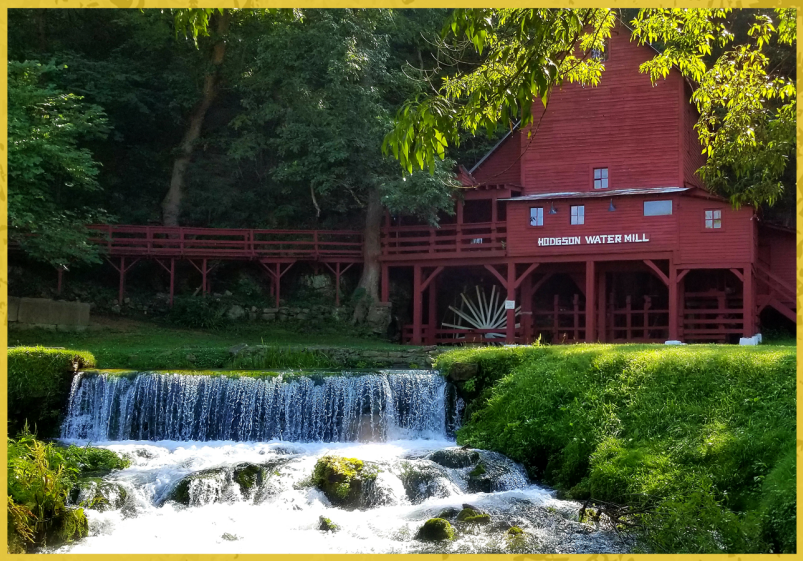
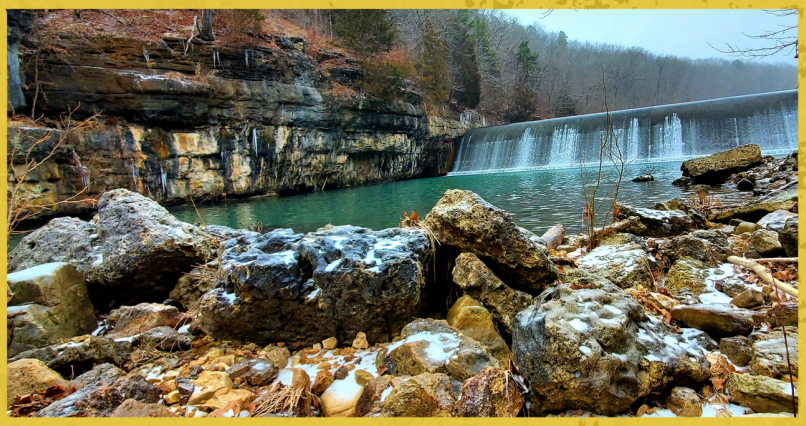
EXPLORE WEST PLAINS











SETTLED 1838

PORTER WAGONER BLVD

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

WEST PLAINS

HEART OF THE OZARKS

MO 65775

HOME OF THE ZIZZERS

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN

HOWELL COUNTY

BROADFOOT COLLECTION

HOME OF THE GRIZZLIES

VISITORS GUIDEBOOK

2025

WELCOME TO WEST PLAINS

There are so many things to see and do within a 50-mile radius of West Plains, the county seat of Howell County. Choose West Plains as the place to shop, dine, rest your head, and wake up to begin another adventure!

With West Plains as your hub, venture out to see the beauty of the Ozarks.

- Eleven historic water mills
- Miles of curvy, exhilarating highways
- Crystal-clear rivers and creeks
- Numerous trails for hiking, biking, and horseback riding
- More than 350 miles of floatable streams
- 16 city parks for walking, biking, or play
- 63,000 wilderness acres of National Forest

The fun doesn't just begin outside the city limits! West Plains has a rich and interesting history beginning with Howell family who homesteaded in 1838 at the town spring. Today, historic Court Square in downtown West Plains is home to shops and restaurants. Shopping, especially antiques, flea markets and boutiques, is abundant in and around West Plains. A variety of dining is available including home-style cooking, BBQ, American, Mexican, Chinese, Japanese, and Thai.

During your stay, enjoy the comfort of one of six hotels available. Feeling adventurous? Pitch a tent at a local campground. RVs and campers will find spaces available close to town or even in the middle of nowhere.

The Ozark Heritage Welcome Center is your key to adventure! Stop by for area information, shop for souvenirs, and take a photo with our murals and sculptures that are on the property! Be sure to check out our mural and display area featuring famous West Plainsians Porter Wagoner, Preacher Roe, Jan Howard, Dick Van Dyke, and Bill Virdon.

Since you are reading this guidebook, you are well on your way to exploring West Plains. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. Our friendly staff is looking forward to visiting with you!

Melissa Amyx Wharton
Tourism Manager, City of West Plains


Blue Angel Images/Tom Pringle


Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



Terry Hampton

OZARK HERITAGE WELCOME CENTER

We are happy to assist travelers with area maps, brochures, and event information. Also at the center is a gift shop, RV dump station, and water fill. Hours of operation, Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

OZARK HERITAGE WELCOME CENTER

2999 Porter Wagoner Blvd. | West Plains, MO 65775
417-256-8835 | tourism@westplains.gov | explorewestplains.com

JUST THE FACTS

Population 12,598 (2023)
Coordinates 36.7281° N, 91.8524° W
Total area 13.29 sq. miles
First settled 1838

WEST PLAINS ☼ STOP. STAY. EXPLORE.

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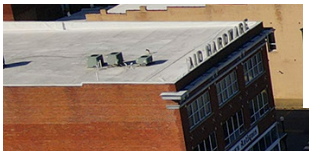

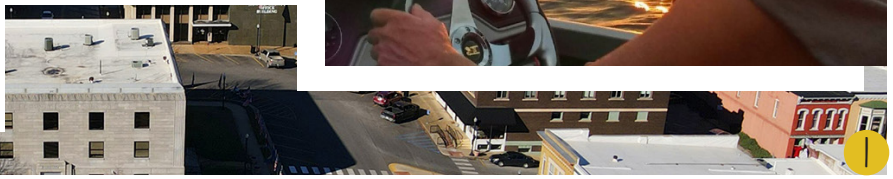

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For information about advertising sales, contact:
Ozark Heritage Welcome Center
2999 Porter Wagoner Blvd.
West Plains, MO 65775
(417) 256-8835 | tourism@westplains.gov

About West Plains

Tucked in the Ozark Mountains, near pristine wilderness areas and spring-fed streams, the City of West Plains attracts nature lovers, entrepreneurs, and families searching for a small-town feel with big-city conveniences.

