

Mark Twain District

(Lewis, Marion, Monroe, Pike, Ralls Counties)

Federal Areas

Mark Twain Lake

Located in Monroe County, the Mark Twain Lake area has multiple Corps of Engineers campgrounds. Although they are not shown completely in the Corps of Engineers materials, nor at www.reserveusa.com, there are actually *two* group/scout camping areas at the Lake: the Boudreaux camping area and also at Indian Creek. Scouts are encouraged to use the group areas, but are not limited to these areas. Both areas have toilets, water, and “developed” camping areas. Showers are located in other camping areas.

Mark Twain Lake is good for a weekend or extended scouting activity. Fishing, hiking, boating and other activities are available, including two swimming beaches. Tours of the dam are also available. The Corps of Engineers will generally reduce camping fees for scout units that volunteer to do service while they camp there. Arrangements for scout units should *not* be made through the reserveusa.com system. Rather, unit leaders should call (573) 735-4097. Make certain to inform them that you are a scout camp. If you make plans early enough (more than a month in advance), service opportunities dealing with wildlife and conservation are a definite possibility. The Corps is also willing to work with scouts on Eagle and Hornaday projects.

Access to Indian Creek group area is from Hwy 24, west of Monroe City. Access to the other camping areas can be from Route J, east of Monroe City, off of Hwy 36 or from Hwy 154, near Paris.

Contact: Mark Twain Lake/US Army Corps of Engineers
20642 Hwy J
Monroe City, MO 63456-9359
(573) 735-4097

Comments: “Group areas are secluded, away from other campers. Great for scouts, including large district events.” Troop 38

Campsites: several hundred
Groups?: yes
Water: yes, all year and close by
Scout rates: yes
Toilets: house
Trails: yes; limited maps
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: yes
Service: yes
Firewood: yes, collectable from ground
Shelters: yes
Privacy: yes
Special: yes

State Parks

Mark Twain State Park

Located around Mark Twain Lake, and sharing borders with the Federal camping areas, Mark Twain State Park is a great place for scouts. Camping, boating, fishing and other activities are plentiful. Hiking and wildlife observation make work on outdoors merit badges and activities a natural choice for this state park.

The park features regular and group camping areas, suitable for scouts. The park is *not* recommended during deer season. Reservations are recommended, especially during the very busy summer months. We recommend that scouts use the group area if at all possible. Units should take advantage of the nearby Mark Twain State Historic Site as well as the unusual Locust Creek Covered Bridge historic site. Service work and trails near these sites make earning the Historic Trails Award possible.

Contact: Mark Twain State Park
20057 State Park Office Road
Stoutsville, MO 65283
(573) 565-3440

Location: On Hwy 107, near Florida, Missouri

Comments: "Good, clean area." Troop 50

Campsites: nearly 100

Groups?: yes

Water: yes, all year and close by

Scout rates: unknown

Toilets: house

Trails: yes; limited maps

Fishing: yes

Aquatics: yes

Service: yes

Firewood: yes; as with all state parks, troops are recommended to bring their own.
Collecting dead wood in Missouri state parks is prohibited.

Shelters: yes

Privacy: yes

Special: yes

Wakonda State Park

Located right on Highway 61, about 45 minutes north of Hannibal, Wakonda is an out-of-the-way park with short trails, good, wide-open camping, and good access to lakes. Boat rentals during summer, including canoes and rowboats, are reasonably priced. Wakonda offers a sand beach for swimmers; no fees for swimming charged (units need to provide their own guards and follow procedures for Safe Swim Defense). Fishing is generally good in this park, both from the shore and from boats.

The park is generally not very crowded during most of the year. Because of its location, and the location of the campsites in the park, it is possible to camp here during deer season. Park personnel, while not opposed to scout units camping, do not work well with scout groups. Service opportunities are limited to non-existent. Although firewood is not supposed to be collected in most state parks, Wakonda rangers allow the picking up of wood to burn, since no wood is available for sale.

Contact: Wakonda State Park
RR 1, Box 242
La Grange, MO 63448
(573) 655-2280

Campsites: roughly 50
Groups?: no special arrangements
Water: only during "season"
Scout rates: no
Toilets: house
Trails: limited
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: yes
Service: limited
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: yes

Conservation Areas

Further information on all sites in the Mark Twain District can be found at the Hannibal Department of Conservation office. (573) 248-2530 NOTE: some sites that are listed as *not* having camping may allow scout troops to camp. Service projects need to be coordinated in advance. Contact the Regional Office for more information.

