

Boonslick

(Boone, Cooper and Howard Counties)

Federal Areas

There are no federally administered areas in this district.

State Parks

Finger Lakes State Park

This state park is a great place for Central Missouri to come to play. While troops may not take full advantage of everything the park has to offer, such as the off-road tracks, there is plenty here for a weekend activity.

Finger Lakes has a small camping area, and does not appear to have a designated group camping area. The main draw of this park for scouts will be aquatic activities. The lake is large enough to permit all kinds of aquatic activities, including snorkeling and scuba diving, as well as boating of all types, fishing, and large beach area. There are numerous trails in the park; these are reserved, generally speaking, for bikes and the off-road vehicles. Hikers are advised to use an adjacent conservation area for hiking.

If you are looking for a quiet place for your troop, Finger Lakes is anything but quiet. However, it is known for its fishing and other activities; the lake, which is actually nearly a dozen small lakes joined by dams and canals, is stocked. Bikes are not allowed in the actual camping area, but will be numerous elsewhere in the park. Ten miles north of Columbia on Hwy 63.

Contact: 1505 E. Peabody Rd.
Columbia, MO 65202
(573) 443-5315
www.mostateparks.com/fingerlakes.htm

Comments: "Not really good for camping because of all the off-road vehicles; very dusty area." Troop 4

Campsites: 19
Groups?: no
Water: yes
Scout rates: unk
Toilets: yes
Trails: not for hiking
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: yes
Service: yes
Firewood: for a fee
Shelters: yes
Privacy: limited
Special: yes; bicycling

Rock Bridge State Park

Rock Bridge is a great park for scouts as well as Ventures. Park personnel are excellent at working with packs, troops and crews with various events and activities. Although the park is listed as a day use park, there is a primitive camping area reserved for scouts only. Make sure to make a reservation so that you can have access to the area.

Rock Bridge has a number of interesting features. First, an orienteering club maintains a compass course at the park. Maps can be obtained from the park office and the course can be used by scouts. Competitions are held at the park as well.

Over ten miles of marked trails run through the park; none of the trails, individually, is longer than 2½ miles. Some trails are hiking only, while others are suitable for hiking or biking.

For those looking for more adventure, the park staff lead a number of tours, of varying length based on skill and experience, into two caves at the park. These are not free programs; check with the park for dates and times, as well as costs.

Rock Bridge is also a nature delight. A number of rare and endangered species make their homes above—and below—ground at the park. Scouts wishing to work on a variety of nature-related awards would do well to work with the staff at this park. A variety of programs are put on the by staff during the year. Seven miles south of Columbia on Hwy 163.

Contact: 5901 S. Hwy 163
Columbia, MO 65203
(573) 449-7402

www.mostateparks.com/rockbridge.htm

Campsites: no
Groups?: yes
Water: not in camping area
Scout rates: yes
Toilets: not in camping area
Trails: yes
Fishing: no
Aquatics: no
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: not in camping area
Privacy: yes
Special: yes; caves, nature

Boone's Lick State Historic Site

This area is a day-use area, good for historical activities. This is a very small park, with a picnic area. Some remains of an early salt works remain present. Artifacts from archeological digs are on display at Arrow Rock. This was an important location in Missouri history and has been recorded in the writings of Lewis and Clark. Programs are held throughout the year; special arrangements may be made for scouts. Twelve miles NW of Boonville, of Hwy 87, on Hwy 187.

Contact: c/o Arrow Rock Historic Site
Arrow Rock, MO 65320
(660) 837-3330

www.mostateparks.com/boonslick.htm

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: unk
Scout rates: no
Toilets: unk
Trails: no
Fishing: no
Aquatics: no
Service: unk
Firewood: no
Shelters: unk
Privacy: no
Special: no

Conservation Areas

Boone County

Antimi Lake—small day-use area location in Cosmo Recreation Area in Columbia. Good fishing; cycling allowed on trails. 1 mile west of I-70 on Bus. Loop 70 west.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: unk
Scout rates: no
Toilets: unk
Trails: yes
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: yes
Firewood: no
Shelters: yes
Privacy: no
Special: no

Ashland Lake—day use, excellent fishing for a variety of fish. Hwy 63 to Ashland, est on Y 3 miles.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: no
Firewood: no
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Cosmo-Bethel Park Pond—day use fishing area. Good fishing; hiking is possible, but no marked trails. In Columbia, south on Providence to Southampton. Two blocks west on Southampton to Bethel Church Rd. North 1 block to park.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: yes
Firewood: no
Shelters: yes
Privacy: no
Special: no

Dairy Farm Lakes—three lakes in this area, although at the time of writing, #2 had not yet been built. Stock ponds; great fishing. I-70 six miles west of Columbia to Hwy 40. North to lakes.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: unk
Firewood: no
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area—great location for fish and wildlife management as well as other merit badges and conservation activities. Multiple types of land cover; multiple viewing areas. Staffed site; will work with scouts on a variety of projects given enough notice. South on Providence Rd (Rt K) past village of McBaine, across Perche Creek, left on Star School Road.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: yes
Special: yes

Hart Creek Conservation Area—nice area, with lots of possibilities for nature activities and fishing. Runs very close to KATY trail. $\frac{3}{4}$ mile northwest of Hartsburg on Jemerson Creek Road.