As the largest city within 100 miles in Missouri, West Plains provides the most options for lodging, dining, and other services. It's been this way since 1883 when the railroad came to West Plains, establishing the town as the regional hub of trade and commerce. Now thousands of people enjoy great schools, quality healthcare, higher education, and a progressive spirit of entrepreneurship made possible by forward-thinking civic leaders.

We hope you enjoy your visit to West Plains, truly a place where you can experience life on your terms.



West Plains Regional Airport

The West Plains Regional Airport (FAA identifier UNO) is located at 4523 County Road 2340 in Pomona, MO. The airport is a full-service airport with an 18/36 5102x75 ft. asphalt runway. Amenities include a pilot's lounge/quarters, unisex shower, kitchen area, spacious lobby, conference room and Wi-Fi. Hangar rental is available. The airport is located 11 miles north of West Plains. Courtesy cars are available. Office hours of operation, Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Phone number 417-257-1530. For more information, visit westplains.gov/west-plains-regional-airport or email airport@westplains.gov.

The Ozarks

The Ozarks, also known as the Ozark Mountains or Ozark Plateau, is a region in the United States that includes 93 counties in four different states including parts of Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and southeastern Kansas. The Ozarks covers approximately 50,000 square miles.



What is a Zizzer?

Neighboring communities are Bears, Eagles, and Bobcats, but West Plains is famous for being home to the Zizzers, the only ones in the whole country! But what is a Zizzer? It all started in 1907 when the senior class put together an eight-page commemorative booklet for the junior class, presented on Class Day. The juniors loved the idea, so they put together their own booklet in 1908. This was the beginning of an annual yearbook tradition at the school. When they presented the book to faculty member Phoebe Davidson, she exclaimed, "What a Zizzer!" a term which is said to have been a colloquialism for lightning or a flash from the sky. The name was put on the 1908 edition, and it stuck. It continues to be the name of the West Plains High School yearbook, as well as academic and sports teams across the district. A lightning bolt is the school logo/mascot. In recent years, school officials have coined another definition of a Zizzer: an expert in any activity, a winner!

Famous West Plainsians


countrymusichalloffame.org

Porter Wagoner achieved fame as a country music singer, songwriter, and musician. Born on August 12, 1927, and raised on a farm south of West Plains, Porter started his public music career while he worked as a meat cutter after his family moved to town in the early 1940s. As a popular local entertainer, he did live performances on radio station KWPM-AM from the butcher shop where he worked. In 1951 he was hired to perform on KWTO in Springfield, Mo., which led to a contract with RCA Victor. In 1953, his song "Trademark" became a hit for Carl Smith. Beginning in 1955 he was featured on Ozark Jubilee, a Springfield-based television show with a national audience. He joined the Grand Ole Opry in 1958. He would go on to have 81 charted records and his own syndicated television program, The Porter Wagoner Show, which aired from 1960 to 1981. The show introduced Dolly Parton who was part of the show, and Porter's vocal partner, from 1967 to 1976. With his flashy, custom-made suits and blond pompadour, Porter was a popular performer in Nashville for many years where he was known informally as "Mr. Grand Ole Opry." The longest street in West Plains is "Porter Wagoner Boulevard," named for our beloved native son who died on October 28, 2007.


wikipedia.com

Jan Howard made her mark on the country music industry as a recording artist and songwriter. She was born in West Plains on March 13, 1929, with the given name Lula Grace Johnson. It was her second husband songwriter Harlan Howard who encouraged her career, which took off in 1960 with her first major hit "The One You Slip Around With." She signed with Decca Records and continued to have hit singles beginning in the mid-60s, eventually placing 30 songs on the Billboard Country Charts. She teamed up with Bill Anderson, and the duo also charted with several songs and toured together until the mid-1970s. Several

tragic life circumstances nearly led her to give up her career, but she released more albums into the 1980s. She also took up writing, including publication of her autobiography *Sunshine and Shadow*. She became a member of the Grand Ole Opry in 1971 and continued to perform there until 2019. Jan died on March 28, 2020.

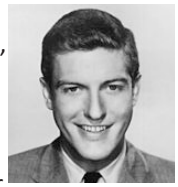
Gilbert Ray "Speck" Rhodes was a country music comedian and entertainer best known for his appearances on Porter Wagoner's television show. He was born July 16, 1915, on a farm which is now the location of the Heart of the Ozarks Fairgrounds, and coincidentally, adjacent to the Welcome Center. Speck was from a musical family. He and his three siblings toured the RKO vaudeville circuit and barnstormed throughout north central Arkansas where the family had moved following the 1918 influenza epidemic. Speck played banjo and bass fiddle, and it was during the 1930s that he developed his comic character. Through no connection of mutual birthplace, in 1960 Speck auditioned in Nashville for Porter Wagoner's TV show. He landed the gig which led to a lasting friendship between the two men. He and Porter were the only two original members when the show stopped airing in 1981. Speck died March 19, 2000.


pinterest.com

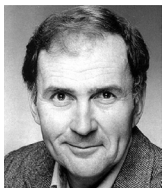
Ha Ha Tonka is an alternative/indie band originally formed in West Plains and named for Ha Ha Tonka State Park in Camdenton, Missouri. They signed with the Bloodshot Records label and released their first album, Buckle in the Bible Belt, in 2007. They have since released an additional five studio albums and continue to perform regularly, including occasional appearances in their hometown. Among their accomplishments, in 2017 they were the musical guests on the Conan O'Brien Late Night Show. They continue to shine with tight harmonies which complement their considerable musical talent and song-writing skills. We're proud to claim Ha Ha Tonka as our own!


