

Montauk State Park – 2021 Calendar of Special Events



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State Questions **800-334-6946** Missouri State Parks General Information
 Montauk Question **573-548-2201** Montauk State Park Office
 Camping **877-422-6766** Campground Reservations
 Lodging and Cabins **573-548-2434** Dorman L. Steelman Lodge
 Fishing **573-548-2585** MDC Montauk Hatchery

JANUARY

JANUARY 1, WEDNESDAY – FIRST DAY HIKE

Get your New Year off to a great start and join us at 9 am at the Stone Picnic Shelter as we take a self-guided hike up to view our Eagles Nest! Dress warmly and wear sturdy shoes. Completing the entire two-mile trail is optional.

FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 8, MONDAY – LAST DAY OF CATCH AND RELEASE SEASON

The second Monday in February each year marks the end of the winter Catch-and-Release Season. Fishing is not allowed within park boundaries until March 1.

FEBRUARY 19, FRIDAY – VIRTUAL ONLINE, MAKING MAPLE SYRUP

MARCH

MARCH 1, MONDAY – OPENING DAY OF THE MISSOURI TROUT SEASON

March 1st marks the opening day of the Missouri Trout fishing Season. Large numbers of enthusiastic anglers participate in this exciting first day of the Current River Rainbow Trout fishing season in Montauk State Park. Come early to make preparations to fish. Fishing hours: 6:30 am to 6 pm.

MARCH 6, SATURDAY – MEN'S TROUT FISHING TOURNAMENT

A trout tournament will be held for gentlemen of any age. Two classes in the tournament include fly and bait categories. Two winners in each class: heaviest trout, and heaviest stringer of trout. Gift certificates will be awarded to winners. Participants can register for the tournament in the Dorman L. Steelman Lodge. Tournament hours are 7:30 am to 2 pm.

MARCH 13, SATURDAY – LADIES' TROUT FISHING TOURNAMENT

Ladies of any age can participate in this trout fishing tournament. Participants will register at the Dorman L. Steelman Lodge. Two classes of fishing will be allotted, one for fly fishing and the other for bait fishing. Two winners in each class: heaviest trout, and heaviest stringer of trout. Gift certificates will be awarded to the winners that are redeemable for merchandise at the Montauk Lodge. Tournament hours are 7:30 am to 2 pm.

APRIL

APRIL 4, SUNDAY – EASTER SUNDAY

Join us at the Dorman L. Steelman Lodge dining room serving 8 am to 8 pm.

APRIL 24, SATURDAY – BIRD HIKE (call ahead – may be canceled due to Covid-19)

Meet at the stone CCC picnic shelter for this unique program from 8 am to 12 noon. Learn about the diversity of birds that live here in the park. Wear something comfortable to walk in and bring binoculars if you have them. Beginner or veteran birder, come along and join the fun as we watch, listen and enjoy.

APRIL 30, FRIDAY – MONTAUK ARBOR DAY

FREE tree seedlings will be handed out to park visitors at the White Oak Hole parking lot from 9 am to 3 pm. Take some time to grow a tree for future generations. Trees provided courtesy of Missouri Dept. of Conservation's George White Nursery. Also sign up for special drawing for rare Ozark Chinquapin (Chestnut) seed!

MAY

MAY 1, SATURDAY – SPRING KIDS FREE FISHING DAY (call ahead – may be canceled due to Covid-19)

Kids fish for free at Montauk each year on the *Saturday before Mother's Day weekend*. Kids 15 and under can pick up their required "free fishing tags" at the registration booth near the fish cleaning station the night before the event from 2 pm to 5 pm or all day Saturday during the event. All children must pick up their tag before fishing. For more information, call Montauk State Fish hatchery at (573) 548-2585. Hours are 6:30 am to 5:00 pm.

MAY 6, THURSDAY – SENIOR CITIZENS' TROUT FISHING TOURNAMENT

This trout tournament will be open to any man or woman 60 years of age or older. Two classes will be designated, fly or bait. Two prizes will be awarded to winners in each class for heaviest trout, and heaviest stringer of trout. Gift certificates will be presented to the winners upon completion of the tournament. Registration at Dorman L. Steelman Lodge. Tournament hours are 6:30 am to 2 pm.

MAY 9, SUNDAY – MOTHER'S DAY

Bring mom and the family to Montauk on this special day. Dining room serving 8 am to 8 pm.

MAY 29, SATURDAY – BIRDS OF PREY (call ahead – may be canceled due to Covid)

Bring your lawn chairs to sit and relax as you see a bald eagle, owls and hawks up close during this unique outdoor program! You must be seated when the program starts. Handlers will allow some birds to fly just inches above the heads of the audience to illustrate the unique characteristics of each bird of prey. The program will be held in the field adjacent to the park lodge at 2 pm. The Program is presented by the World Bird Sanctuary of St. Louis. NO PETS ALLOWED near the event.

JUNE

JUNE 12, SATURDAY – FLY FISHING CLINIC

A FREE fly fishing clinic will be held in the field adjacent to the Dorman L. Steelman Lodge, led by experienced and proficient anglers. This event is for all ages and levels of experience. Both fly fishing and casting techniques will be demonstrated and participants will be able to practice casting techniques in the open field. Trout park fishing strategies and successful trout fishing tactics will also be discussed. Meet adjacent to the Lodge in the large open field at 1 pm. Registration is not required.

JUNE 12-13, SATURDAY & SUNDAY – MISSOURI FREE FISHING DAYS

The first weekend after the first Monday in June is the annual statewide free fishing days. Fishing licenses are not required this weekend throughout the state of Missouri. Daily Trout Tags and Fishing licenses are NOT required for individuals fishing in Montauk State Park on these two days. All other wildlife game regulations apply. For more information, call the Montauk State Park Fish Hatchery at (573) 548-2585. Fishing hours are 6:30 am to 8:30 pm.

