



Animals of Bennett Spring State Park

Located in the central Missouri Ozarks, Bennett Spring State Park's more than 3,200 acres represent many different habitats. Bennett Spring, the third largest spring in the state, provides an average supply of more than 100 million gallons of water to the stream branch and the nearby Niangua River. In the southern, more remote areas of the park, the losing stream and lush bottomland environments associated with the spring valley system blend into oak-hickory and savanna woodlands of the surrounding hills.

Many animals native to the Ozarks make their homes here. These include numerous minnows and darters, southern redback salamander, pickerel frog, northern watersnake, pileated woodpecker, belted kingfisher, muskrat and bobcat. Some recent additions to the area include the nine-banded armadillo, which has migrated north in the last 10 years, and river otter, which was reintroduced recently and is doing well. Some unique animals found here include the eastern hellbender and the Niangua darter, the latter of which is listed on the endangered species list.

The checklist includes 54 fish, 20 amphibians, 33 reptiles, 173 birds, 32 mammals, 53 miscellaneous invertebrates and 125 insects found in the park. Remember that all plants and animals in state parks are protected and should not be disturbed. Please leave them for others to enjoy. Fishing permits for trout are available.

If you wish to share your observations or sightings, especially about new or rare species, leave the information at the nature center or park office, or mail it to Nature Center, Bennett Spring State Park, 26250 Hwy 64A, Lebanon, MO 65536.

KEY

Abundance Status (AS)

- ab - Abundant: Almost certain to be found in proper habitat during proper season
- co - Common: Frequently found in proper habitat
- un - Uncommon: Infrequently found in proper habitat
- ra - Rare: Very seldom found
- * - Included on the rare and endangered species list in Missouri

Seasonal Status for Birds (SS)

- PR - Permanent resident
- SR - Summer resident
- WR - Winter resident
- T - Transient, migrating through in spring or fall

FISH	AS
___ Longnose Gar	co
___ Gizzard Shad.....	co
___ Rainbow Trout (introduced).....	ab
___ Brown Trout (introduced)	co
___ Grass Pickerel	un
___ Carp (introduced).....	co
___ Creek Chub	co
___ Southern Redbelly Dace	ab
___ Hornyhead Chub.....	un
___ Rosyface Shiner	co
___ Redfin Shiner	co
___ Bleeding Shiner	ab
___ Striped Shiner.....	co
___ Ozark Minnow	co
___ Bluntnose Minnow	co
___ Central Stoneroller.....	ab
___ Largescale Stoneroller	co
___ White Sucker.....	ab
___ Northern Hog Sucker	co
___ Black Redhorse	co
___ Golden Redhorse.....	co
___ Shorthead Redhorse.....	un
___ River Redhorse	un
___ Black Bullhead.....	co
___ Yellow Bullhead.....	co
___ Channel Catfish.....	co
___ Slender Madtom	co
___ Southern Cavefish (historic)	ra
___ Northern Studfish.....	ab
___ Black Spotted Topminnow	co
___ Brook Silverside	co
___ Banded Sculpin	co
___ Ozark Sculpin.....	co
___ Mottled Sculpin.....	ab
___ Smallmouth Bass	ab
___ Largemouth Bass.....	co
___ Green Sunfish	ab
___ Orangespotted Sunfish	co
___ Longear Sunfish	ab
___ Bluegill	co
___ Goggle-eye.....	co
___ Bluestripe Darter.....	ra
___ Logperch	co
___ Johnny Darter	co
___ Missouri Saddled Darter	ab
___ Banded Darter	co
___ Missouri Saddled Darter	ab
___ Banded Darter	co
___ Greenside Darter	co
___ Niangua Darter *	ra
___ Orangethroat Darter.....	ab
___ Fantail Darter	co
___ Rainbow Darter.....	co
___ Mosquito Fish	co

AMPHIBIANS AS

SALAMANDERS	
___ Eastern Hellbender	co
___ Ringed Salamander	un

AMPHIBIANS (continued)	AS
___ Spotted Salamander	co
___ Eastern Tiger Salamander	un
___ Central Newt.....	co
___ Dark-sided Salamander	un
___ Cave Salamander.....	un
___ Slimy Salamander	co
___ Southern Redback Salamander	un

