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Sunday is National Flag Day

JUNE 12TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

Sunday is National Flag Day

United States - People across the United States will celebrate Flag Day on June 14 to honor the United States flag and to commemorate the flag's adoption.

Old Gory has changed designs over the year. It consists of 13 equal horizontal stripes of red alternating with white, with a blue rectangle in the canton bearing 50 white five pointed stars. Each of the 50 stars represents one of the 50 states and the 13 stripes represent the original 13 colonies that became the first states in the Union.

Flag Day falls within National Flag Week, a time when Americans reflect on the foundations of the nation's freedom. The flag of the United States represents freedom and has been an enduring symbol of the country's ideals since its early days.

Americans will also remember their loyalty to the nation, reaffirm their belief in liberty and justice, and observe the nation's unity.

Many people in the United States honor this day by displaying the American flag at homes and public buildings. Other popular ways of observing this holiday include: flag-raising ceremonies; Flag Day services; school quizzes and essay competitions about the American flag; musical salutes; street parades; and awards for special recognition.

Organizations such as The National Flag Day Foundation are actively involved in coordinating activities centered on the event and keeping the flag's traditions alive. Following Flag Day is Honor America Days, a 21-day period through to Independence Day (July 4) to honor America. During this period, people hold public gatherings and activities to celebrate and honor the nation.

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Sam A. Baker Park to Host Bluegrass Concert

JUNE 11TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Sam A. Baker Park to Host Bluegrass Concert](#)

Patterson, Missouri - A Bluegrass Concert featuring the Leevon DeCourley Band will be held at Sam A. Baker State Park on Saturday, June 13th. The public is encouraged to attend this concert sponsored by Missouri State Parks beginning at 7:00 p.m. Saturday.

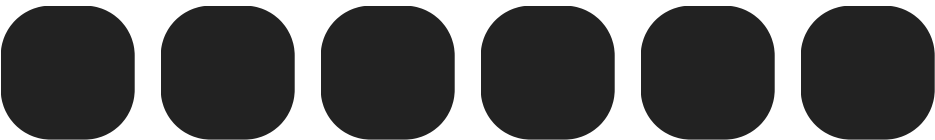
Leevon DeCourley has been entertaining audiences all over the Midwest and Southeast for the better part of the last ten years. The concert will be held at the Park's amphitheater behind the Visitor Center. The event is FREE.

Sam A. Baker State Park is located four miles north of Patterson on Highway 143 in Wayne County. For more information about the event, call the park at 573-856-4514.

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MDC Managed Deer Hunt Applications Open July 1st

JUNE 11TH 2015 BY DEE LOFLIN

MDC Managed Deer Hunt Applications Open July 1st

Missouri - Beginning July 1, deer hunters can apply online for a shot at more than 5,100 slots for nearly 100 Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) managed deer hunts. The managed hunts will take place from mid-September through mid-January at conservation areas, state parks, national wildlife refuges, urban parks, and other public areas. The online application period runs July 1-31.

To apply, visit the MDC website at mdc.mo.gov/node/11252 between July 1 and 31. MDC will post drawing results at the same website address from Sept. 1 through Jan 15. Applicants who get drawn will receive area maps and other hunt information by mail.

The hunts are open to Missouri residents and nonresidents and help achieve MDC's deer-management goals for the state while providing additional hunting opportunities. Types of hunts include archery, crossbow, muzzleloader, historic methods, and modern firearms, plus youth hunts and hunts for people with disabilities.

Seventeen managed hunts will be held exclusively for hunters with disabilities. Eligibility varies by hunt so applicants should call the area hosting the hunt for details and to apply. Wheelchair-confined hunters may apply for more than one managed hunt offered at select conservation areas with a written request due by July 31 to: Missouri Department of Conservation, Attn: Managed Deer Hunts, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180.

All other hunters may apply for only one managed hunt per year. Hunters may apply individually or as groups of up to six, except for youth-only hunts. Youths age 11-15 years by the date of the desired hunt who are hunter-education certified may apply individually or with one other youth for youth hunts and must be accompanied on the hunt by a qualified adult mentor.

All applicants will need their nine-digit Conservation ID number to complete the application process. Conservation ID numbers are listed on hunting and fishing permits and Missouri Conservation Heritage Cards.

Resident or nonresident managed deer hunting permits are required to participate in managed hunts. These permits will be available to successful applicants beginning Sept. 1 from permit vendors, online through MDC's e-Permits at mdc.mo.gov/node/10901, or through MDC's free hunting mobile app -- MO Hunting.

Hunter education is required for firearms managed hunts, unless the hunter is exempt by

age or other reason. Hunter education classes fill up quickly as fall hunting seasons approach. For more information on hunter education options and classes, visit mdc.mo.gov/node/3095.

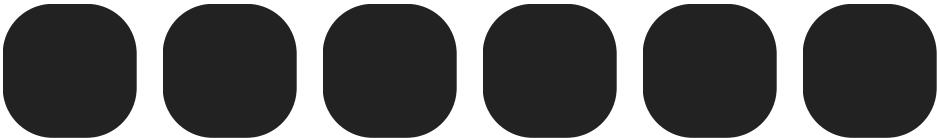
MDC uses a weighted-preference-point system to give previously unsuccessful applicants an advantage in future drawings. Hunters who apply for the first time or who were drawn for hunts the previous year are statistically less likely to be drawn than those who entered but were not drawn in previous years.

Details about managed hunts can be found in MDC’s “2015 Fall Deer & Turkey Hunting Regulations and Information” booklet available in July at MDC offices and nature centers, from permit vendors around the state, and online at mdc.mo.gov.

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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.

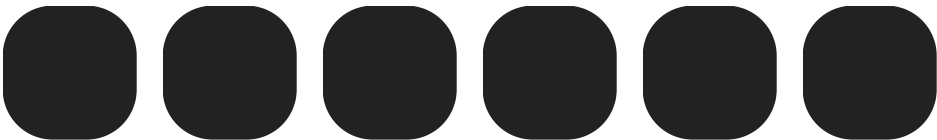
This year’s frog season begins at sunset June 30 and continues through Oct. 31. The daily limit is eight bullfrogs or green frogs and 16 in possession. Children under the age of 16 and adults over 65 are not required to have a permit.

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.

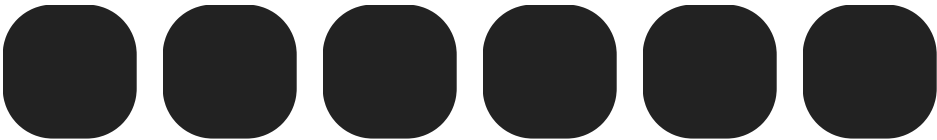
The operation will be conducted by the Dexter Police Department in cooperation with other local area law enforcement agencies. The checkpoint is a static operation on a specific highway that is designed to check every driver to ensure they are sober.

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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