JUNE 14, MONDAY – FLAG DAY

Montauk breaks out Old Glory in honor of the "birthday" or adoption of the Stars and Stripes. Visitors can enjoy the many American flags that will be on display throughout the park on cabins, the Lodge, shelters, bridges, and more. Come celebrate Flag day in Montauk, Missouri, USA!

JUNE 19, SATURDAY – STREAM TEAM CLEAN-UP OF UPPER CURRENT RIVER

(call ahead – may be canceled due to Covid-19)

Bring Dad out Father's Day weekend and help keep Montauk and the upper Current River clean and beautiful. Registration and sign-up from 8 am to 9 am at the Dorman L. Steelman Lodge. Clean-up runs from 9 am to 4 pm and takes place from the start of Current River at Montauk Spring to Baptist Camp access. Some participants float the river outside the park, but if you don't have a boat you can still help by picking up trash at the river access points and in the park. Call the Park Naturalist's Office at 573-548-2225 for more information.

JULY

JULY 31, SATURDAY – KIDS TROUT TOURNAMENT

This tournament, sponsored by the Dorman L. Steelman Lodge, is limited to kids 15 years old or under. Two age categories: 11 and under, and another 12 to 15 years of age. Registration will be at the Dorman L. Steelman Lodge. Two prizes will be awarded in each age group, for trout, and stringer of trout, by a random drawing of all entries at 2 pm in the Lodge. Gift Certificates will be awarded to winners. Tournament hours are 7 am to 2 pm. Other prizes will be awarded courtesy of the Ray Parker Memorial.

AUGUST

AUGUST 7, SATURDAY – SUMMER'S END KIDS FREE FISHING DAY

Fishing tags are free for children ages 15 and under on this day ONLY to fish in Montauk State Park. Kids must pick up a children's free fishing tag at the Lodge on Friday evening after 7 pm or anytime on Saturday. The tags are required for kids fishing on this day. Kids can fish anywhere inside the park, no designated fishing area will be set aside. Adults must have daily trout tag to assist children fishing.

SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER 11, SATURDAY – VETERANS FREE FISHING DAY

Military veterans fish for free at Montauk on this day. Project Healing Waters sponsors this day in partnership with Missouri Department of Conservation and Missouri State Parks to provide veterans free access to trout fishing. Veterans must obtain and display a fishing tag that will be given to them at the Project Healing Waters tent/booth set up in the park this day. Come and join fellow veterans on the river and talk with members of Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing group to learn about their amazing projects and services!

SEPTEMBER 18-19, SATURDAY & SUNDAY – MISSOURI TROUT FISHERMAN'S ASSOCIATION TOURNAMENT

The tournament is open to all visitors. Register to participate in the derby at the Dorman L. Steelman Lodge on Friday night between the hours of 6:30 pm and 8:15 pm, or on Saturday morning from 6:30 am to 8 am. Anglers entering the tournament will pay an entry fee and prizes will be awarded for tagged fish caught during the derby. The prizes will be awarded to all winners on Sunday at noon at the J. Ben Searcy Building.

OCTOBER

OCTOBER 2-3, SATURDAY & SUNDAY – 58th ANNUAL ROSE HOLLAND TROUT DERBY

Participants will have the opportunity to fish for tagged trout during this popular fishing derby. Anglers catching tagged trout will receive prizes awarded on Sunday just after the derby ends at 12 noon. Nature Bingo for prizes will be held on Friday at 6 pm at the campground amphitheater. An Old Time Cruise-In Car Show will be held at the Searcy Building on Friday night at 4 pm. And Hikes for Your Heart on Saturday, plus other activities, will fill the weekend with fun, entertainment, and excitement for all.

OCTOBER 23, SATURDAY – A HAUNTING AT THE MILL (call ahead – may be canceled due to Covid-19)

The Haunting at the Mill event is held the Saturday before Halloween and presents history from a unique perspective. When the air begins to cool and the nights become longer, a strange fog hangs over Montauk. It is rumored that each year around Halloween, the spirits of Montauk valley meet at the old grist mill to reminisce about the good old days, you know, when they were alive... Don't miss this, not so scary, historical, fun for the whole family, event! Show times are 6:30 pm, 7:30 pm and 8:30 pm with a limit of 80 per show.

NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 1, MONDAY – MISSOURI TROUT SEASON CLOSURES

The last day of October marks the end of the open Missouri trout season. Montauk never closes, however several facilities will be winterized. The Lodge limits their hours to Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The shower houses in the campground are closed as the vault toilet is opened near loop four, and fishing is not allowed in any section of the park until the catch and release season starts on the second Friday of November.

NOVEMBER 12, FRIDAY – CATCH AND RELEASE TROUT SEASON OPENS

The second Friday in November marks the opening of the annual winter *Catch and Release* trout season at Montauk State Park. Fishing allowed Friday through Monday, 8 am to 4 pm. The Dorman L. Steelman Lodge restaurant, snack bar, and store will be open on Friday through Sunday for limited hours of each weekend during the winter season to accommodate visitors. Some housekeeping cabins, motel rooms, and a meeting room will be available throughout the winter season.

Hatchery Tours: Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend, Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday at 1 pm

Weekly Events: Check bulletin boards throughout the park for details OR follow us on facebook.

Explorer Programs: Not just for kids! Available for all ages. Call (573) 548-2225 for information.

Grist Mill Tours: Open often during the summer; by appointment all year. Call (573) 548-2225 for information.

Some programs or events may be canceled or adapted to CDC guidelines.