Ha Ha Tonka

Dick Van Dyke, a well-known, award-winning actor, comedian, writer, singer, and dancer, is perhaps the most famous West Plains son. However, his tenure in our town was the briefest. He was born here on December 13, 1925, but he and his parents stayed only until the next spring when they moved back to their hometown, Danville, Ill., where Dick would grow up and attend high school before joining the US military in 1944, serving stateside entertaining troops as a member of the Special Services. During the late 1940s, he launched an award-winning career which has spanned seven decades in film, television, and the theatre. Dick is the recipient of five Primetime Emmys, a Tony, and a Grammy Award, and was inducted into the Television Hall of Fame in 1995.


wikipedia.com

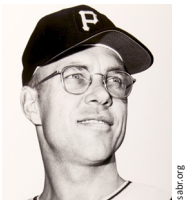
Reathal Bean was born August 24, 1942, in West Plains. Perhaps less well known than some of our other famous sons, Reathel had a decades-long acting career as an entertainer in theater, television and film. On Broadway he was seen in multiple plays, including *Our Town* with Paul Newman, *Inherit the Wind, Big River, Baby* and *Doonesbury.* On television he appeared in the *Law & Order* series as well as *Third Watch, Ed, Spin City, White Collar, Nurse Jackie, The Blacklist* and more. His film credits include *Box of Moonlight, Going in Style, The Nanny Diaries, The Good Shepherd* and *Dancer in the Dark*. He also did audio work. Reathel grew up in West Plains, the son of Thelma (Luna) and Floyd Bean. He graduated from West Plains High School in 1960, where he credited his teacher, Larry Clark, as inspiring his love of acting. Reathel earned a degree from Drake University in 1964 and went on to make his home in New York before moving to Chicago in 2022 where he passed away on October 4, 2023.



Elwin "Preacher" Roe was a professional baseball player who started his career as a St. Louis Cardinal in 1938 and who would go on to play for the Pittsburgh Pirates from 1944-47 and finally, for the legendary Brooklyn Dodgers from 1948-54 where he had a stellar career as a pitcher, including in 1951 when he posted a 22-3 win-loss record. He was a five-time All-Star and, along with the rest of the Dodgers team, is immortalized in Roger Kahn's book *The Boys of Summer*. Born on February 26, 1916, in Ash Flat, Ark., Preacher grew up in Viola, Ark. However, after he retired from baseball, he moved to West Plains where for many years he operated a grocery store and was – and still is – claimed and revered as our town's very own "boy of summer." Preacher died on November 9, 2008.


wikipedia.com

Bill Virdon was a professional baseball outfielder, manager, and coach. He was born June 9, 1931, in Michigan to parents who were originally from Missouri but who had moved away to find work during the Great Depression. In 1944 the Virdons moved to Howell County where Bill attended West Plains High School, excelling at sports and graduating with the class of 1949. He started his Minor League Baseball career in 1950 as part of the New York Yankees organization. His Major League career began in 1955 with the St. Louis Cardinals where he was named National League Rookie of the Year. The next year Bill was traded to the Pittsburgh Pirates where he remained through his playing years and was part of the team as it won the 1960 World Series. Retiring as a player after the 1965 season, he went on to coach and manage with several organizations and continued to be involved in baseball through the years. Bill passed away on November 23, 2021.


sabr.org

Tedd Gullic was an outfielder for the St. Louis Browns from 1930 through the 1933 season. He was born January 2, 1907, in the neighboring community of Koshkonong, Mo., and died January 28, 2000, in West Plains where he had made his home as a successful businessman after retiring from baseball.


findagrave.com

Stephen W. Thompson holds a special distinction in military aviation history. In 1918, he was the first man in U.S. military service to shoot down an enemy plane in air-to-air combat. Born in West Plains in 1894, Thompson left home to attend the University of Missouri, Columbia. When the U.S. entered WWI in 1917, he was a senior. The college offered seniors early graduation to encourage joining the service, so Thompson enlisted in the Army at 23 years old where he went on to make history. At the war's end, he returned home to West Plains as a local hero. Around 1920 he moved to Dayton, Ohio, where he lived out the rest of his days, passing away in 1977.


Nat'l Museum of the U.S. Air Force

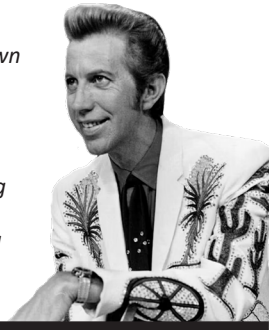
Jim the Wonder Dog is the Official Wonder Dog of the State of Missouri. Born on March 10, 1925, Jim was a Llewellyn setter with astounding intelligence who performed unexplainable feats. Jim was born in the state of Louisiana but when he was just a pup, he found a home with Sam Van Arsdale in West Plains. Sam discovered that his dog was a phenomenal naturally gifted bird dog, but also a dog with supernatural skills. One hot afternoon Sam suggested that they stop hunting and go sit under a hickory tree to cool off. There were lots of trees around, but Jim walked directly to the hickory. Sensing it was more than a fluke, Sam named other trees, and Jim correctly identified them all. The baffling behavior grew from there and was put to the test many times, including by professors at the University of Missouri who asked Jim to perform tasks in multiple languages and in Morse code. He was asked in French to find a certain car license plate number and asked in German to find a girl in a blue dress. On and on. Jim responded correctly every time to multiple commands. None of the experts, or the thousands of people who witnessed the tests he was subjected to over the years, could ever determine the source of Jim's amazing powers. Sam, who himself knew only English, once told a reporter, "I never asked Jim a question he could not answer. He understood every language, written or spoken…In fact, Jim knew everything." Jim died March 18, 1937, and is buried in Marshall, Mo., where he had lived with Sam for most of his life. Discover more by visiting the website jimthewonderdog.org.


Chris W. Nelson

WEST PLAINS History TRAIL
Porter Wagoner

This points of interest list is designed to give long-time Porter Wagoner fans along with those who are new to his music, a glimpse into his hometown and how he got his start as a country music legend. Known as "Mr. Grand Ole Opry," our native son was born August 12, 1927, on a farm just south of West Plains. He moved to a small home in West Plains with his family when he was in sixth grade.

Along with his well-respected credentials as a performer and songwriter, he was famous for his blond pompadour hairdo, flashy 'Nudie suits' (created for Porter by designer Nudie Cohn), and a long-running television series (1960-1981) "The Porter Wagoner Show," where he introduced Dolly Parton to the world. He had a fabulous decades-long career, becoming a member of the Grand Ole Opry in 1957 and remaining a member for 50 years, until his death on October 28, 2007.



Porter Wagoner Trail



1 To follow the Porter trail, start inside the Ozark Heritage Welcome Center, 2999 Porter Wagoner Blvd., and see our Porter display. He's featured on our "Famous West Plainsians" mural along with Dick Van Dyke, fellow country music star Jan Howard, and baseball players Preacher Roe and Bill Virdon.

We also have one of his signature rhinestone-covered suits – the last one he ever purchased, in fact (you can see why he was known as the "Thin Man from West Plains!") – and other memorabilia in our Porter display case. Don Wardin, Porter's long-time steel guitar player and road manager for Dolly Parton, also has ties to our area and is represented in our display area.