TOADS AND FROGS	
___ Dwarf American Toad.....	ab
___ Woodhouse's Toad.....	un
___ Blanchard's Cricket Frog.....	co
___ Northern Spring Peeper	ab
___ Eastern Gray Treefrog.....	co
___ Western Chorus Frog	co
___ Bullfrog.....	ab
___ Green Frog.....	ab
___ Pickerel Frog	ab
___ Southern Leopard Frog.....	co
___ Eastern Narrowmouth Toad	un

REPTILES AS

TURTLES	
___ Common Snapping Turtle.....	co
___ Common Musk Turtle (Stinkpot)	un
___ Three-toed Box Turtle.....	co
___ Ornate Box Turtle	un
___ Red eared Slider.....	co
___ Western Spiny Softshell Turtle	co
___ Midland Spiny Softshell Turtle	co

LIZARDS	
___ Northern Fence Lizard	ab
___ Western Slender Glass Lizard	un
___ Southern Coal Skink.....	un
___ Five-lined Skink.....	ab
___ Broad-headed Skink	co
___ Ground Skink.....	co
___ Prairie Racerunner	co

SNAKES	
___ Western Worm	co
___ Eastern Yellow-bellied Racer	co
___ Prairie Ring-necked Snake	co
___ Black Rat.....	co
___ Eastern Hog-nosed	un
___ Prairie King.....	un
___ Speckled King	co
___ Red Milk	un
___ Northern Water.....	co
___ Rough Green.....	co
___ Bull.....	un
___ Midland Brown.....	co
___ Northern Red-bellied.....	co
___ Flat-headed	un
___ Western Ribbon.....	co
___ Red-sided Garter	un
___ Rough Earth	un
___ Osage Copperhead.....	co
___ Timber Rattlesnake	ra

BIRDS		SS	AS
___	Pied-Billed Grebe	T	co
___	Great Blue Heron.....	PR	ab
___	Green Heron.....	SR	co
___	Little Blue Heron *	T	ra
___	Cattle Egret	T	ra
___	Snowy Egret *	T	ra
___	Yellow -crowned Night Heron.....	SR	un
___	Canada Goose	T	un
___	White-fronted Goose	T	un
___	Snow Goose.....	T	un
___	Mallard Duck	T	co
___	Gadwall	T	un
___	Pintail	T	un
___	Green-winged Teal	T	co
___	Blue-winged Teal.....	T	co
___	American Widgeon.....	T	co
___	Northern Shoveler	T	un
___	Wood Duck.....	SR	co
___	Redhead.....	T	un
___	Canvasback.....	T	ra
___	Common Goldeneye.....	WR	ra
___	Bufflehead.....	T	un
___	Turkey Vulture.....	SR	ab
___	Black Vulture.....	T	ra
___	Sharp-shinned Hawk *	T	ra
___	Cooper's Hawk *	SR	un
___	Red-tailed Hawk	PR	co
___	Red-shouldered Hawk.....	SR	co
___	Broad-winged Hawk.....	SR	un
___	Rough-legged Hawk	T	ra
___	Golden Eagle.....	WR	ra
___	Bald Eagle *	WR	un
___	Northern Harrier.....	T	ra
___	Osprey *	T	un
___	American Kestrel	PR	co
___	Bobwhite	PR	un
___	Wild Turkey	PR	co
___	Sora (Rail).....	T	co
___	American Coot.....	T	co
___	Killdeer	SR	co
___	American Woodcock	T	un
___	Common Snipe.....	T	un
___	Spotted Sandpiper.....	T	un
___	Herring Gull.....	T	un
___	Ring-billed Gull.....	T	un
___	Mourning Dove.....	PR	co
___	Yellow -billed Cuckoo	SR	co
___	Black-billed Cuckoo.....	SR	un
___	Roadrunner	PR	ra
___	Screech Owl	PR	co
___	Great Horned Owl.....	PR	co
___	Saw-Whet Owl.....	WR	ra
___	Snowy Owl	WR	ra
___	Barred Owl	PR	ra
___	Chuck-will's Widow.....	SR	co
___	Whip-poor-will	SR	co
___	Common Nighthawk	SR	co
___	Chimney Swift	SR	co
___	Ruby Throated Hummingbird.....	SR	ab
___	Belted Kingfisher	PR	co
___	Northern Flicker.....	PR	co

