



HUNTING, TRAPPING AND FISHING

Hunting, trapping and fishing are allowed on many of the nature preserves owned by Mississippi Valley Conservancy subject to state law and local ordinances. The Conservancy has protected over 5,000 acres of formerly private land for public recreation, including hunting, through the generosity of Conservancy members, as well as the DNR's Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund, grants from private foundations and private donations.



The Conservancy recognizes that hunting is an important habitat management tool. If you are interested in helping to protect wildlife habitat, please sign up to volunteer or join and support our organization at www.mississippivalleyconservancy.org

Below is a list of properties permanently protected by the Conservancy that are open to hunting, trapping and fishing, subject to applicable state laws and local ordinances, which in some cases prohibit the discharge of firearms and/or bows:

- Angel Bluff (Town of Buffalo, Buffalo County) – 20 acres
- Apple Valley Bluff (Town of Onalaska, La Crosse County) – 20 acres
- Borah Creek Prairie State Natural Area, (Town of North Lancaster, Grant County)
- Boscobel Bluffs (Town of Boscobel, Grant County) – 389 acres
- Cardinal Bluff (Village of De Soto, Crawford County) – 14 acres
- Cassville Bluffs State Natural Area, (Town of Cassville, Grant County) – 244 acres
- Devil's Backbone State Natural Area (Town of Bloomington, Grant County) – 126 acres
- Eagle Eye State Natural Area (Town of Harmony, Vernon County) – 70 acres
- Fish Creek, (Town of Bangor, La Crosse County) – 71 acres
- Savanna Oaks (City of Onalaska & Town of Onalaska, La Crosse County, city permit required) – 81 acres
- Kickapoo Bottoms (Village of Gays Mills, Crawford County) – 85 acres
- Kickapoo Caverns (Town of Wauzeka, Crawford County) – 83 acres
- La Crosse Blufflands (Town of Shelby & Medary and City of La Crosse) – 882 acres
- La Crosse River Conservancy (City of La Crosse & Onalaska & Town of Medary) – 212 acres
- New Amsterdam Grasslands (Town of Holland, La Crosse County) – 310 acres (Note: restrictions during grassland bird nesting season)
- Romance Woods (Town of Harmony, Vernon County) – 35 acres
- Sugar Creek Bluff State Natural Area (Village of Ferryville & Town of Freeman, Crawford County) – 440 acres
- Trempealeau Lakes (Village of Trempealeau, Trempealeau County) – 55 acres
- Tunnelville Cliffs State Natural Area (Town of Stark, Town of Webster, Vernon County) – 1,268 acres
- Water's Edge Woods (Town of Adams, Jackson County) – 21 acres

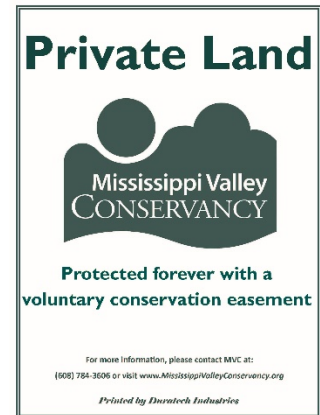
HUNTING FACT SHEET

Private conservation easement properties are not open to public access unless otherwise designated. The sign at right signifies that the land is private property.



For any land you intend to hunt or fish on, please verify the requirements or restrictions of any applicable ordinances, and verify the ownership and boundaries of adjacent properties.

It is critically important that people not trespass onto neighboring properties while utilizing Mississippi Valley Conservancy nature preserves.



Tree Stands:

Tree stands, ground blinds, and trail cams must be removed from Conservancy-owned nature preserves at the close of hunting hours each day. The Conservancy reserves the right to remove such items if left unattended on Conservancy land.

Maps:

Maps of Conservancy nature preserves can be found online or picked up at the Conservancy office in La Crosse.

<https://www.mississippivalleyconservancy.org/land-protection/protected-land>

SUMMARY OF EXCEPTIONS & RESTRICTIONS FOR HUNTERS AND TRAPPERS

Mississippi Valley Conservancy seeks to maximize opportunities for low-impact outdoor recreational activities on Conservancy-owned nature preserves to the extent those activities do not adversely affect the ecology of the land or violate state law or local ordinances.

CERTAIN NATURE PRESERVES HAVE HUNTING RESTRICTED DUE TO LOCAL ORDINANCES OR OTHER CONSIDERATIONS. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KNOW WHAT LAWS APPLY TO YOUR ACTIVITIES AND TO ENSURE THAT YOU ARE WITHIN THE APPLICABLE PROPERTY BOUNDARIES. THE CONSERVANCY DOES NOT AND CANNOT GUARANTEE THE STATUS OF APPLICABLE SEASONS, LAWS AND ORDINANCES. ALWAYS VERIFY APPLICABLE LAWS WITH THE DNR AND MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS. HUNTING, TRAPPING AND FISHING ON CONSERVANCY LAND IS AT YOUR OWN RISK.

Following are some site-specific restrictions that are frequently asked about. This is not an all-inclusive list. For more information, contact the municipality listed for each nature preserve on page one of this document.

Sugar Creek Bluff State Natural Area (Ferryville, Crawford County) – 440 acres

Portions of the land are located within the Village of Ferryville, where the discharge of guns is prohibited, but bow hunting is allowed. It is your responsibility to determine the location of municipal boundaries.

La Crosse Blufflands and La Crosse River Conservancy – 1,340 acres

Mississippi Valley Conservancy has protected approximately 25 bluffland and wetland tracts of land which are within either the towns of Shelby or Medary or the cities of La Crosse or Onalaska. **Tracts below marked with an asterisk* are owned by the City of La Crosse and protected by a Mississippi Valley Conservancy conservation easement. For more information about allowed uses, contact the City of La Crosse Parks & Rec Department at 608-789-7533**

Town of Medary nature preserves include:

Part of La Crosse River Conservancy

Visit the website of the Town of Medary for hunting ordinances at:

<http://townofmedary.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/ord-601.pdf>

Town of Shelby nature preserves include:

Portions of the Welch Tract*, Gerrard Corp, Hoeschler, and La Crosse Floral Tracts

City of La Crosse nature preserves include:

Hass Tract*

Dobson Tract*

Juniper Partners Tract*

Mathy Tract*

Gerrard-Staff Tract*

Fitzpatrick Tract*

Lenox Tract*

Mathy II Tract*

Miller Bluff/Beck Tract*

Skemp I Tract*

Skemp II Tract*

Frank Tract

Portions of the Welch Tract*

Part of La Crosse River Conservancy

Visit https://library.municode.com/wi/la_crosse/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=15133 for a copy of current ordinances and a map.

City of Onalaska: Portions of Greens Coulee (Elmwood Tract and part of Savanna Oaks Tract) and parts of La Crosse River Conservancy are located in the City of Onalaska. Onalaska allows bow hunting of deer under certain circumstances. A permit is required. Visit www.cityofonalaska.com, go to the Parks & Rec section and then click the Urban Deer Management link for more information. A portion of the Savanna Oaks Tract is in the Town of Onalaska.

New Amsterdam Grasslands – 310 acres: 35 acres are open to the public year round; the remaining acres are not open to the public during April, May, June and July in order to allow grassland birds to nest. All legal hunting and trapping are allowed in open portions of the preserve. Fall bird hunting is allowed on the entire preserve. Due to the desire to maintain a remnant population of Northern Bobwhite on the property, bird hunters are be asked to voluntarily refrain from shooting that species. Use of dogs for hunting or training is not allowed.