Right outside the center, be sure to see "Porter's Guitar" an outdoor chainsaw carving by Jason Morton of Eagle Ridge Chainsaw Carvings of Strafford, Missouri. When one of our big oak trees died in 2023, we knew what we should do, get a carving of Porter's guitar! Completed by Jason in two days in early 2024, it's a centerpiece of our Porter collection. The sculpture is inspired by the guitar designed by Greg Rich and featured on the cover of Porter's 53rd and final studio album, "Wagonmaster," released June 5, 2007.

2 Before heading out, look to the left (as you're leaving the center's front door) at the Heart of the Ozarks Fairgrounds. In an interesting coincidence, Porter's long-time comedian sidekick, Speck Rhodes, was born in 1915 on his grandparents' farm where the fairgrounds is now located. His family moved away within a few years, but Speck is one of our own, too!

The grandstand at the fairgrounds was also the site of a concert by Porter, along with his band, the Wagonmasters, and Dolly, September 25, 1971, for Porter Wagoner Day when he came home to be honored with the naming of Porter Wagoner Boulevard. When you leave the center, you'll take a right on the boulevard (which is also Highway 63) known simply as "Porter" when the locals talk about it. "Cruising on Porter" was a popular past-time for teenagers for many years.

3 Stay in the right lane and in one-half mile take the Business 63 exit toward West Plains. At the stop sign, take a left and then immediately get into the right lane to turn right to drive down the rest of Porter Wagoner Boulevard. It will take you toward Downtown West Plains. In 1.7 miles, at the second stoplight, turn left onto Broadway. In one-half mile, just past the Missouri Avenue stoplight, on the right will be the Missouri State University-West Plains Pace Industrial Science Center. The main part of the building was constructed in 1939. It originally was home to the Coca Cola - Dr. Pepper Bottling Company where Porter had a job in the mid-1940s.

Continue on Broadway and take a right at the next stoplight onto Washington Avenue. You'll be entering the Courthouse Square Historic District. Nationally designated since 2003, the district encompasses 46 contributing buildings in the heart of Downtown West Plains. They were the buildings in place when Porter's family moved to town from "the country" in the early 1940s.



4 On the second block of Washington, on the right side of the street is the Avenue Theatre, originally a movie house, now a community theatre space. It was built and opened in 1950 just one year before Porter would start his professional music career at KWTO in Springfield, Missouri.



5 Continue up Washington Avenue and onto Court Square. (Turn right, it's one-way traffic around the courthouse.) Halfway around, at 47 Court Square, you'll find Perry's Barbershop. This building was home to Sid Vaughan's Market where Porter had landed steady work as a meat cutter and where he was working when he was discovered. Enter the side of the building, on Aid Avenue, to visit Johnny Hatchets Axe Throwing & Coffee House. There's a neat display area which features some photos, taken by photographer Dennis Crider, of different times Porter (sometimes with Dolly) visited his hometown.

Sid Vaughan, owner of the market, gave Porter plenty of encouragement in his music, even allowing him to bring his guitar to work to play when business was slow. Eventually Sid started sponsoring daily live shows featuring Porter singing from the market to advertise the specials of the day. Broadcast on KWPM, the local radio station which had launched in 1947 and is still on the air today, the shows proved to be Porter's big break. A bus driver, who had a morning route through West Plains, heard the show and told a KWTO Springfield, Missouri, radio station representative that Porter was worth a listen. Lou Black from KWTO drove down to West Plains, listened to the show on his car radio in front of the market, and approached Porter about coming to work at KWTO as a staff entertainer. It was a station which had been instrumental in the careers of several big names in country music, including Chet Atkins, who had been there and left for Nashville just before Porter's arrival. Porter signed with RCA Victor records the following year.



6 Just across Aid Avenue, in the corner of the Square where the large Aid Hardware building is, you'll find an engraved commemorative plaque on the light pole in front of #9 Court Square. It honors Porter as one of our famous native sons.

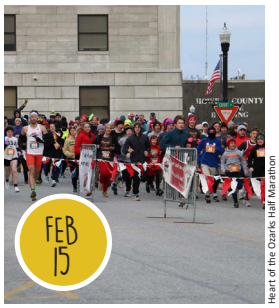


7 If you're in town at the right time, you can venture up to the Harlin Museum to see a small display of Porter memorabilia, including one of his guitars. The museum is staffed by volunteers and is typically open noon to 4 p.m., Thursdays through Sundays. On Aid Avenue, go to the second street, Worcester Avenue, and take a right. The museum is at the top of the hill, 405 Worcester.

Either way, when you're done, drive around to exit on the west side of the square (between the historic opera house and the county office building) onto West Main Street. Follow West Main for a one-half mile, passing by the campus of Missouri State University-West Plains and the historic Methodist Church. In one-half mile, bear right and you will be back on Porter Wagoner Blvd. Follow it for 2.8 miles and you will arrive back at the Welcome Center where you might want to take a selfie with our Porter Wagoner Street Sign. Post on Facebook or Instagram and tag Explore West Plains if you do!

Come back into the center, tell us you've completed the tour, and we'll enter your name in a drawing for some Welcome Center merchandise.

Some of the information for this tour came from an interview of Porter Wagoner by Michael Cochran in 1979. It appeared in the West Plains Gazette magazine Issue Number Five.



Heart of the Ozarks Half Marathon



Southern Missouri Builders Association



James Ware



Melissa Wharton



Gary Sanders



Gary Sanders



Gary Sanders



Heart of the Ozarks Fairgrounds



The Yellow House



Gary Sanders



Melissa Wharton



Gary Sanders

EVENT CALENDAR

This is just a sampling of the numerous events that West Plains has to offer throughout the year. For an up-to-date list, visit the Explore West Plains Facebook page where events are posted weekly. For a full listing of events, visit *explorewestplains.com*.

