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MDC Offers Frog Gigging Clinic in Mississippi County

JUNE 09TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

MDC Offers Frog Gigging Clinic in Mississippi County

Cape Girardeau, Missouri - The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) invites families to discover nature at a frog gigging clinic from 6:30 p.m. to midnight Saturday, July 11, at Ten Mile Pond Conservation Area. The clinic is free and open to youth ages 7 to 17 and their parent or adult mentor. Preregistration is required by July 6.

“Frog gigging, or frogging, is a great way to enjoy Missouri’s fish, forests and wildlife while putting good food on the table,” said Conservation Agent Andrew Mothershead.

The clinic will start with a classroom session on the basics of frog gigging safety, equipment, identification and regulations. Participants will go frogging with the help of MDC personnel and learn how to clean and cook their catch.

“Catching frogs can be a fun and exciting activity for the whole family,” said Mothershead. “If all goes right, frog legs are the reward after a successful night of gigging.”

Frogs can be legally harvested with either fishing or hunting permits, as long as the method matches the permit. With a fishing permit, frogs may be harvested by hand, hand net, atlatl, gig, bow, trotline, throw line, limb line, bank line, jug line, snagging, snaring, grabbing or pole and line during frog season. With a hunting permit, frogs may be harvested using .22-caliber or smaller rimfire rifle or pistol, pellet gun, bow, crossbow,

atlatl or by hand or hand net.

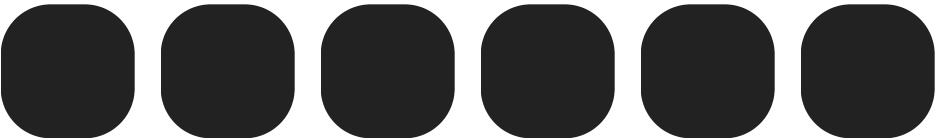
This year’s frog season begins at sunset June 30 and continues through Oct. 31. The daily limit is eight bullfrogs or green frogs and 16 in possession. Children under the age of 16 and adults over 65 are not required to have a permit.

To register for the frog gigging clinic, or for more information, contact the Southeast Regional Office at 573-290-5730.

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Dexter Police Dept. to Conduct Sobriety Check Point

JUNE 04TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter Police Dept. to Conduct Sobriety Check Point

Dexter, Missouri - Police Chief Sammy Stone with the Dexter Police Department announces that sometime during the month of June, 2015 the Dexter Police Department will conduct a sobriety check point and/or DWI saturation patrols within the city limits of Dexter MO.

The operation will be conducted by the Dexter Police Department in cooperation with other local area law enforcement agencies. The checkpoint is a static operation on a specific highway that is designed to check every driver to ensure they are sober.

The Dexter Police Department urges all citizens to report any vehicle they observe operating in a careless manner to their local authorities. The public can contact the Dexter Police Department at 573-624-5512.

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Missing Woman Considered to be
in Danger

Amber Alert issued in Washburn,
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Stoddard County JAKES Event Slated for June 13th

JUNE 03RD 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

Stoddard County JAKES Event Slated for June 13th

Mark Reed, Stoddard County Conservation Agent

Missouri Department of Conservation

Bloomfield, Missouri - If you are looking for a great way to get the kids' summer started, look no further. Local volunteers along with support from businesses, the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Missouri Department of Conservation will be holding the Stoddard County JAKES Event on Saturday, June 13. This annual event has been a hit with kids and parents alike so if you haven't attended one yet, here is your chance. The day begins at 8:00 am sharp so arrive early. We will wrap up activities around 1:00 pm just after lunch and the ever popular candy cannon presented by the Crowley's Ridge Blackpowder Club.

The JAKES Event is open to all kids age 6 thru 16 and lunch is provided. The day is free thanks to financial support from the community and local businesses. As in past years, the event will be held at the Holly Ridge Conservation Area archery range and pavilion on Stoddard County Road 517. The easiest way to find the area is to travel east from Bloomfield on HWY E then turn south on CR 517. Stay on 517 and you will find us.

Popular activities include archery, trapping, target shooting, nature hike, primitive skills, and more.

The kids are divided into small groups based on age and move around the area on a schedule, allowing everyone to participate in all activities. Friends and family will be able to stay together throughout the day. The NWTF and MDC are strong supporters of family and introducing others to the great outdoors. The NWTF's philosophy of "Share the Hunt" encourages avid sportsmen and women to take others along not only on hunting trips but also a variety of other outdoor experiences.

All equipment will be provided by the NWTF and the MDC so you don't need to bring anything except an appetite for adventure and maybe some bug spray. Most of the day will take place in mowed areas but closed toe shoes are recommended for walks in the woods. Each activity will be supervised by experienced personnel to ensure a safe and enjoyable day.

There's no better way to get the kids off their electronic devices and in touch with Mother Nature for a few hours than with this free and enjoyable day. As a bonus, we provide lunch and you don't have to do the dishes. For more information, contact John Pyles at 568-3774, Mark Reed at 421-3240, or American Outdoors at 624-5421.

