Dr. Edmund A. Babler Memorial State Park

**DOGWOOD TRAIL**

Dogwood Trail has several spurs and is located in the central portion of the park. From the trailhead, which it shares with Woodbine Trail, Dogwood Trail travels north and includes several steep inclines. The trail crosses Equestrian Trail shortly after the beginning of the trail, before the beginning of the trail loop. It rises and falls several times over the maximum altitude change in the park, about 300 feet. The change in elevation allows you to see the wide variety of forest habitats found within the park. Chert, flint-like rock, is exposed in some of the slopes of dry ridges on this trail. The trail also goes through moist, green valleys in the low sections and heavily wooded sections are seen on the northeast side of the trail.

From the trailhead, a short spur leads to the beginning of the trail loop. From here, the trail follows Equestrian Trail for a short distance before turning right, just past the Cochran Shelter, off of Equestrian Trail. The trail then continues north east, where there is a short spur that leads to the Bates Picnic Area. Past this spur, the trail continues west, crossing Equestrian Trail again, and following it for a very short distance, where it leads to another spur which leads to the historic stable building. From here, the loop continues west and begins to turn south. Another spur leads to Babler Spring and a small cave. Continuing along the loop, the trail leads south, crossing Equestrian Trail twice more before leading back to the trailhead. Dogwood and Woodbine trails can easily be combined to create a longer hike.

**Distance from Trailhead 1:** 2.0 Miles

**Uses:**
Hiking [X]

**Blazes:**
Green

**Class:** Loop

**Surface Type:** Natural

**Trail Rating:** Rugged

**Estimated Hiking Time:** 2 Hours, 1 Minute

**Trailhead & GPS Location:**
1) 38.62282, -90.69790
2) 38.62880, -90.69677

Elevation profile is not available

**You may experience:**
2) Natural Surface-dirt/mud/gravel, shifting rock, slippery surface, etc.
3) Rocks, roots and/or downed vegetation on trail
7) Steep grades and inclines more than 10%
9) Bridges and/or structural crossings
10) Water/stream crossings without bridges
TRAIL BLAZE COLORS & SURFACE TYPES
The maps on this website indicate the blaze colors for each trail. If more than one trail shares tread, that portion of the trail is identified by more than one color. The surface type of a trail is indicated on the maps generated by this website by a pattern overlapping the blaze color of the trail.

TRAIL TYPE – Loop, Multi-loop, One Way, System or Multi-section
A loop trail is one that will return you to the trailhead. Multi-loop trails offer two or more separate loops, ex. a trail having a north and south loop. A one-way trail takes you from the trailhead to the farthest point on the trail and you will have to retrace your steps to return to the trailhead. If you plan to return to your starting point on a one-way trail, you will have to double the distance to calculate your estimated mileage and/or hiking time.

A trail system is a series of interconnected trails that allow you to chose your own route. A Multi-section trail offers two or more separate sections, ex. Katy Trail State Park, and distances are shown both for the entire trail and the sections.

YOU MAY EXPERIENCE
These conditions are all things you may encounter while on a Missouri state parks trail. Trailhead signs at the start of each trail also indicate which conditions exist on that trail.

ESTIMATED HIKING TIME
The estimated hiking time was determined by considering the average user’s speed and the conditions that might be experienced on a specific trail. Your speed may be slower or faster than the time listed.

GPS COORDINATES
There are several methods of communicating GPS coordinates. Most GPS units will convert from one coordinate system to another. If you require a different coordinate system for your unit, visit dnr.mo.gov/gisutils/ to convert the coordinates shown on this map to another version.

NATURAL AREAS / WILD AREAS
Natural areas are identified in pink. Natural areas are recognized as the best remaining examples known of Missouri’s original natural environments. These natural areas are managed and protected for their scientific, educational and historical values. Missouri state parks have 38 designated natural areas, encompassing almost 22,000 acres.

Wild areas are identified in brown. The Missouri Wild Area System is made up of large tracts of land set aside as wilderness, which make the perfect setting for hiking and backpacking. A wild area must be 1,000 or more acres in size, show little impact from humans, and possess outstanding opportunities for solitude. They are strictly protected for their wilderness benefits as well as for their use for environmental education and scientific study.