BIRDS (continued)		SS	AS
___	Pileated Woodpecker	PR	co
___	Red-bellied Woodpecker	PR	co
___	Redheaded Woodpecker	PR	co
___	Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker	WR	un
___	Hairy Woodpecker.....	PR	co
___	Downy Woodpecker.....	PR	co
___	Eastern Kingbird.....	SR	co
___	Least Flycatcher	T	un
___	Scissor-tailed Flycatcher.....	SR	ra
___	Great Crested Flycatcher.....	SR	un
___	Eastern Phoebe.....	SR	co
___	Eastern Wood Pewee	SR	un
___	Horned Lark.....	PR	un
___	Bank Swallow	SR	ra
___	Rough-Winged Swallow.....	SR	co
___	Barn Swallow.....	SR	co
___	Purple Martin.....	SR	co
___	Blue Jay	PR	co
___	American Crow.....	PR	ab
___	Black-Capped Chickadee	T	un
___	Carolina Chickadee	PR	ab
___	Tufted Titmice	PR	co
___	Red-Breasted Nuthatch	WR	un
___	White-Breasted Nuthatch.....	PR	co
___	Brown Creeper	WR	un
___	House Wren	SR	co
___	Winter Wren.....	WR	un
___	Bewick's Wren.....	T	ra
___	Carolina Wren	PR	co
___	Marsh Wren.....	T	un
___	Mockingbird.....	PR	co
___	Gray Catbird.....	PR	co
___	Brown Thrasher	SR	co
___	American Robin.....	SR	ab
___	Wood Thrush.....	SR	co
___	Hermit Thrush.....	T	ra
___	Swainson's Thrush.....	T	un
___	Gray-Cheeked Thrush	T	un
___	Veery.....	T	un
___	Eastern Bluebird.....	PR	co
___	Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher	SR	co
___	Golden-Crowned Kinglet.....	WR	un
___	Ruby-Crowned Kinglet	WR	co
___	Water Pipit	T	un
___	Cedar Waxwing.....	SR	un
___	Loggerhead Shrike	PR	co
___	Starling.....	PR	ab
___	White-eyed Vireo.....	T	un
___	Bell's Vireo	T	un
___	Yellow-throated Vireo	T	ra
___	Red-eyed Vireo.....	SR	co
___	Philadelphia Vireo	T	ra
___	Warbling Vireo.....	T	co
___	Black-and-white Warbler.....	T	un
___	Prothonotary Warbler	SR	un
___	Worm Eating Warbler.....	SR	un
___	Blue-winged Warbler	T	un
___	Tennessee Warbler	T	ra
___	Orange-crowned Warbler.....	T	ra
___	Magnolia Warbler	T	ra

BIRDS (continued)	SS	AS
___ Nashville Warbler.....	T	un
___ Northern Parula.....	SR	un
___ Yellow Warbler.....	T	ra
___ Myrtle Warbler.....	T	co
___ Black-throated Green Warbler.....	T	ra
___ Blackburnian Warbler.....	T	ra
___ Yellow -throated Warbler.....	SR	un
___ Blackpoll Warbler.....	T	ra
___ Prairie Warbler.....	T	ra
___ Ovenbird.....	T	ra
___ Louisiana Waterthrush.....	SR	un
___ Common Yellowthroat.....	SR	co
___ Yellow-breasted Chat.....	SR	co
___ Kentucky Warbler.....	SR	un
___ Wilson's Warbler.....	T	ra
___ American Redstart.....	SR	un
___ House Sparrow.....	PR	ab
___ Eastern Meadowlark.....	PR	co
___ Yellow-headed Blackbird.....	T	un
___ Red-winged Blackbird.....	R	co
___ Orchard Oriole.....	SR	co
___ Northern Oriole.....	SR	co
___ Rusty Blackbird.....	T	un
___ Brewer's Blackbird.....	T	un
___ Common Grackle.....	SR	ab
___ Brown-Headed Cowbird.....	SR	co
___ Scarlet Tanager.....	SR	ra
___ Summer Tanager.....	SR	co
___ Cardinal.....	PR	co
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak.....	T	un
___ Evening Grosbeak.....	T	un
___ Blue Grosbeak.....	SR	un
___ Indigo Bunting.....	SR	co
___ Dickcissel.....	SR	un
___ Purple Finch.....	WR	ab
___ House Finch.....	PR	un
___ American Goldfinch.....	PR	co
___ Eastern Towhee.....	SR	co
___ Savannah Sparrow.....	T	un
___ Grasshopper Sparrow.....	T	ra
___ Vesper Sparrow.....	T	ra
___ Dark-eyed Junco.....	WR	ab
___ Tree Sparrow.....	PR	un
___ Chipping Sparrow.....	SR	co
___ Field Sparrow.....	PR	co
___ Harris Sparrow.....	PR	un
___ White-crowned Sparrow.....	WR	un
___ White-throated Sparrow.....	WR	co
___ Fox Sparrow.....	T	un
___ Lincoln's Sparrow.....	T	un
___ Swamp Sparrow.....	T	un
___ Song Sparrow.....	WR	un

