

IN THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

A RESOLUTION authorizing the County Executive to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Missouri Department of Conservation related to the maintenance of certain areas within the County's Park System, at no cost to the County.

RESOLUTION NO. 19425, March 20, 2017

INTRODUCED BY Tony Miller, County Legislator

WHEREAS, the Parks + Rec Department recommends the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Missouri Department of Conservation related to the maintenance of certain areas within the County's park system, specifically the Blue River Glade and Blue Springs Lake Glade, at no cost to the County; and,

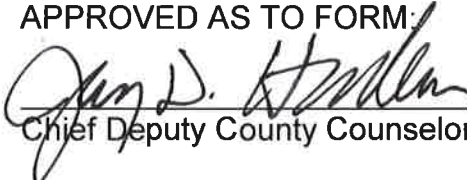
WHEREAS, the proposed collaboration with the Department of Conservation is consistent with Parks + Rec Department goals to eradicate invasive plant species and improve native habitats; and,

WHEREAS, the execution of the attached MOU is in the best interests of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Jackson County; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the County Legislature of Jackson County, Missouri, that the County Executive be and hereby is authorized to execute the attached Memorandum of Understanding with the Missouri Department of Conservation, at no cost to the County.

Effective Date: This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage by a majority of the Legislature.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Chief Deputy County Counselor


County Counselor

Certificate of Passage

I hereby certify that the attached resolution, Resolution No. 19425 of March 20, 2017, was duly passed on March 27, 2017 by the Jackson County Legislature. The votes thereon were as follows:

Yeas 9

Nays 0

Abstaining 0

Absent 0

3/27/17
Date


Mary Jo Spino, Clerk of Legislature

Memorandum



Date: March 10, 2017

To: Legislative Committee

From: Michele Newman, Director of Parks + Rec

RE: Memorandum of Understanding with the Missouri Department of Conservation

Jackson County and the Missouri Department of Conservation have a long and successful history of collaboration to improve the quality of life for county residents through parks and recreation. From the popular Lake City Range at Landahl Park to the new accessible fishing docks at Lake Jacomo, the County and MDC work in numerous ways to manage natural areas and improve access to recreational opportunities.

This proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the parties will permit MDC to assist the County with maintenance of two valuable natural areas within the Jackson County Parks System. The Blue River Glade, an approximate 30 acre site, is one of the most botanically diverse sites in the Kansas City region. The Blue Springs Lake Glade, an approximate 40 acre area, provides habitat for important plant and wildlife species unique to Jackson County.

Management activities authorized by the Memorandum include periodic controlled burns and removal of invasive plant species. MDC will be responsible for writing plans for management activities and providing staff and volunteers to implement management practices. The County and MDC will continue to work with other non-profit and volunteer organizations to support these efforts including Bridging the Gap, the Blue River Watershed Association and the Heartland Conservation Alliance.

This proposed collaboration is consistent with Parks + Rec Department goals to form partnerships with highly qualified public and private organizations and to eradicate invasive plant species and enhance lower maintenance native habitats. There are no cost obligations to the County in this Memorandum.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between the
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
and
JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

ORIGINAL

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is between the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and Jackson County, Missouri, acting through Jackson County Parks + Rec (JCPR), with a principal place of business located at 22807 Woods Chapel Road, Blue Springs, MO, 64015. JCPR is a county agency which administers a system of public parklands, and MDC is the managing agency over the state's conservation areas. The purpose of this agreement is to allow for conducting management activities, specifically prescribed burns, at Blue River Glades Natural Area and at Blue Springs Lake Glade.

MDC shall:

A. Assume a leadership role in the management of Blue River Glades Natural Area, one of the most botanically diverse sites in the Kansas City metro area and at the glade community at Blue Springs Lake, home of the only extant population of the Eastern collared lizard in Jackson County. Management activities shall include:

1. Writing plans and providing scheduling dates for prescribed burns to be approved by both parties.
2. Overseeing construction of firelines.
3. Contacting authorities prior to conducting burns.
4. Assembling crews and equipment for burns.
5. Overseeing any mop-up/post-burn work.
6. Assembling crews, equipment and overseeing organized workdays to eliminate exotic invasive species and woody succession.

JCPR shall:

A. Supply support staff for management activities including but not limited to:

1. Providing trained crew members for prescribed burn teams.
2. Assisting with fireline construction and invasive species removal as needed.

JCPR and MDC mutually agree that:

A. PURPOSE OF MOU

The purpose of the MOU is to provide consistent management of two fire-maintained natural communities on county owned or managed public park land in Jackson County, Missouri. MDC and JCPR will work cooperatively to manage the natural resources of these two regionally significant areas, with MDC assuming the leadership role in planning and conducting prescribed burning and invasive species removal on the sites.

E. NON-FUND OBLIGATING DOCUMENT

Nothing in this MOU shall be construed as obligating either party for the expenditure of funds or for the future payment of money. Such endeavors shall be outlined in separate cooperative agreements that shall be made in writing by the parties and shall be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority. This instrument does not establish authority for noncompetitive awards to JCPR of any contract or other agreements.

F. APPROVAL

The parties hereby accept and endorse all of the provisions set forth in this MOU, as executed below by the authorized representatives of JCPR and MDC as of the last date signed below.

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

MSD

By: 
Jason Summers, Wildlife Division Chief

Date: 2/15/17

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: 
Jennifer Frazier, MDC General Counsel

JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

By: _____
Frank White Jr., Jackson County Executive

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: _____
County Counselor