Campsites: 1
Groups?: small
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: limited
Special: yes; picturesque in fall

Hartsburg Access—Fishing access; decent fishing. From Hartsburg, 2 miles west on River Road.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: yes, on Missouri River
Service: unk
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: limited
Special: no

Hinkson Woods Conservation Area—small day-use area, poor fishing. One mile west of Forum Blvd entrance to Columbia's nature and fitness trail.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: 1; 1 mile loop
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: unk
Firewood: unk
Shelters: no
Privacy: limited
Special: no

Lake of the Woods Recreation Area—despite its name, this is not a large, developed area. Fair fishing is the extent of the site, as part of a golf course. Lake Woods Golf Course.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: no
Firewood: no
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: golf

Lick Creek Conservation Area—nice area, just out of the city. Decent fishing with plentiful wildlife. Nine miles north of Columbia on Hwy 63, west 3 miles on 124, then 1.8 miles north on Oak Grove School Road.

Campsites: 1
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Providence Access—small fishing area; decent fishing. South of Columbia on Rt. K, west 2.5 miles on dead end of Old Plank Road.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: unk
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Rocky Fork Lakes Conservation Area—large area, adjacent to Finger Lakes State Park. Hiking here is plentiful, but not marked. Good fishing; most activities good in conjunction with state park. Seven miles north of Columbia on Hwy 63, 1 mile east on Peabody Road.

Campsites: 1
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: yes
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: limited
Special: no

South Farm R-1 Lake—fishing area; not great fishing. Off of Roosevelt Road, outside Columbia (consult local maps).

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: unk
Firewood: unk
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Three Creeks Conservation Area—large area south of Columbia. Fishing isn't great; wildlife is abundant. Two trails (4.5 and 8 miles, respectively). Interesting landscape. Five miles south of Columbia on Hwy 63, 1 ¾ miles west on Deer Park Road.

Comments: “Wooded, secluded, great for troops.” Troop 25
“Real easy hiking for all ages.” Troop 4

Campsites: yes
Groups?: small
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: yes
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: limited
Special: no

Tri-City CL—small area, with improved campsites. Good fishing. Three miles west of Centralia on Hwy 11, then 1 mile south on Tri-City Road.

Campsites: 6
Groups?: limited
Water: unk
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: limited
Special: no

Turkey Farm Lake—fishing access only; good fishing. Hwy Z to St. Charles Road, then east to Turkey Farm Lake.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: no
Firewood: no
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Twin Lakes Recreation Area—nice fishing area, not as primitive as other locations. Decent fishing. West on Chapel Hill Road from Forum Blvd, in Columbia.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: yes
Firewood: unk
Shelters: yes
Privacy: limited
Special: no

Waters Memorial Area—Small area, day-use. ½ miles west of US 63 on Stadium, then 2½ miles south on Old 63.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: yes
Fishing: no
Aquatics: no
Service: yes
Firewood: unk
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Cooper County

Blackwater Bridge Access—Very small area, little else but fishing. Three miles north of I-70 on Hwy K, near Blackwater.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: no
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

DeBourmont Access-- Very small area, little else but fishing. Hwy 41, 1 ½ miles north of I-70.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: no
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Harriman Hill Access—small area with decent fishing on the Lamine River. North of I-70 on Hwy M.

Campsites: 6
Groups?: yes; small
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: unk
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: limited
Special: no

Lamine River Conservation Area—large area, with multiple types of land cover. Excellent for nature and environmental projects. Decent fishing. Staff has land management projects and displays; civil war display near one boat ramp. Stop for migrating fowl. Main tract is 1 mile east of Otterville on Hwy A.

Campsites: 4
Groups?: yes; small
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: limited
Special: yes; see description

Overton Bottoms—good fishing area. Large area; as with all conservation areas that do not have a designated camping area, camping for scouts may be permitted by special request. Hwy 179 south to Cumberland Church Road. Follow signs.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: unk
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Robert's Bluff Access—Very small area, essentially limited to fishing access and a couple of small campsites. Decent fishing. 4.5 miles northeast of Pilot Grove on Hwy HH, then 2 miles north on Buffalo Prairie Drive.

Campsites: 3
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: unk
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Swinging Bridge Access—very small fishing area (25 acres). Decent fishing. One mile west of Clifton City on I-25, then 2.5 miles north on JJ, then 1.5 miles east on Swinging Bridge Drive.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: unk
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Howard County

Bennitt Conservation Area—very large area, good for scout troops. Camping, hiking (12 mile loop), biking, fishing, multiple land covers. 19 miles north of Columbia on Hwy 63, 5 miles west on Hwy F, 2.75 miles north on Hwy T.

Campsites: 4
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: yes
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: limited
Special: no

Davisdale Conservation Area—Another good site for scouts. Two trails, one built as an Eagle project (8 miles; other trail is 12 miles). Fishing isn't great. I-70 west from Columbia to Hwy 40. West on 40 12 miles, watch for signs.

Campsites: 8
Groups?: yes; small
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: yes
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: limited
Special: no

Diana Bend Conservation Area—medium sized site with good fishing. Features two springs in the area. Three miles west of Rocheport on Hwy 40.

Campsites: 1
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Fayette City Lakes—fishing area. Listed as having camping, but uncertain. West of Fayette on Hwy E; follow signs to D.C. Rogers Lake.

Comments: “Water available for camping; good to camp, but area is hardly used. Beautiful lake.” Troop 62

Campsites: yes
Groups?: no
Water: yes
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no (unmarked)
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: unk
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Franklin Island Conservation Area—large area with bike trails; none are marked. Good fishing. Two miles west of New Franklin.

Campsites: no
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: yes
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: unk
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: yes; bike trails

Hungry Mother Conservation Area—No rated fishing; small camping area. Good for small troop. South of Higbee on Rte A, then 2.5 miles west on CR 127.

Campsites: 1
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no
Fishing: no
Aquatics: no
Service: unk
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Moniteau Creek Conservation Area—Moderately sized area. Good fishing. Many types of land cover; could be good for nature observation. From Columbia, I-70 west to Hwy 40 to Rt. J north, west on EE to A.

Campsites: 5
Groups?: yes; small
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: yes; wildlife observation