January-March
Art at OzSBI - Barbara Williams
Ozarks Small Business Incubator

January-March
Art at WPPL - HS/MS Students
West Plains Public Library

January 25
Ozark Marketing Bridal Expo
West Plains Civic Center

January 25
Game Tournament
Avenue Theatre

January 28
Non-Profit Expo & Volunteer Fair
West Plains Civic Center

February 1-March 8
Gallery Exhibit - Ann Kulpa
West Plains Civic Center Mezzanine

February 1
Native Souls in Concert
Avenue Theatre

February 8-9
TLR Gun & Knife Show
West Plains Civic Center

February 13-16 & 20-23
Live Theater - Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella
West Plains Civic Center

February 14
Lonely Hearts Karaoke
Avenue Theatre

February 15
Heart of the Ozarks Half Marathon
Downtown West Plains

February 20
Downtown Commercial Real Estate Tour
Downtown West Plains

February 21-22 & 28, March 1-2
Live Theater - The Charitable Sisterhood of the Second Trinity Victory Church
Avenue Theatre

February 28 & March 1
Home & Garden Show
West Plains Civic Center

March 8
BrewFest
West Plains Civic Center

March 10-20
Art Around Town
West Plains Civic Center Mezzanine

March 15
Cystic Fibrosis Concert
West Plains Civic Center

March 22
Battle of the Bands
West Plains Civic Center

March 29
Demolition Derby
Heart of the Ozarks Fairgrounds

April -June
Art at OzSBI - Cindy Temple
Ozarks Small Business Incubator

April-June
Art at WPPL - Honest Imagination Members
West Plains Public Library

April 12
Balloon Glow
Heart of the Ozarks Fairgrounds

April 25-27
Live Theater - Love, Law & Murder
Avenue Theatre

April 25-27
OzCon
West Plains Civic Center

May 1-9
Gallery Exhibit - BHC Mental Health Awareness
West Plains Civic Center Mezzanine

May 3
Color Run
Avenue Theatre

May 17-June 21
Gallery Exhibit - Current & Retired Art Teachers
West Plains Civic Center Mezzanine

May 17
Missouri Hunting Expo
West Plains Civic Center

May 17
Welcome to Summer Block Party
Court Square

May 24
Spring Sing Karaoke
Avenue Theatre

May 29
Downtown Commercial Real Estate Tour
Downtown West Plains

May 30 & June 1
West Plains Tattoo Expo
West Plains Civic Center

June 3-7
Heart of the Ozarks Fair
Heart of the Ozarks Fairgrounds

June 5-7
Heart of the Ozarks Bluegrass (HOBA) Spring Festival
HOBA Park

June 6
School's Out for Summer Karaoke
Avenue Theatre

June 19-22 & 26-29
Summer Musical
Avenue Theatre

July 12
Red, White & Blue
Avenue Theatre

June 19
Sounds Downtown Juneteenth Celebration
Luster Arcade

July 26
Elvis Festival
Avenue Theatre

July 26-27
TLR Gun & Knife Show
West Plains Civic Center

August 21
Sounds Downtown
Luster Arcade

August 28
Downtown Commercial Real Estate Tour
Downtown West Plains

August 30
August Bazaar
Yellow House Community Arts Center

September 13
Show-Me Show Down
West Plains Civic Center

September 18
Sounds Downtown
Luster Arcade

September 18-20
MSU-West Plains Ozarks Studies Symposium
West Plains Civic Center

September 19-21 & 26-28
Live Theater - Sherlock Holmes
Avenue Theatre

September 25-27
Heart of the Ozarks Bluegrass (HOBA) Fall Festival
HOBA Park

October 10-11 & 17-18
Live Theater - Rumplestiltskin
Avenue Theatre

October 11
Pedal the Cause
West Plains High School

October 11-12
OzFaire
TBA

October 17-18
Ozark Heritage Festival
West Plains Civic Center & Downtown West Plains

October 18
Autumn Harvest Fest & Car Show
Heart of the Ozarks Fairgrounds

October 24
Rocky Horror Picture Show
Avenue Theatre

October 31
Scare on the Square
Court Square

October 31 & November 1
FAA Spook House
Avenue Theatre

November TBA
Whiskey Fest
Historic Post Office

November 11
Veteran's Day Parade, Luncheon & Concert
Downtown West Plains & West Plains Civic Center

December 1-31
West Plains Model Railroad Club Holiday Train Display
Harlin Museum

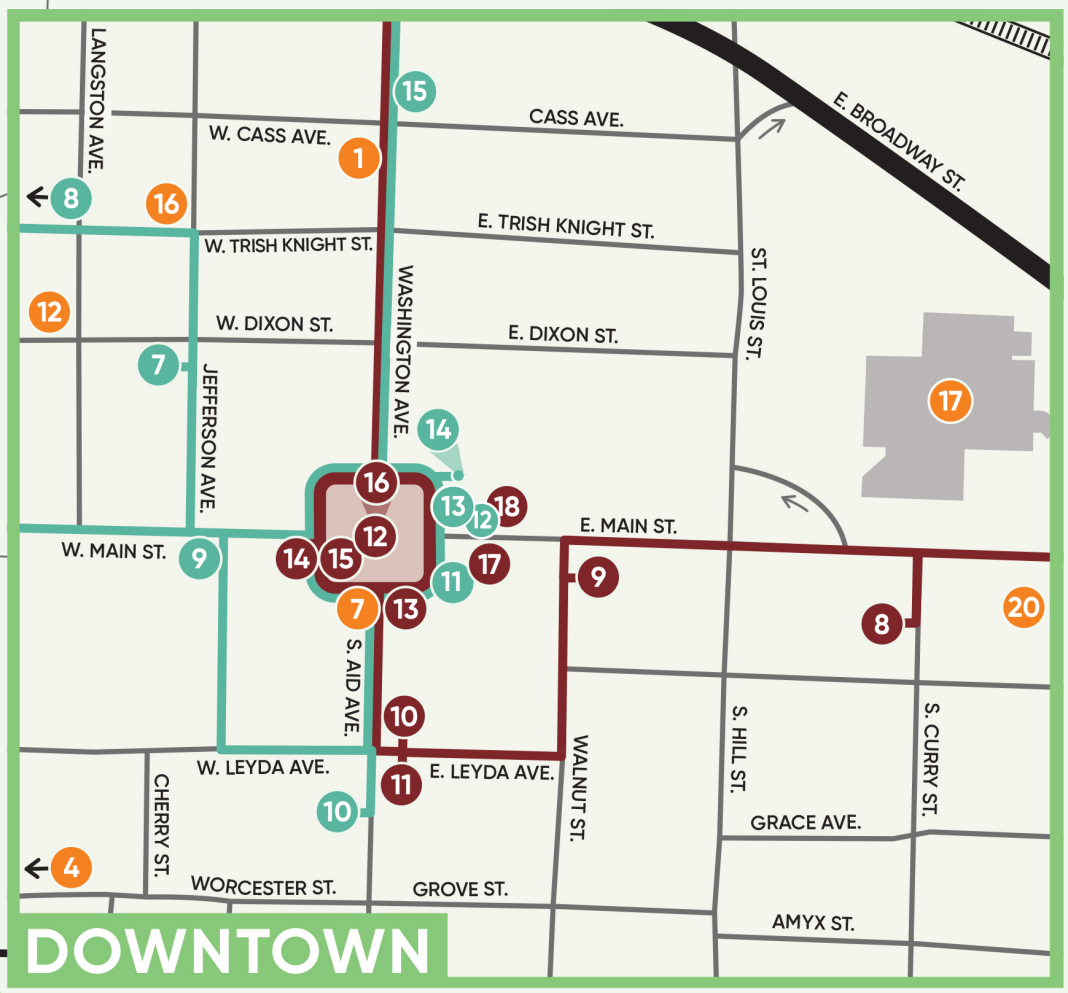
December 6-7
West Plains Optimists Arts & Crafts Show
West Plains Civic Center

