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Duck Season Zone Workshop Slated for Dexter

JANUARY 28TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Duck Season Zone Workshop Slated for Dexter

Dexter, Missouri - The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) invites Missouri waterfowl hunters to upcoming public workshops where Department staff will gather hunter input about duck season dates and zone boundary locations for the 2017-2020 hunting seasons. Participants will have the opportunity to review long-term data about weather, migration, habitat use, harvest, and hunter opinions, and to discuss season date and zone preferences with other hunters and MDC staff. MDC will use the hunter input gathered through the workshops, along with results of hunter-opinion surveys, to help establish Missouri's 2017-2020 duck season dates and zones.

Before attending a workshop, MDC encourages hunters to review information compiled by Department biologists on migration, harvest, weather, and hunter preferences for each region of the state. This information will be posted on the MDC website by the end of January at on.mo.gov/1giLHme.

The following workshops will be held in Southeast Missouri between Feb. 1 and March 9 and all will run from 7-9 p.m. No reservations are necessary.

Dexter on Feb. 17 at the National Guard Armory, 1702 Missouri Hwy 114. For more information, call 573-290-5730.

Jackson on Feb. 18 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 3305 N. High St. For more information, call 573-290-5730.

Kennett on Feb. 16 at the National Guard Armory, 1450 North Bypass. For more information, call 573-290-5730.

"The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service gives states the opportunity to change the number and location of duck zones every five years," explained MDC Resources Scientist Andy Raedeke. "At these times, states can also select a continuous season or split season, which refers to a season that is open for a period of time, closes, and then reopens for a second period of time."

Raedeke added that once selections are made, Missouri then keeps the same season-date formulas for multiple years, with the next ones being 2017 to 2020.

"Conservation makes Missouri a great place to hunt waterfowl. As hunters know, hunting conditions can vary tremendously from one year to the next," he said. "During some years, the best hunting can occur early in the season. During other years, it can occur late. Limiting changes to every four or five years helps the Department of Conservation evaluate the effectiveness of zone boundaries and season dates over a range of conditions."

Raedeke noted that recommended changes for a given period depend primarily upon hunter input.

"If most hunters from a particular region prefer a different season structure or season dates, we will likely recommend a change," Raedeke said. "Hunter input from the last series of workshops prompted MDC to make two changes to the boundary of the south hunting zone."

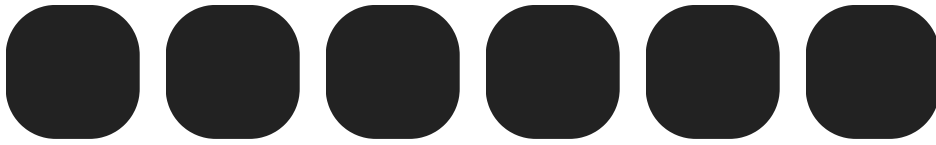
He added that given the range of hunter preferences, not all hunters will be completely satisfied with season dates and zone boundaries.

"Our aim is to accommodate at least a portion of most hunters' desires. We listen to what waterfowl hunters want and sincerely appreciate their time, effort, and input."

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Route M in Stoddard County Reduced to One Lane

JANUARY 25TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Route M in Stoddard County Reduced to One Lane](#)

Route M in Stoddard County Reduced for Tree Trimming

Route M in Stoddard County will be reduced to one lane as Missouri Department of Transportation crews trim trees along the roadway.

This section of roadway is located from Route 25 to Route PP.

Weather permitting; work will take place Monday, Jan. 25 through Friday, Jan. 29 from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily.

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Scott City Man Missing - Sheriff Asking For Help

JANUARY 20TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Scott City Man Missing - Sheriff Asking For Help](#)

Scott City, Missouri - The Scott County Sheriff's Department is asking for the public's help finding a missing Scott City man.

Sheriff Rick Walter says 23-year-old **Zackary Johnston** went missing Tuesday, January 19th sometime in the afternoon.

Walter says that Johnston's vehicle has been sitting on the side of AB Road across from Country Road 303 since about 4 p.m. Tuesday.

