

Ha Ha Tonka State Park

TURKEY PEN HOLLOW TRAIL

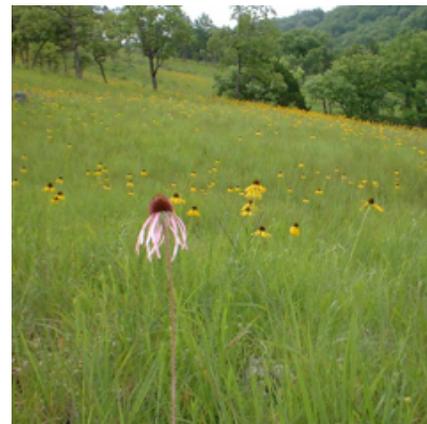
Turkey Pen Hollow Trail passes through high quality dolomite glades and woodland plant communities. The area in and around this trail is managed with periodic prescribed fire. Information on this fire management is available at the trailhead and at the park office. The trail also takes hikers and backpackers past a large sinkhole and meanders through Turkey Pen Hollow. A spur to Post Office Road provides access to the park's restricted special-use camp. Hikers often spy deer and turkey along the trail, and if not the real thing, evidence of their tracks and droppings.

After passing the connector trail leading to the special-use camp, hikers will travel across a large south-facing glade. Lower on this slope is an intermittently wet seep area. Ahead, a large outcrop of rock is the remnant of the Red Arrow Fault line that runs through this part of Camden County. This interesting rock area is where layers of bedrock have shifted in a vertical manner and in other places one layer of rock has shifted pushing other rocks layers above it.

After reaching the ridge top and hiking for a short distance, hikers can choose to shorten their hike to 4.75 miles by taking white connector 1. Along white connector 1, there is an intermittent pond. This pond, which often holds water in the spring, is home to many frogs, salamanders and toads as evidenced by the cacophony of their calls both during the day and in the evening.

Follow the red blazes counterclockwise to hike Turkey Pen Hollow Trail. The trail shares a trailhead and some distance with Acorn, Oak Woodland Interpretive and Devil's Kitchen trails. Turkey Pen Hollow Trail was built by park staff and volunteers in 1997.

Only hikers and backpackers are allowed on this trail. Equestrian and bicycle use is prohibited. Backpackers should register at the park office before starting their trip. Even after the office is closed, there are trail registration cards located outside the door to the office, and a mailbox to leave your completed form. If planning to arrive late after hours for your reservation please contact the visitor center to make the necessary arrangements. Backpackers must register before camping on Turkey Pen Hollow Trail. Camping is free, but reservations are required. Same day reservations are possible April through October (10am - 5pm). It is strongly encouraged that you reserve your campsite at least one week prior to camping by calling the Visitor Center. Camping is only permitted the three designated campsites. The maximum group size at the campsites is 7. Campfires are prohibited. Stoves must be used for cooking. Cutting implements such as saws and hatchets are not allowed on the trail. Permitted camping is only allowed for backpackers at designated sites. Checkout time is 2 p.m. on the day of departure. Overnight parking is allowed only for registered backpackers. Please display your daily permit on the dash of your vehicle.



Distance: 6.5 Miles

Uses:

Hiking 

Backpacking 

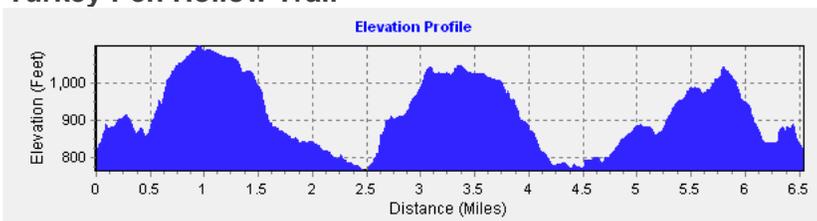
Blazes:

Red 

White 1 

Class: Loop

Turkey Pen Hollow Trail



You may experience:



TRAILS OF MISSOURI STATE PARKS

Surface Type: Natural

Trail Rating: Rugged

Estimated Hiking Time: 6 Hours, 32 Minutes

Trailhead & GPS Location:

37.97359, -92.76233

2) Natural Surface-dirt/mud/gravel, shifting rock, slippery surface, etc.

3) Rocks, roots and/or downed vegetation on trail

4) Low-hanging vegetation

6) Wood or stone steps

7) Steep grades and inclines more than 10%

8) Bluffs or drop-offs next to trail

10) Water/stream crossings without bridges

This trail or a portion of this trail travels through: Ha Ha Tonka Oak Woodland Natural Area

- RED
- ORANGE
- YELLOW
- GREEN
- BLUE
- BROWN
- WHITE CONNECTOR
- SHARED TREAD

- NATURAL
- GRAVEL
- PAVED
- WATER
- BOARDWALK

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 choose 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.

- 1 Slippery conditions and/or downed vegetation
- 2 Natural surface: dirt, mud, gravel, shifting rocks, slippery surface, etc.
- 3 Rocks, roots and/or downed vegetation on trail
- 4 Low-hanging vegetation
- 5 Physically challenging obstacles
- 6 Wood or stone steps
- 7 Steep grades and inclines over 10%
- 8 Bluffs or drop-offs next to trail
- 9 Bridges and/or structural crossings
- 10 Water/stream crossings without bridges
- 11 Occasional water over trail
- 12 Road/Highway crossing
- 13 Emergency response signs
- 14 Narrow passages
- 15 Raised or protruding obstacles
- 16 Electric fence crossings
- 17 Bison/elk
- 18 Rapidly changing weather conditions
- 19 Motorized boat traffic
- 20 Unexpected waves
- 21 Changing water levels
- 22 Surface or submerged objects

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.

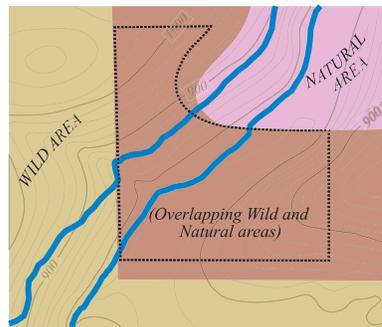
GPS COORDINATES

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.



TRAIL USE

-  Hiking Trail
-  Backpacking Trail
-  Mountain Biking Trail
-  Equestrian Trail
-  Accessible
-  Hardened-Surface Bicycling Trail
-  Paddling Trail
-  Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Trail
-  Motorized Boating Trail
-  Wagon Suitable Trail
-  Interpretive Trail
-  Fitness Trail
-  Interpretive Water Trail
-  Wildlife Viewing Trail

POINTS OF INTEREST

-  Main Park Entrance / Park Entrance
-  Trailhead
-  Parking
-  Trail Access
-  Overlook
-  Restroom
-  Camping
-  Special-Use Camping Area
-  Check Station / Park Office / Ranger Office
-  Visitor Center / Orientation Center
-  Emergency Response / First Aid
-  Picnicking
-  Playground
-  Technical Feature
-  Natural Feature
-  Cultural Feature
-  Amphitheater
-  Backpack Camping Shelter
-  Backpack Campsite
-  Boat Ramp
-  Dining
-  Equestrian Parking
-  Interpretive Panel
-  Interpretive Shelter
-  Intersection
-  Lodging / Cabin / Camper Cabin
-  Marina / Boat Dock
-  Nature Center
-  Organized Group Camp
-  Picnic Shelter
-  Recreation Feature
-  Skills Course
-  Stables
-  Store
-  Swimming
-  Telephone
-  Water Fountain
-  Water Access