December 13
Boys & Girls Club Cookies with Claus
West Plains Civic Center

December 13
Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade
Downtown West Plains

Information was correct at time of printing. Please check event website or Facebook page for updated information or cancellation.


THINGS TO DO IN WEST PLAINS
N
W
E
S
SUNSET TERRACE
WAYHAVEN AVE.
MCFARLAND LN.
HOLIDAY LN.
PORTER WAGONER BLVD.
DEATHERAGE AVE.
GIRDLEY ST.
OLD AIRPORT RD.
GALLOWAY CREEK
IMPERIAL DR.
INDEPENDENCE DR.
GIBSON AVE.
TERRA DR.
N. ALLEN ST.
ST. LOUIS ST.
JEFFERSON AVE.
WASHINGTON AVE.
JACKSON ST.
LINCOLN AVE.
GARFIELD AVE.
STEPHENS ST.
W. THORNBURGH ST.
MISSOURI AVE.
MINNESOTA AVE.
SESSON ST.
MYRTLE ST.
N. HOWEL AVE.
ALLEN ST.
E. OLDEN ST.
E. 3RD ST.
W. 6TH ST.
W. 5TH ST.
N. KENTUCKY AVE.
N. UTAH AVE.
TEXAS AVE.
NEVADA AVE.
COUNTRY CLUB DR.
JAN HOWARD EXPY.
W. 2ND ST.
W. 1ST. ST.
W. BROADWAY ST.
HALSTEAD ST.
W. CASS
WEBSTER AVE.
W. MAIN ST.
SEE INSET
E. BROADWAY ST.
E. MAIN ST.
BRATTON AVE.
HOWELL CREEK
GRACE AVE.
KENTUCKY ST.
ELMORE DR.
GARRET ST.
W. LEYDA AVE.
WORCESTER ST.
WOODLAND AVE.
S. HAZEL ST.
S. HARLIN DR.
S. ARKANSAS AVE.
SUMMIT AVE.
PIERCE ST.
CHERRY ST.
S. AID AVE.
WALNUT ST.
AMYX ST.
PROSPECT AVE.
WALKER ST.
S. HOWELL AVE.
JOHNSTON ST.
SIMPSON ST.
WOODS ST.
S. THAYER AVE.
LAMBERT LN.
E. MAPLE ST.
ALDRIDGE ST.
BUTLER AVE.
BILL VIRDON BLVD.
S. THAYER AVE.
LANTON RD.
S. HILL ST.
HYNES ST.
S. HOWELL AVE.
JOHN N. WILES DR.
SHUTTEE ST.
W. CATALPA ST.
NICHOLS DR.
ARMSTRONG ST.
PREACHER ROE BLVD.
WORLEY DR.
MONKS ST.
FARRELL ST.
SUMMERS ST.
LONDON LN.
RAMSEUR RD.
MITCHELL RD.
1770
2570
8120
8240
8490
BB
BUS
63
160
17
K



ATTRACTIONS

1. Avenue Theatre
2. "Go Farm" Farmers Market
3. Glass Sword Cinema
4. Harlin Museum
5. Heart of the Ozarks Fairgrounds
6. HOBA Bluegrass Park
7. Johnny Hatchets Axe Throwing
8. Legit Speedway
9. Lightning Bowl
10. McWilliams Pumpkin Patch (seasonal)
11. North Terra Golf Course
12. Ozarks Heritage Research Center
13. S&S Skateland
14. Super Bounce
15. Teeny Tiny Town
16. The Yellow House
17. West Plains Civic Center
18. West Plains Country Club
19. West Plains Public Library Genealogy Room
20. West Plains Senior Center
21. Witte's End Mountain Bike Trail

MURAL & ART TOUR

1. **Ozark Heritage Welcome Center**
   Greetings from West Plains Mural
   Famous West Plainsians Mural
   Wings Mural
   Eclipse Mural
   Porter Wagoner Guitar Sculpture
   Baseball Greats of West Plains Sculpture
2. **The Heights**
   Greetings from West Plains Mural
   Missouri Dogwood Mural
3. **Healthy Smiles**
   Tooth Fairy Mural
4. **Wal-Mart Supercenter**
   West Plains Mural
5. **The Truck Patch**
   Where Food Begins
   Good Health Starts With Food
   Organic Natural Market
6. **West Plains Public Library**
   Fairy Tale Mural
   Let There Be Light
7. **Christos House Resale Shop**
   Helping Hands Mural
8. **Missouri State University-West Plains**
   Grizzly Statue
   1963 Mural
   Ozarks Musical Heritage Mural
   Past, Present & Future of the Ozarks Mural
   Wagon Crossing at Fruitville Mural
9. **BURO**
   Abstract Art & Bike Mural
10. **Wildflower Cafe**
    Wildflower Mural
11. **Evans Arcade**
    Neighbors Mural
12. **Guiding Light Therapy**
    Stay Strong Mural
13. **West Plains Bank**
    Missouri Wildlife Mural
14. **Luster Arcade**
    The Protector Mural
    Release the Peace Mural
15. **Ozarks Small Business Incubator**
    Coca-Cola Mural
16. **Spring Dipper**
    Ice Cream Mural
17. **Lincoln School**
    By God's Grace Mural
    Reflection Plaza
18. **Rocky Burgess Home**
    Howell County Tribute Mural

