

Pure Whitetail sponsors Dixon Archery Team

Pure Whitetail is a deer scent company out of Middletown, Ohio. Oscar Alexander, of Dixon, has been on their staff since the company's beginning in May of 2017. They have numerous different deer scents and attractants that can be found on their web site at www.purewhitetail.com.

Tri-county Lumber & Hardware in Dixon also carries their products for local patrons.

Oscar contacted Grant Neal, one of the owners of Whitetail, and inquired about a sponsorship of shirts so that the entire Dixon archery team would be in uniform when they attend competitions. Without hesitation, they agreed and sent 20 shirts for the Dixon archery team. Whitetail also sent cinch sacks for the archers to carry their essentials in.

Although all events have been canceled due to the current situations going on in the world, the shirts will be used for the 2020/2021 school year.

A big thank you to Pure Whitetail and its owners, Grant Neal and Josh Martin, from the archery team at Dixon R-1 Schools.



Hunter Alexander, a member of the Dixon Middle School archery team, and Oscar Alexander, a Pure Whitetail staff member, show the team shirts and cinch sacks sponsored by Pure Whitetail for the Dixon Archery Team. Submitted

State Parks remain open for day-use, temporarily closing campgrounds and lodging March 27-April 30

JEFFERSON CITY, MO, MAR. 23, 2020 – Out of an abundance of caution and in reaction to the presence of COVID-19 in Missouri, Missouri State Parks will temporarily close all campgrounds and lodging, effective Friday, March 27, through Thursday, April 30. This includes campgrounds, park-run lodging and concessionaire-run lodging. Missouri State Parks will remain open to the public, including day-use areas, boat ramps and trails.

All fees associated with camping and park-run lodging reservations, including reservation, cancellation and modification fees, beginning the night of Friday, March 27, through the night of Thursday, April 30, will be refunded. Park staff will inform guests already in the campgrounds of this change and will work with them to adjust their reservations and on any needed refunds. The call center will contact campers with reservations who have yet to arrive.

If you have an existing reservation at a state park or historic site campground or park-run lodging, please call the Reservation Call Center at 1-877-422-6766. The call center is open daily 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. CST.

For an existing reservation with concessionaire lodging, please contact them directly at the phone number listed below:

- Sam A. Baker State Park 573-856-4223
- Bennett Spring State Park 417-532-4307
- Echo Bluff State Park 844-322-3246
- Lake Wappapello State Park 573-297-3817
- Meramec State Park 573-468-6519
- Montauk State Park 573-548-2434
- Pomme de Terre State Park 636-222-8602 or 417-852-1031
- Roaring River State Park 417-847-2330
- Stockton State Park 417-276-5329

Thousand Hills State Park 660-665-7119
Washington State Park 636-586-2995

If you have any questions, please contact Missouri State Parks at moparks@dnr.mo.gov. For the latest information on the Missouri State Parks response to COVID-19, please visit www.mostatateparks.com/response.

For more information on state parks and historic sites, visit www.mostatateparks.com. Missouri State Parks is a division of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

Dixon athletic events cancelled thru April 12

All athletic events for the Dixon School District have been cancelled through the 12th of April.

MDC forecasts challenging Spring Turkey Hunting Season

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Missouri turkey hunters can expect a challenging spring season according to the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). The spring turkey hunting season starts with a youth-only weekend April 4 and 5 followed by the regular spring season April 20 through May 10.

MDC Turkey Biologist Reina Tyl expects spring turkey hunting to be challenging.

"A great deal of what makes for a good spring turkey season depends on the hatch two years prior because it affects the number of two-year-old gobblers on the landscape," Tyl said. "These young gobblers are not associated with hens as often as older, more dominant birds and are the most likely to respond to hunters' calls."

Poor production statewide during 2018 will result in fewer two-year-old gobblers available for harvest during this year's spring hunting season. Tyl added that in 2018, the best production at the regional scale occurred in the northern half of the state. This could potentially translate to relatively more two-year-old gobblers on the landscape north of the Missouri River.