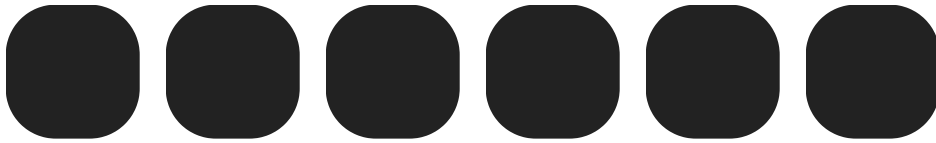
Johnston is described as a white male, 6 feet tall and weighing 150 pounds.

Search and Rescue crews are searching for Zachary Johnston on foot and by helicopter.

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Pre-Bid Meeting Held for County Courthouse Project

JANUARY 20TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

Pre-Bid Meeting Held for County Courthouse Project

Bloomfield, Missouri - Our beloved old courthouse in downtown Bloomfield is preparing for a facelift. The Stoddard County Commission held a Pre-Bid meeting for the Stoddard County Courthouse cupola project. Representatives from R.L. Persons Construction and Pyramid Roofing were present for the meeting. The bid opening officially began on January 29th at 10:00 a.m. .

Dale Rogers, an architect, with Robert Stearnes and Associates led the meeting explaining what needed to be done and outlined specifications and requirements for the work.

"Three contractors have requested paperwork on this project," Rogers stated. "They are R.L. Persons Construction of Poplar Bluff, Sides Construction of Cape Girardeau, and Keifner Brothers of Cape Girardeau."

Stoddard County received a \$70,000 grant from the Missouri Department of National Resources, State Historic Preservation Office. They required the county to contribute \$30,000 in county funds for the restoration as well.

Listed as primary work to be completed are:

- * Structural repairs for the cupola framing and floors of the cupola and attic
- * New Louver header and spire support
- * Removal of wood louvers and replacement with new wood louvers
- * New sheet metal flashings and sealants

Rogers also explained that the bid would include three alternates, if and only if there was enough money available for these projects. They are application of fluid applied roofing, the use of metal and PVC louvers, and painting flashing and counter flashing.

Rogers also distributed to the contractors present a list of requirements that must be met. He noted that the control arms on the clock in the cupola will be removed prior to any work being performed.

The completion date for the Stoddard County Courthouse is May 31, 2016.

Present at the County Commission Pre-Bid Meeting were Carol Jarrell and Danny Talking. Also present were Dale Rogers, Jeff Alford of R.L. Persons, and Lloyd Stoner and Ed Pike of Pyramid Roofing.

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Endangered Person Advisory Issued

JANUARY 11TH 2016 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Endangered Person Advisory Issued](#)

Doniphan, Missouri - An Endangered Person Advisory has been issued by the Ripley County Sheriff's Department for a missing 19-year-old woman.

Deputies state that Topanga S. Thompson, 19, was last seen around 2 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 11 at Rural Route 2 Box 7641, County Road K-1 in Doniphan, Mo.

She is 5'4", 166 pounds with brown hair, blonde highlights and blue eyes. She was last seen wearing a Carhartt jacket, black hooded sweatshirt and black sweatpants.

Deputies say Thompson reportedly suffers from depression and may be suicidal.

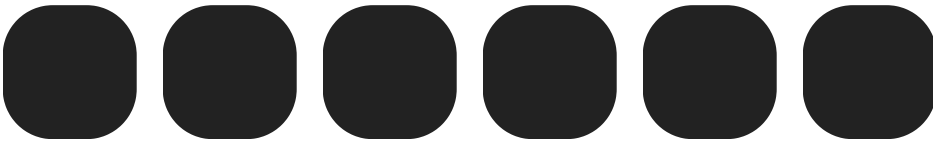
They say she left her home on foot and without personal belongings. They are unsure where she was going. They say she left after posting vague, concerning statements on her social media account.

Anyone who has seen Thompson, or has any information, is asked to call 911 or your local law enforcement agency. You may also call the Doniphan Police Department - Ripley County Sheriff's Department at 573-996-5555.

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