Lewis County

Canton Ferry Access--day use area. Fishing and canoeing possibilities. Located right on the Mississippi River. Located in the city of Canton, on the banks of the river. Signs mark the area, on the north edge of Canton, east of Main Street.

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

Deer Ridge--expansive area. Only its lack of development keeps this area from being a "state park." Primitive campsites are available. A 19 mile trail is developed through the site, for foot or horseback. Department of Conservation will work with troops at this site on conservation-minded projects. Located 5.5 miles north of Lewistown, Missouri on Hwy H, and west 2 miles on Hwy Y.

Campsites: 6
Groups?: yes
Water: should be brought
Scout rates: yes
Toilets: yes
Trails: yes
Fishing: yes; lake and stream
Aquatics: yes
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: limited
Special: no

Ewing Lake--Day use area, limited mostly to fishing. One mile north of intersection of Hwy 6 and C in Ewing; west .5 mile on gravel road.

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

Fenway Landing Access--overnight possibilities. A small camping areas, with fishing and animal run trails. Good site potential to teach primitive camping or wilderness survival. Four miles north of Canton on Hwy 61, 1 mile east on unnamed gravel road.

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

Labelle City Lake--day use area. Decent fishing and boat access. Limited hiking, camping. 1.5 miles south of LaBelle in Hwy D, ¾ mile east on gravel road, past Old City Lake to boat ramp.

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

Sunnyside School Access--well developed and able to be used by scouts. Limited information available, but hiking, fishing and camping appear to be present at this site. 2 miles north of LaGrange on Hwy B, then west 2.5 miles on County Road 552.

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

Tolona Access--Good outdoors use area for scouts. 3 miles north of Ewing on Hwy C, then $\frac{3}{4}$ mile west on Hwy BB, then approximately 1 mile west on CR 508.

Campsites: 2
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: yes
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: boat ramp
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Upper Mississippi Conservation Area--primitive, primitive camp. Great for older scouts or privacy. Located in scattered locations along the Mississippi River. Maps available of locations.

Wyaconda Crossing Conservation Area--small area, good for weekend events. 3 miles NW of Canton on Hwy 81 then $\frac{1}{4}$ miles west on CR 436.

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

Marion County

Blackhawk Access--out-of-the-way camping area; primitive; good for scouts. 3 miles north of Philadelphia on Hwy D, 2 miles east to Emerson on Hwy M, 1 mile south on CR 159, then 1.5 miles east on CR 134.

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

Callaghan Mound Access--small camping area, good wildlife walks, etc. 2 ½ miles west of Philadelphia on Hwy 168, then ¼ miles south on CR 197.

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

Dunn Ford Access--Small, out-of-the-way area on the Fabius. 2 miles north of Philadelphia on Hwy D, .5 miles west on Hwy J, then 1 mile north on CR 123.

Comments: "Great out-of-the way place to camp. Nice for hunting arrowheads around the creek." Troop 147, Hannibal

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

Elmslie Memorial CA--very small area, weekend camping. Has an undeveloped natural area. Two camping areas: one is off of the parking area, the other is by the gate. Short loop trail built by OA chapter. 1 mile east of Warren on Hwy C, then 1.5 miles south on CR 229.

Comments: "Very out of the way, good for short hikes. Lots of wildlife near pond, 2/3 of the way through the trail." Espan Chapter, Hannibal

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

Fabius Chute Access--day use for aquatics. 2.5 miles north of Palmyra on Hwy 61, 2 miles east on CR 332, then 2 miles northeast on CR 342.

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

McPike Access--small area with camping and fishing available. 1.5 miles northeast of Emerson on CR 137.

Campsites: 2
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: no
Trails: no
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: unk
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: no

Ray Memorial Area--day use, wildlife hikes and observation. Archery range available. located on both sides of Hwy 61; access from Rte. W, on northwest edge of Hannibal.

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

Soulard Access--River access and camp. Good bird watching area. 6 miles north of Palmyra on Hwy 61, then east 1.5 miles on CR 344.

