepted up to 24 months in advance of desired date.

Prairie State Park

Special backpack camping along trail regulations; no pets on trails (EXCEPT for the Path of the Earth People and Path of the Sky People trail) or areas outside the camping and picnic areas; no smoking on trails; no campfires in the backpack camp; blanket approval for staff to cut trees; carry-in/carry-out trash; elk and bison rules

Pricing, Alternate Off-Season

Bennett Spring State Park

From Nov. 1 through Feb. 24, sewer/electric/water campsites in Campground 1 can be sold at the off-season electric or basic rate based on the amenities used by the occupant. (No electric or basic sites are available during this time period.)

Lake Wappapello State Park

Due to closure of Asher Creek Campground in the off-season causing no basic campsites to be available for sale, park staff may sell electric campsites in Ridge Campground at the basic rate from November through March if the electric amenity is not used by the occupant.

Roaring River State Park

Due to closure of Campgrounds 2 and 3 in the off-season causing no basic campsites to be available for sale, park staff may sell electric campsites in Campground 1 at the basic rate from Nov. 1 through Feb. 24 if the electric amenity is not used by the occupant.

Table Rock State Park

From December through February, sewer/electric/water campsites in Campground 1 can be sold at the off-season electric rate if the sewer amenity is not used by the occupant and no electric site is available. Electric campsites can be sold at the off-season basic rate if the electric amenity is not used by the occupant. (No basic sites are available during this time period.)

Thousand Hills State Park

Due to closure of Campground 1 in the off-season causing no basic campsites to be available for sale, park staff may sell electric campsites in Campground 2 at the basic rate from November through March if the electric amenity is not used by the occupant.

Trail of Tears State Park

Lake Boutin Campground is closed November through April, leaving no basic campsites available for sale. From November through April, park staff may sell electric campsites in Mississippi River

Campground at the basic rate if the electric amenity is not used by the occupant. Additionally, sewer/electric/water campsites in Mississippi River Campground can be sold at the electric rate if the sewer amenity is not used by the occupant and no electric sites are available. (Sewer/electric/water campsites cannot be sold at the basic rate.)

Harry S Truman State Park

Due to seasonal campground closures, park staff may charge certain alternate rates. From November through February, park staff may sell electric campsites in Devil's Backbone Campground at the basic rate if the electric amenity is not used by the occupant. During the month of March, if the five available basic sites in Thorny Ridge Campground are occupied park staff may sell electric campsites in Devil's Backbone Campground at the basic rate if the electric amenity is not used by the occupant.

River Access Gate

Castlewood State Park

This gate is closed on weekends and holidays from May 1 through Sept. 30. The gate also may be closed as needed during flooding or emergencies. No vehicles allowed on the sandbar. See also "Trash Cans."

Showerhouse Usage, Non-Camper

When a non-camping visitor uses the showerhouse, park staff may charge each person a showerhouse usage fee.

Arrow Rock	Babler	Baker	Battle of Athens
Bennett Spring	Big Lake	Crowder	Cuivre River
Echo Bluff	Finger Lakes	Graham Cave	Hawn
Johnson's Shut-Ins	Knob Noster	Lake of the Ozarks	Lake Wappapello
Lewis and Clark	Long Branch	Meramec	Montauk
Onondaga Cave	Pershing	Pomme de Terre	Prairie
Roaring River	Robertsville	St. Francois	St. Joe
Stockton	Table Rock	Taum Sauk Mountain	Thousand Hills
Trail of Tears	Harry S Truman	Mark Twain	Van Meter
Wakonda	Wallace	Washington	Watkins Mill
Weston Bend			

Special Event Area

Reservations of a special-use camping area (SUCA) for day-use activities may be used within the facility's day-use operating hours except when reserved for an overnight group. Same-day first-come, first-served use is allowed and will not incur a rental fee.

Castlewood State Park

The lower day-use area at Castlewood State Park is designated as a Special Event area for managing third-party special events.

Special-Use Camping Area (Minimum-use charge)

Cuivre River State Park

The park has two special-use camping areas with minimum charges for usage. Specific rates are maintained and updated by Business Services and are subject to change each year.

Finger Lakes State Park

The park has one special-use camping area with minimum charges for usage. Specific rates are maintained and updated by Business Services and are subject to change each year.

Stockton State Park

The park has two special-use camping areas with minimum charges for usage. Specific rates are maintained and updated by Business Services and are subject to change each year.

Wallace State Park

The park's three special-use camping areas have minimum charges for usage. Specific rates are maintained and updated by Business Services and are subject to change each year.

Trails Use

Rock Bridge Memorial State Park

Horseback riding is permitted: in Gans Creek Wild Area between June 1 and Oct. 1 and only when the trail is dry.

Mountain biking is only permitted when the trails are dry.

Trash Cans (Carry-in, Carry-out)

Castlewood State Park

A carry-in, carry-out zone is designated in the main day-use area from the Union Pacific Railroad easement south to the Meramec River. This area includes the river access, main picnic area, valley portion of River Scene Trail, overflow parking lot, Lincoln Field and picnic sites along Kiefer Creek Road. See also "Alcohol."

Clark's Hill/Norton and Jewell Cemetery state historic sites

No trash cans provided.

Katy Trail State Park

No trash cans provided at the trailheads from Portland to Boonville.

Rock Bridge Memorial State Park

Except for in the restrooms and dumpsters, there are no trash cans provided. Also applies to the special-use area and picnic shelters.

Wedding Venues

Dillard Mill State Historic Site

Dillard Mill has established a set of guidelines for weddings/commitments ceremonies held at the facility. The rental fee is subject to change annually.

*North side of millpond, just in front of the split rail fence with the mill and Huzzah Creek as a backdrop

Washington State Park

Campground Amphitheater

The campground amphitheater is available for an outdoor wedding venue rental. The rental fee is subject to change annually.

updated February 2024