Considering the prospects for the 2020 spring season, hunters should be prepared to put in a bit more effort to be successful this year.

"When turkey numbers are down, it becomes even more important to spend time scouting for flocks before the start of the season," said Tyl. "Hunters should get out to their hunting areas as much as possible to listen for birds gobbling at daybreak."

Tyl noted that hunters should also take the time to learn where turkeys are spending most of their time after they fly down from the roost.

"Use binoculars to spot turkeys feeding in open areas or look for signs of where turkeys have been feeding in the timber," she said. "This will help hunters be in the right area when the hunting season gets here."

Although the prospects for this year's spring season aren't encouraging, this isn't the first-time poor turkey production has reduced turkey numbers in Missouri. After reaching a population peak in the early-to-mid 2000s, Missouri's turkey population experienced four years of poor production from 2007-2010, causing the population to decline. However, Tyl noted that

turkey numbers rebounded following several years of improved production.

"In much of the state, we observed improved production during 2011, 2012, and 2014," said Tyl. "As a result, turkey numbers increased, and hunters generally had better hunting seasons in the years that followed."

"We are again in a period of poor production and lower turkey abundance," said Tyl. "We can expect to see the effects on harvest for several years until production improves and turkey numbers rebound."

GET MORE INFORMATION

Get detailed information on spring turkey hunting from MDC's 2020 Spring Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information booklet, available from MDC offices and nature centers, other places where permits are sold, and online at huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/spring-turkey-hunting-regulations-and-information

For more information about spring turkey hunting, visit MDC's website at huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/species/turkey

HUNTER SAFETY

Tyl stressed that hunters can easily avoid the main cause of turkey-hunting incidents — mistaking or being mistaken by another hunter for wild game.

"Each year, most turkey hunting incidents typically involve hunters who fail to identify their targets," said Tyl. "Unless you are certain that what you're looking at is a wild turkey, remember that any movement you see or any sounds you hear while you're hunting could be another hunter."

She also advised hunters to wear some hunter-orange clothing when moving through the woods or fields, particularly when hunting public land.

"Bringing along an orange hat or vest is an easy way to stay safe", said Tyl. "Wear one when you're moving and put it away when you sit down to work a bird."

Tyl also noted that many turkey hunting incidents involve members of the same hunting party.

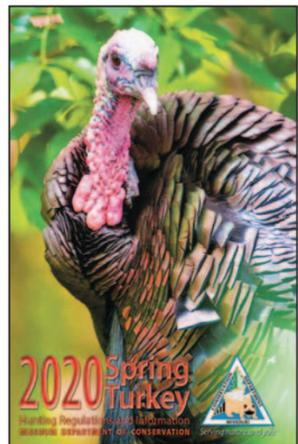
"If you're hunting with someone else and you split up, be certain you know where your hunting partner will be at all times," she advised.

BRAG A BIT

MDC hunting certificates are great ways to memorialize a hunter's first turkey harvest. To create free MDC commemorative cer-

tificates, go online to huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/trophies-certificates/certificates.

Hunters can share photos of their harvests through MDC's Hunting Bragging Board by using #mdcbragboard when posting pictures to their social media accounts. Learn more at mdc.mo.gov/huntingbragboard.



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Post-season honors for 2020 Ozark Conference Basketball Teams

Players from area schools are included on the 2020 All-Ozark Conference Girls and Boys Basketball Teams. Following is the complete list of players on the All-Ozark Conference Basketball Team as selected by league coaches:

2020 All-Ozark Conference Girls Basketball Team

- BOYS FIRST TEAM
- MVP: MacKenzie Brunson - West Plains, Jr.
- West Plains, Jr.
- Indya Green - Kickapoo, Jr.
- Makaiya Brooks - Central, Jr.
- Cassidy Cunningham - West Plains, Sr.
- Naudia Evans - Waynesville, Jr.
- Rebecca Janke - Rolla, Sr.
- Biance Stocks - Camdenton, Sr.
- Jenna Glendenning - Lebanon, Sr.
- Ellie Rodgers - Rolla, Sr.
- Macie Conway - Kickapoo, So.