Comments: "Not a great place to camp. Busy with fishermen and camping area is all sand." Troop 147, Hannibal.

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

Steyermark Woods--small day use area. Limited camping, by reservation, available for scout troops *only*. Good for plant and animal identification. *Excellent* variety of trees. North of Hannibal on Hwy 168, 1 mile east on CR 410.

Comments: "This is our favorite place to camp." Troop 147, Hannibal, MO

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

Sunrise Access--day use for fishing and wildlife observation. 3 miles west of Hwy 61 on Hwy 6, then 1 mile west on CR 150.

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

Monroe County

Cedar Bluff Access--a very small park, with limited camping access. Fishing along this portion of the Salt River is reported to be generally good. Hwy 24, 1 mile west of Paris; 2 ½ miles south on CR 857.

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

Paris Access--An extremely small park, suitable for day use only. Fair to good fishing reported. On Business 24, on the north edge of Paris.

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

Santa Fe Access--Day-use for fishing only. Area is not much larger than the parking area itself. One-half mile east of Santa Fe on Hwy. D.

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

Willingham Memorial Area--Small camping area, limited to camping. Could be interesting location for troop campouts, T-2-1 wildlife work, some wildlife merit badge observations, etc. Near Holliday. North ½ mile on CR 217, from Hwy 24. Then ½ mile east on CR 214, then ½ mile north on CR 223.

Campsites: 2
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

Woodlawn Access--Day use area, providing access to another branch of the Salt River. Decent fishing is reported, along with some wildlife as well as bird-watching. On Hwy 151, 4 ½ miles north of Madison.

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

Pike County

Ashley Access--day use area only. 7 miles south of Bowling Green on Highway 161 in Pike County. Area is on the northeast side of the bridge that crosses the North Fork of the Cuivre River

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

Bowling Green West Lake--large lake, with canoeing and fishing. Day use area. 1 mile east of Bowling Green and is best reached by travelling 2 miles east on Highway 54, then south 2 miles on gravel to the western most of 2 lakes.

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

Clarksville Riverfront Park--large area, improved campsite (unusual for DoC). Good for bird-watching, particularly in winter (bald eagle observing). Some fishing. 1 block east of 4 way stop on Hwy 79 in Clarksville.

Campsites: 5
Groups?: unk
Water: unk
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: along river
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: no
Service: unk
Firewood: yes
Shelters: yes
Privacy: yes
Special: yes

Dupont Reservation CA--Large area on access to Mississippi. Often overlooked, in favor of the more developed Ted Shanks area, to the south. 16 miles south of Hannibal, on Hwy 79.

Campsites: 19
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: unk
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: boat ramps
Service: unk
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: no
Special: yes

Hamburg Ferry Access--day use fishing area on Mississippi. 10 miles east on Hwy P, off 79, near Elsberry.

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

Louisiana Access--camping in city limits of Louisiana. Good for deer season. River access; good bird watching. 6 blocks south of Hwy 54, east 3 blocks on Tennessee St.

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

Ranacker Conservation Area--Large area, dispersed camping sites. Variable activities. 9 miles north of Bowling Green on Hwy 61; turn on to Route RA.

Campsites: 5
Groups?: no
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: 3
Trails: yes
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: limited
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: yes
Special: yes

Ted Shanks Conservation Area--Large area, excellent for scouts. Conservation projects, programs available. Knowledgeable ranger staff on site. 17 miles south of Hannibal on Hwy 79; east on Rte TT.

Campsites: 17
Groups?: yes
Water: no
Scout rates: no
Toilets: yes
Trails: yes
Fishing: yes
Aquatics: boat ramps
Service: yes
Firewood: yes
Shelters: no
Privacy: yes
Special: yes

Ralls County

Anderson CA--small area, just south of Hannibal. Good fishing. 11 miles south of Hannibal in Hwy 79.

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

Indian Camp Access--day use access of the Salt River. Good fishing area. 1 mile east of Hwy 61, between Hannibal and New London, on Route O.

Comments: "Almost need a boat here; bank fishing is not good." Troop 147, Hannibal

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

Robert Thompson Conservation Area--day use. Proximity to the Saverton Lock and Dam may make projects, tours of the dam, and wildlife observation possible.

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