HISTORY TOUR

1. **Rock of Ages Monument**
   Oak Lawn Cemetery
2. **Alice Farmer Risley Marker**
   Oak Lawn Cemetery
3. **Civil War Cannon Ball**
   Oak Lawn Cemetery
4. **Polly the Parrot Marker**
   Oak Lawn Cemetery
5. **Evans House**
   Grace Avenue
6. **Knoerle/Hogan House**
   Grace Avenue
7. **McFarland House**
   Grace Avenue
8. **All Saints' Episcopal Church**
   Curry Street
9. **Town Spring/Historic Post Office**
   East Main Street
10. **First Presbyterian Church**
    Aid Avenue
11. **Zorn Building**
    Aid Avenue
12. **Courthouse Square Historic District**
13. **Aid Hardware**
    Court Square
14. **Catron Opera House**
    Court Square
15. **Civil War Skirmish Site Historical Marker**
    Court Square
16. **Howell County Courthouse**
    Court Square
17. **Site of Bond Dance Hall Explosion**
    East Main Street
18. **Sheriff Kelly's Murder by the Barker Gang**
    East Main Street
19. **Lincoln School**
    Washington Avenue
20. **Sadie Brown Cemetery**
    Highway 63

PARKS

1. Butler Children's Park
2. Galloway Creek Nature Park
3. Georgia White Walking Park
4. JMB Park, Mtn. Bike Trail & Disc Golf
5. Missouri Department of Conservation
6. People's Park & Aquatic Center
7. Robert Neathery Skate Park

HOTELS

1. Baymont by Wyndham
2. Hampton Inn
3. Holiday Inn Express & Suites
4. Quality Inn
5. Super 8 by Wyndham
6. West Plains Motel

ATTRACTIONS

1 Avenue Theatre
307 Washington Ave. | (417) 256-4420


Melissa Wharton

The Avenue Theatre, featuring Art Deco details, originally opened in 1950 as a movie house. The very first film shown was Fancy Pants, starring Bob Hope and Lucille Ball. After closing in the early 1980s, the building sat empty for several years until a group of local citizens formed a not-for-profit organization, Arts on the Avenue, to oversee its renovation. The building had been purchased by a local family and was donated to the organization. Starting in the 1990s, with minimal renovation, a homemade lightboard, and tin-can footlights, plays and talent shows were held in the auditorium.

Over the years, renovation and upgrades have continued and now the building is home to community theater and hosts other events. Stage plays are held throughout the year, with a major musical production each summer.

https://theavenuetheatre.org/
https://www.facebook.com/TheAvenueTheatre

2 "Go Farm" Farmers Market
805 Worley Drive | (417) 293-0590
Endurance Church Parking Lot


Melissa Wharton

"Go Farm" Farmers Market came about from The Ozark Farmers Agricultural Cooperative (OFAC) mission to develop agricultural enterprises and market products produced by its members in the Ozarks. In addition to hosting regular market days, it accomplishes this by coordinating the marketing of member products and providing members with ongoing education for the purpose of increasing production or accessing larger markets. OFAC's mission is to develop sustainable agriculture practices and markets for the area served by OFAC, to encourage local food production, and encourage healthy eating. Support local farmers and sustainability by shopping at Go Farm!

https://www.facebook.com/gofarmwestplains

3 Glass Sword Cinema
Lanton Rd. & S. Hwy. 63 | (417) 256-8686

The Glass Sword is a locally owned and operated movie theater which has been in operation for over 40 years. Home to six screens, with upgraded seating and sound systems, the Glass Sword has 2-D and 3-D capabilities. A clean facility and friendly staff make your big screen, moviegoing experience lots of fun.

https://glasswordcinema.com/
https://www.facebook.com/glasssword

4 Harlin Museum
405 Worcester Ave. | (417) 256-7801


Melissa Wharton

The Harlin Museum is a cultural arts center which has been telling the story of the Ozarks through art and history since 1972. The museum, a not-for-profit organization, is the exclusive owner of the L.L. Broadfoot art collection, which includes the original artwork and background notes of Lennis L. Broadfoot who published a book in 1944, "Pioneers of the Ozarks," a unique portrayal of early Ozark residents. The whole collection is typically on display in the summer months, with select pieces available for viewing year-round in the gallery space of the museum. Throughout the rest of the year in the gallery there are exhibits by local artists and other installations, such as model train displays during the holiday season. A small gift shop area has items for sale, including books on regional history. In the lower level of the museum there are historical artifacts, informational displays and other memorabilia. The museum is typically open Thursdays through Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. except on holidays. It has an all-volunteer staff, so it is recommended to check ahead of time before making plans to visit due to the possibility of unscheduled closures. Message on the "Harlin Museum of West Plains" Facebook page or visit harlinmuseum.com for additional contact methods. Private tours can be arranged. There is no admission charged, but donations are accepted and welcomed as the museum's main source of funding.

https://harlinmuseum.com/
https://www.facebook.com/HarlinMuseumWP

5 Heart of the Ozarks Fairgrounds
2205 Porter Wagoner Blvd.
(417) 256-2198


Melissa Wharton

The Heart of the Ozarks Fairgrounds is the site of our community's annual summertime fair which features carnival rides on a midway and good old-fashioned country fun. But the fairgrounds hosts many other events as well. Truck and tractor pulls, rodeos, monster trucks, and demolition derbies are the kinds of attractions that you might catch at the fairgrounds. Indoor facilities are also available with occasional craft shows and other events.

https://heartoftheozarksfair.net/

6 HOBA Bluegrass Park
1138 Bluegrass Lane | (417) 257-2154



HOBA

The HOBA (Heart of the Ozarks Bluegrass Association) Bluegrass Park is an outdoor, live music venue, which was founded in 1980 to further the education and enjoyment of bluegrass music. HOBA hosts bluegrass concerts on a periodic basis, with three-day, annual spring and fall festivals as its two main events.

The park has approximately 130 RV sites, with plenty of 30-amp plug-ins and limited 50 amp. The park is open the Saturday before festivals begin, but for those who might need in sooner, call to make arrangements. HOBA does not take reservations. Sites are on a first come, first served basis. All the RV sites have electric and access to water. Many have sewer in addition to electric, and water. A dump station and shower house/bathroom facilities are available. Concession stand is open during festivals, serving up "home cooked" menus.