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Saint Francis Hosting Free CPR Training

JUNE 03RD 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

Saint Francis Hosting Free CPR Training

Cape Girardeau, Missouri - In one minute, you can learn how to save a life. On Saturday, June 6, Saint Francis Medical Center will host free CPR trainings as part of National CPR and AED Awareness Week (June 1-7).

According to the American Heart Association, 90 percent of people who suffer out-of-hospital cardiac arrests die. CPR, especially if performed immediately, can double or triple a cardiac arrest victim's chance of survival. If you are called on to give CPR in an emergency, you will most likely be trying to save the life of someone you care about: a spouse, parent, child, friend or co-worker.

The CPR training is available to anyone age 12 and older and will be offered in sessions from 8 am to 3 pm in the Health and Wellness Center conference rooms, Entrance 8 (150 S. Mount Auburn Road). Space is limited and registration is required; please call 573-331-5107 to sign up.

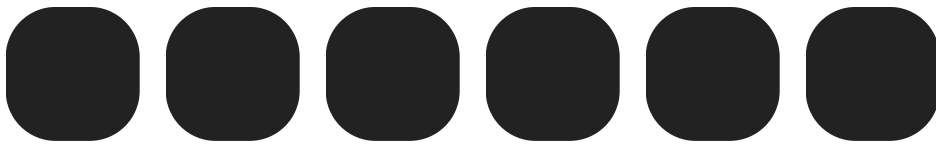
Saint Francis is an authorized CPR training center for the American Heart Association and qualified instructors will teach attendees step-by-step how to perform CPR properly. The cost is regularly \$30 but is free on June 6 as part of the American Heart Association's efforts to increase knowledge of CPR.

Saint Francis Medical Center is a 284-bed facility serving more than 650,000 people throughout Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee and Arkansas. Guided by its mission to provide a ministry of healing and wellness inspired by its Christian philosophy and values, the Medical Center has become a progressive, innovative regional tertiary care referral center. Saint Francis' major service lines, which have received national recognition, include the Neurosciences Institute; Orthopedic Institute; Family BirthPlace, featuring the region's first Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit; Heart Hospital; Level III Emergency and Trauma Center with Convenient Care; Cancer Institute; and Fitness Plus.

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Sign Up Now to Trotline for Catfish

JUNE 02ND 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Sign Up Now to Trotline for Catfish](#)

Want to Trotline for Catfish on the Mississippi River?

**Fisheries biologists will teach safety and basics of
trotlining on the Might Mississippi!**

Cape Girardeau, Missouri - The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) announces a catfishing clinic, Trotlining for Catfish on the Mississippi River, scheduled for Aug. 13-15. This free course, part of the MDC's Angler Recruitment Initiative, is designed to provide local anglers with information and skills needed to safely navigate and fish the mighty Mississippi.

"The Mississippi River is probably one of the best, yet overlooked, opportunities for catfishing in Missouri," said Dave Knuth, MDC Fisheries Management Biologist.

Knuth said the mighty Mississippi has earned a reputation for being difficult to navigate and fish. During the course of this hands-on workshop, anglers will learn how to safely traverse navigational hazards including floating debris, wing dikes, fluctuating river stages, and swift currents. They will also learn about necessary gear, species specific fishing information, and trot line safety and setting techniques.

The course will begin at the MDC's Southeast Regional Office in Cape Girardeau, Aug.

13. The next two days will feature hands-on activities at Red Star Fishing Access Ramp in Cape Girardeau. Thursday night will feature a catfish dinner. Participants will bait and set a 10-hook trotline Friday evening. Lines will be retrieved Saturday morning. All equipment will be provided. Participants must be at least 18 years old. Space is limited, so preregistration is required by July 2 by calling the Southeast Regional Office at (573)290-5730.

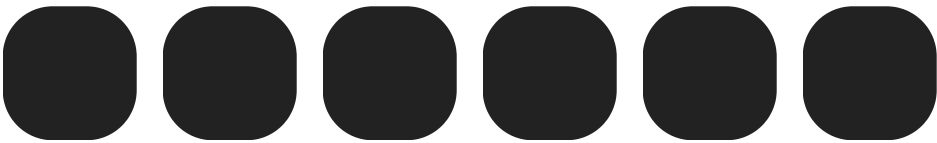
For information on fishing opportunities in Missouri, go online to mdc.mo.gov/fishing. Anglers can also get weekly fishing reports, annual prospects, permit information and more through MDC’s “Find MO fish” free mobile app, available for download at mdc.mo.gov/node/15421.

Shown in the photo: Missouri Dept of Conservation staff hold a 45-inch, 50 lb., blue catfish collected while electrofishing on the Mississippi River. From left to right are MDC Resource Assistant Forest Copeland, Fisheries Management Biologist Dave Knuth and Conservation Agent Brian Shelton.

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