MAMMALS	AS
___ Opossum.....	co
___ Short tailed Shrew.....	co
___ Eastern Mole.....	co
___ Least Shrew.....	un
___ Big Brown Bat.....	co
___ Red Bat.....	co
___ Little Brown Bat.....	un

MAMMALS (continued)	AS
___ Gray Bat *.....	un
___ Hoary Bat.....	un
___ Eastern Pipistrelle Bat.....	co
___ Eastern Cottontail.....	ab
___ Eastern Chipmunk.....	ab
___ Eastern Gray Squirrel.....	ab
___ Southern Flying Squirrel.....	co
___ Fox Squirrel.....	un
___ Beaver.....	co
___ Eastern Woodrat.....	ra
___ Muskrat.....	co
___ White-footed Mouse.....	ab
___ Woodchuck (groundhog).....	co
___ House Mouse.....	ab
___ Prairie Vole.....	un
___ Woodland Vole.....	co
___ Coyote.....	co
___ Red Fox.....	co
___ Gray Fox.....	un
___ Raccoon.....	co
___ Striped Skunk.....	co
___ River Otter.....	un
___ Mink.....	co
___ Bobcat.....	ra
___ White-tailed Deer.....	co
___ Nine-banded Armadillo.....	ra

INSECTS

MOTHS and BUTTERFLIES

___	Skippers, Family Herperiidae
___	Pipevine Swallowtail, <i>Battus philenor philenor</i>
___	Zebra Swallowtail, <i>Eurytidea marcellus</i>
___	Black Swallowtail, <i>Papilio polyxenes asterius</i>
___	Missouri Woodland Swallowtail, <i>Papilio joanae</i>
___	Giant Swallowtail, <i>Heracles crespontes</i>
___	Tiger Swallowtail, <i>Pterourus glaucus glaucus</i>
___	Spicebush Swallowtail, <i>Pterourus troilus troilus</i>
___	Checkered White, <i>Pontia protodice</i>
___	European Cabbage Butterfly, <i>Artogeia rapae</i>
___	Clouded Sulphur, <i>Colias philodice</i>
___	Dogface Butterfly, <i>Zerene cesonia cesonia</i>
___	Cloudless Sulphur, <i>Phoebis sennae eubule</i>
___	Gray Hairstreak, <i>Strymon melinus</i>
___	Spring Azure, <i>Celastina argiolus ladon</i>
___	Great Spangled Fritillary, <i>Speyeria cybele cybele</i>
___	Pearl Crescent, <i>Phyciodes tharos tharos</i>
___	Question Mark, <i>Polygonia interrogationis</i>
___	Comma, <i>Polygonia comma</i>
___	Mourning Cloak, <i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>
___	Painted Lady, <i>Vanessa virginiensis</i>
___	Red Admiral, <i>Vanessa atalanta rubria</i>
___	Buckeye, <i>Junonia coenia</i>
___	Red Spotted Purple, <i>Basilarchia arthemis astyanax</i>
___	Goatweed Butterfly, <i>Anaea andria</i>
___	Hackberry Butterfly, <i>Asterocampa celtis celtis</i>
___	Little Wood Satyr, <i>Megisto cymela cymela</i>
___	Monarch, <i>Danaus plexippus</i>
___	Carolina Sphinx, <i>Manduca sexta</i>

MOTHS and BUTTERFLIES (continued)