MDC to temporarily waive fishing permits

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (MARCH 24, 2020) – The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and the Missouri Conservation Commission announce they are temporarily waiving permit requirements for sport fishing and daily trout tags for Missouri residents and nonresidents whose fishing privileges are not otherwise suspended.

The waiver of needing a permit or trout tag to fish will run from Friday, March 27, through April 15. MDC will reassess the situation at that point. All season dates, methods, and limits will continue to apply and be enforced.

"The current public-health emergency caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) has many Missourians and others looking for safe ways to get outside in nature," said MDC Director Sara Parker Pauley. "Missouri's rivers and streams offer high quality fishing as a way for people to connect with nature while still complying with all health and safety recommendations. Fishing is also a great way to get some much needed physical and mental health benefits during this stressful time."

Conservation makes Missouri a great place to fish and Missouri has more than a million acres of surface water with most of it providing great fishing. More than 200 different fish species are found in Missouri, with more than 20 of them being game fish for the state's more than 1.1 million anglers. Get more info on Missouri fishing at huntfish.mdc.mo.gov/fishing

Pauley added that it is still critical for everyone to continue to heed all recommendations for hand washing, social distancing, and other public-health measures while fishing and during other outdoor activities, including maintaining at least six feet of distance between all individuals who are not family members.

COVID-19 CLOSURES AND CANCELLATIONS

The James Foundation announced it has closed Maramec Spring Park in St. James to the public for trout fishing and all other activities until further notice. Maramec Spring Park is owned and operated by the James Foundation. MDC manages the trout hatchery at Maramec Spring Park. For more information, visit maramecspingpark.com.

Missouri's three other public trout parks remain open for day use and fishing: Bennett Spring State Park in Lebanon, Montauk State Park near Licking, and Roaring River State Park near Cassville. They are operated by Missouri State Parks under the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR). MDC manages the trout hatcheries at these locations.

To reduce possible increased social congregation, MDC will suspend daily trout stocking at all trout parks starting Friday and has suspended other fish stocking in waters around the state until further notice.

According to DNR, Missouri State Parks remain open. However, in reaction to COVID-19 and out of an abundance of caution, Missouri State Parks will temporarily close all campgrounds and lodging effective Friday, March 27, through Thursday, April 30. This includes campgrounds, park-run lodging and concessionaire-run lodging. While they are not able to accommodate overnight guests, Missouri State Parks remain open to the public for day-use, including boat ramps and more than 1,100 miles of trails.

Harlem Wizards Cancelled

Harlem Wizards game April 16 has been cancelled and will be rescheduled for next school year. Online ticket sales will be refunded soon.



Serving nature and you

MDC is temporarily waiving permit requirements for sport fishing and daily trout-tag requirements for Missouri residents and nonresidents whose fishing privileges are not otherwise suspended. The waiver of fishing permits runs from Friday, March 27, through April 15. All season dates and limits will continue to apply and be enforced. Photo by MDC Staff, courtesy Missouri Department of Conservation.

"We are taking these measures now to reduce the impact of COVID-19," said Missouri State Parks Director Mike Sutherland. "The outdoors provide a great opportunity to relax and de-stress. Even outdoors, it is important to practice social distancing, avoid large gatherings and wash your hands often."

MDC and DNR remind people to make outdoor activities as safe and enjoyable as possible by taking the following actions:

- If you have been sick in the last two weeks, please stay home for your health and the safety of others.
- Travel in a small group with a maximum of 10 people.
- Avoid popular areas where people may congregate, such as scenic overlooks, buildings, playgrounds, etc.
- Maintain at least a six-foot distance between you and others.
- Pack water, soap and/or hand sanitizer.
- Get more information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on best practices for keeping you and your family safe at cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html.