- ___ Tomato Hornworm, *manduca quinquemaculata*
- ___ Osage Orange Sphinx, *Ceratomia hageni*
- ___ Hummingbird Clearwing Moth, *Hemaris thysbe*
- ___ Pandorus Sphinx, *Eumorpha pandorus*
- ___ Cercropia Moth, *Hyalophora cecropia*
- ___ Luna Moth, *Actias luna*
- ___ Polyphemus Moth, *Anhtheraea polyphemus*
- ___ IO Moth, *Automeris io*
- ___ Rosy Maple Moth, *Dryocampa rubicunda*
- ___ Spiny Oakworm Moth, *Anisota stigma*
- ___ Honey Locust Moth, *Sphingicampa bicolor*
- ___ Regal Moth (Hickory Horned Devil Caterpillar),
Citheronia regalis
- ___ Imperial Moth, *Eacles imperialis*
- ___ Arge Tiger Moth, *Grammia arge*
- ___ Isabella Tiger Moth (Woolly Bear Caterpillar),
Pyrrharctia isabella
- ___ Acrea Moth, *Estigmene acrea*
- ___ Fall Webworm Moth, *Hyphantria cunea*
- ___ Locust Underwing, *Euparthenos nubilis*
- ___ Beloved Underwing, *Catocala ilia*
- ___ The Laugher, *Charadra deridens*
- ___ Green Marvel, *Agripodes fallax*
- ___ Tent Caterpillar, *Malacosoma americanum*
- ___ The Beggar, *Eubaphe mendica*
- ___ Spiny Oak-Slug Moth, *Euclea delphinii*
- ___ Bagworm Moth, *Thyridopteryx ephemeraeformis*

AQUATIC INSECTS

- ___ Cranefly, Family Tipulidae
- ___ Mosquito, Diptera, Family Culicidaem, *Anopheles*
- ___ Midges, Diptera, Tendipedidae
- ___ Biting Midge, Diptera, Ceratopogonidae
- ___ Mayfly, Ephemeroptera,
Baeridae, *Siplonurus*,
Ephemerellidae, *Ephemerella*,
Caenidae, *Caenis*
Heptageniidae, *Stenonema*
Leptophlebiidae, *Leptophlebia*
- ___ Damselfly, Odonata
Coenagrionidae, *Ischnura*, *Arga*
- ___ Dragonfly, Odonata,
Libellulidae, *Erythemis*
Gomphidae, *Arigomphus*
- ___ Caddisfly, Tricoptera, Hydropsychidae,
Hydropsyche, Leptoceridae and others
- ___ Microcaddisfly, Tricoptera, Hydroptilidae
- ___ Blackfly, Diptera, Simuliidae
- ___ Marshfly, Diptera, Sciomyzidae
- ___ Soldierfly, Diptera, Stratiomyidae, *Tratiomia*
- ___ Water Strider, Hemiptera, Gerridae, Veliidae
- ___ Water Boatman, Hemiptera, Corixidae
- ___ Giant Water Bug, Hemiptera, Belostomatidae,
Lethoceras
- ___ Water Scavenger Beetle, Hemiptera,
Hydrophilidae, *Tropisternus*
- ___ Crawling Water Beetle, Coleoptera, Haliplidae,
Peltodytes
- ___ Diving Beetle, Coleoptera, Dytiscidae, *Hydrovatus*

AQUATIC INSECTS (continued)

- ___ Whirligig Beetle
- ___ Backswimmer
- ___ Dobsonfly Sialidae, *Sialis*
- ___ Stoneflies Leuctridae
- ___ Water Scorpion

OTHER INSECTS

- ___ Walking Stick
- ___ Praying Mantis
- ___ Camel Cricket
- ___ Tree Cricket
- ___ Katydid
- ___ Field Crickets
- ___ Robber Fly
- ___ Deer Fly, Family Tabanidae
- ___ Horse Fly, Family Tabanidae
- ___ House Fly
- ___ Honey Bee
- ___ Bumble Bee
- ___ Sweat Bee
- ___ Mud Dauber
- ___ Paper Wasp
- ___ American Pelecinid
- ___ Bald-Faced Hornet
- ___ Yellow Jacket
- ___ Velvet Ant
- ___ Carpenter Bee
- ___ Carpenter Ants
- ___ Termites
- ___ Fleas
- ___ Grasshoppers
- ___ Cockroaches
- ___ Spittlebugs
- ___ Treehoppers
- ___ Leafhoppers
- ___ Wheel Bug
- ___ Milkweed Bug
- ___ Stink Bugs
- ___ Assassin Bug
- ___ Ant Lion (Doodlebug)
- ___ Scorpionflies
- ___ Annual Cicada
- ___ Periodical Cicada
- ___ Lady Beetle
- ___ Unicorn Beetle (Eastern Hercules)
- ___ Eyed Click Beetle
- ___ Lighting Beetle
- ___ Carrion Beetle
- ___ Tortoise Beetle
- ___ Horned Beetles
- ___ June Beetle
- ___ Stag Beetle
- ___ Longhorned Borers

MISCELLANEOUS INVERTEBRATES

- ___ Tarantula, *Dugesia hentzi*
- ___ Black Widow Spider, *Latrodectus mactans*
- ___ House Spider, *Achaeearanea tepidariorum*

MISCELLANEOUS INVERTEBRATES (continued)

- ___ Wolf Spiders, *Pardosa spp.*, *Lycosa spp.*
- ___ Jumping Spiders, Salticidae
- ___ Black and Yellow Argiope (Garden Spider),
Argiope aurantia
- ___ Long-jawed Orbweaver, *Tetragnatha*
- ___ Marbled Orbweaver, *Araneus marmoreus*
- ___ Orchard Orbweaver, *Lecauga venusta*
- ___ Arboreal Orbweavers, *Araneus spp.*, *Neoscona*
spp.
- ___ Bowl and Doily Spider, *Frontinella pyramitela*
- ___ Crab Spiders, Thomisidae
- ___ White Micrathena, *Micrantha mitrata*
- ___ Arrow Shaped Micrathena, *Micrathena sagittata*
- ___ Spined Micrathena, *Micrathena gracilis*
- ___ Brown Recluse, *Loxosceles reclusa*
- ___ Funnel Web Spiders, *Agelenopsis spp.*
- ___ Fishing Spider, *Dolomedes triton*
- ___ Sheetweb Weavers, *Prolinyphia marginata*
- ___ Harvestmen (Daddy-long-legs), *Pholcus*
phalagiodes
- ___ Scorpion, *Centruroides sp.*
- ___ Chiggers, *Trombicula sp.*
- ___ Velvet Mite, *Trombium sp.*
- ___ Water Mite, *Lebertia sp.*
- ___ Wood Tick, *Dermacenter andersoni*
- ___ Deer Tick, *Ornithodoros sp.*,
- ___ Dog Tick, *Ornithodoros sp.*
- ___ Millipede, class Diplopoda
- ___ Centipede, *Scolopendra sp.*

Worms

- ___ Tubifex worm, *Tubifex tubifex*
- ___ Leeches, *Erpobdella sp.*
- ___ Horsehair Worm, *Gordius sp.*
- ___ Earthworm

Mollusks

- ___ Slugs
- ___ Midland siltsnail, *Cincinnatia integra*
- ___ Siltsnail, *Cincinnatia cincinnatiensis*
- ___ Slender walker, *Pomatiopsis lapidaria*
- ___ Pyramid elimia, *Elimia potosiensis*
- ___ Marsh fossaria, *Lymnaea (Fossaria) humilis*
- ___ Pewter physa, *Physa (Physella) heterostropha*
- ___ Hale's physa, *Physa (Physodon) halei*
- ___ Marsh ramshorn, *Heliosoma trivolvis*
- ___ Bugle sprite, *Menetus dilatatus*
- ___ Dusky ancyliid, *Laevapex fuscus*

Flatworm

- ___ Planeria (Flatworm), *Dugesia sp.*

Crustaceans

- ___ Pill Bugs (roly-poly)
- ___ Sowbugs
- ___ Seed Shrimp (Copepod), Ostracoda
- ___ Waterflea, *Camptocercis retrorostriis*
- ___ Copepod, *Cyclops bicuspidatus*
- ___ Amphipod (Scud), *Gammarus sp.*
- ___ Golden Crayfish, *Oronectes luteus*
- ___ Northern Crayfish, *Oronectes luteus*