MDC has closed its regional offices, Department headquarters in Jefferson City, and other public contact offices, nature centers, visitor centers, educational centers, and staffed shooting ranges to the

Dixon Middle School Volleyball Results

Dixon Middle School got to play in several volleyball matches before their season was suspended due to the COVID-19 safety guidelines. The final season record for the DMS A-team was a successful 4-2 mark, while the B-team completed their 2020 season at 3-3.

DMS Volleyball Results:

- Mar. 2 - B: Dixon 2, Linn 0
A: Dixon 2, Linn 0
- Mar. 5 - B: Dixon 2, Bourbon 1
A: Bourbon 2, Dixon 0
- Mar. 6 - B: Bland 2, Dixon 0
A: Dixon 2, Bland 0
- Mar. 7 - at Steelville B Tourney
No results available
- Mar. 9 - B: Salem 2, Dixon 0
A: Salem 2, Dixon 0
- Mar. 10 - A: Dixon 2, Plato 1
B: Plato 1, Dixon 0
- Mar. 13 - B: Dixon 2, Conway 0
A: Dixon 2, Conway 0

Rest of schedule cancelled after classes suspended due to COVID-19.

public until April 15.

While MDC public offices will be closed to general visitation, offices will still be staffed. Visitors with official business will need to notify the office to gain access. Find MDC office contact information at mdc.mo.gov/regional-contacts?county=All.

MDC has also cancelled its public events and programs around the state until April 15, including hunter education classes, nature center programs and events, shooting range programs and events, and landowner workshops. MDC will reassess the situation at that point.

Conservation areas, nature center trails, unstaffed shooting ranges, and boat accesses remain open to the public. Hunting, fishing, and trapping seasons continue as scheduled. MDC managed hunts and mentored spring turkey hunts continue as planned.

For more information on MDC, to contact MDC offices, to buy permits, and more, visit MDC online at mdc.mo.gov.

MBCA Preseason Baseball State Rankings

The Missouri Baseball Coaches Association released its preseason state rankings on March 19, 2020.

Class 1

1. St. Elizabeth
2. Cooter
3. Dora
4. Concordia
5. Weaubleau
6. Liberal
7. Billings
8. Northeast Cairo
9. La Plata
10. North Harrison

Class 2

1. Skyline
2. Silx
3. Crane
4. Iberia
5. Russellville
6. Purdy
7. Ellington
8. Valle Catholic
9. Chaffee
- T-10. Seymour
- T-10. South Pemiscot

Class 3

1. Fatima
2. Lawson
3. Hartville
4. Montgomery County
5. Saxony Lutheran
6. Summit Christian
7. Palmyra
8. Ava
9. Hermann
10. Conway

Class 4

1. Borgia
2. Westminster
3. Helias
4. Savannah
5. Monett
6. Sikeston
7. Carl Junction
8. St. Dominic
9. Lutheran South
10. Lutheran St. Charles

Class 5

1. Willard
2. Marquette
3. Vianney
4. Rock Bridge
5. CBC
6. Lee's Summit West
7. Staley
8. Liberty
9. Francis Howell
10. Rockhurst

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



Hayden Brown (left) is featured in the DHS "Senior Spotlight." He is the son of Misty and Brady Brown. He has been involved in Art Club. After graduation, he plans to go to school to become a freelance graphic designer. What he will miss most about high school is some of the people. Advice he has for underclassmen is work hard because it is really important.

Bethany Koch (right) is featured in the DHS "Senior Spotlight." She is the daughter of Laura and Eddie Fritchey, and AJ Koch. She has been involved in softball, soccer, FCCLA, A+, NHS and Pep Club. After graduation she plans on continuing her military career and go to college for a Nurse Practitioner at Lincoln University. What she will miss most about high school is the relationships built with teachers and friends. Advice she has for underclassmen to take chances, be bold and live life.



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