The performance stage is covered, but the audience area is open air. Shows are held rain or shine but postponed during extreme weather. Bring your own lawn chairs and enjoy great bluegrass music!

https://www.facebook.com/bluegrass.hoba/

7 Johnny Hatchets Axe Throwing

47 Court Square | (417) 372-0160



Johnny Hatchets

Test your skill (or luck) throwing sharp objects and making them stick! Johnny Hatchets offers a safe, fun, family environment for throwing axes of all shapes and sizes along with hatchets, tomahawks, knives, and even throwing stars. There are several lanes, similar to a bowling alley, but shorter and with a big, wooden bullseye target to hit (like an oversize dart board) instead of pins to knock down.

Individuals and groups are welcome. It's a great place for parties, events, date nights, and celebrations. Expertise and prior experience not required. Call to schedule your throwing time and for pricing.

www.facebook.com/Johnny-Hatchets-Axe-Throwing-100645255072532

8 Legit Speedway Park

10603 S. US Hwy. 63 | (417) 469-4749



Legit Speedway

Legit Speedway Park is an 80-acre motorsports facility six miles south of West Plains. The complex accommodates over 12,000 fans, racers, and crew members and is rated as one of the finest dirt track facilities in the nation. See the website for ticket pricing and information and schedule.

https://www.legitspeedway.com/
https://www.facebook.com/LegitSpeedwayPark

9 Lightning Bowl

1711 West US Hwy. 160 | (417) 255-2695



Lightning Bowl

Lightning Bowl offers a great opportunity for family fun. Open bowling is typically available on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, with limited open play on Mondays and Thursdays to accommodate leagues. Glow bowl on Friday and Saturday nights starting at 8 p.m. until 10:30. They do not reserve lanes, but you can call ahead to confirm open bowling times and lane availability.

Their concession stand food and drink menu includes pizza, burgers, sandwiches, nachos, hot dogs, and sides. Soft drinks, hot beverages, and beer are available. Check out their Facebook page for any updates in schedules and new events.

lightningbowl.wixsite.com/wp-lightningbowl
https://www.facebook.com/lightningbowlwestplainsmo

10 McWilliams Pumpkin Patch

4007 County Road 6920 | (417) 256-6470



Melissa Wharton

This locally owned and operated farm offers seasonal family fun for all ages. They are open for a few weeks in the fall, typically starting in late September and continuing through October. Before visiting, be sure to check their schedule by messaging on Facebook or calling.

The McWilliams Family started small over a decade ago, selling pumpkins and offering a few things to do on their farm. Through the years they have added more activities. Now, in a typical season, they have corn mazes, a corn hut, mini zip line, barrel train, and hayrides. They also have giant slides and a "Jumbo Jumper" big bouncer. There are farm animals to look at, a sunflower patch, concession stand, and of course, they still sell pumpkins! All sizes and shapes are available.

https://www.facebook.com/McWilliams-Pumpkin-Patch-190366094351940/?ref=page_internal

11 North Terra Golf Course

1724 N. Terra St. (off BB Highway)
(417) 256-9824



Mallory Snodgras

North Terra is an 18-hole, public golf course owned and operated by the City of West Plains. Call for information about greens fees and hours of operation. Driving range and pro shop available.

https://www.facebook.com/NorthTerraGolfCourse/

12 Ozarks Heritage Research Center

304 W. Trish Knight
(417) 255-7945



Missouri State University-West Plains

The Ozarks Heritage Research Center (OHRC) is committed to preserving the work of Ozarks scholars and authors. Materials preserved in the collection are meant to serve scholarly researchers, regional history enthusiasts, and students. To this end, OHRC is working to collect and make available documents and visual sources that represent the history and cultural heritage of the southern Missouri Ozarks. As OHRC continues to build historical and cultural collections not available anywhere else, it seeks to play a role in the broader research community.

https://wp.missouristate.edu/Ozarks/

13 S&S Skateland
1649 West US Hwy. 160 | (417) 372-8055


S&S Skateland

S&S Skateland is a family friendly skating rink that offers open skate times and special events. They have a small rink for young children and beginners, with a large rink for more experienced skaters. Concessions with seating area and pool tables available. Skateland is typically open on Fridays and Saturdays. Call or message on Facebook for pricing and hours of operation.

https://www.facebook.com/sandsskateland

14 Super Bounce
1659 Porter Wagoner Blvd. | (417) 256-5405

Super Bounce is an indoor venue which has inflatable bounce houses, slides, arcade games, concession stand and other activities. Contact them for hours of operation or to schedule a private event.

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61560741257954

15 Teeny Tiny Town
919 Preacher Roe | (417) 257-9811


Teeny Tiny Town

Teeny Tiny Town offers a safe and stimulating indoor playground where children can thrive. Their focus is on enhancing motor skills, communication, and imagination through exploration and social interaction.

https://teenytinytownllc.com/

16 The Yellow House
209 W. Trish Knight Street


Melissa Wharton

The Yellow House is a volunteer organization devoted to promoting the arts and education in the Ozarks as a venue for local art and music. Check the Yellow House Facebook page for upcoming events.

https://www.facebook.com/TheYellowHouseWP

17 West Plains Civic Center
110 St. Louis Street | (417) 256-8087



City of West Plains

The West Plains Civic Center is a popular multi-purpose facility which hosts everything from concerts to circuses, stage shows to athletic events, and much more. With a 3500-seat arena, a 10,000-square-foot exhibit hall, and a performing arts theater, the Civic Center has a full schedule. Local art exhibits are frequently on display on the mezzanine *Gallery at the Center.* It is also home to various events which extend to its outdoor spaces, including the annual Ozark Heritage Festival. There are multiple large and small meeting rooms which are available for rent. Activities at the Civic Center for visitors range from Grizzly Basketball and Volleyball games to periodic stage shows which are as varied as magic acts, kids' entertainment, and comedy. There is also an indoor pool and fitness center available.

https://westplains.gov/events/category/civic-center/
https://www.facebook.com/wpciviccenter

18 West Plains Country Club
1402 Country Club Drive
(417) 256-7197


West Plains Country Club

The West Plains Country Club was established in 1926 and is a full-service event center. Membership options are available ranging from golfing to different levels of involvement in social activities. There is a non-resident member opportunity. Amenities include an 18-hole golf course, restaurant, bar, swimming pool, and two regulation-size tennis courts.

https://wpcountryclub.com/
https://www.facebook.com/wpcclub

19 West Plains Public Library Genealogy Room
750 W. Broadway | (417) 256-4775



City of West Plains

The West Plains Public Library Genealogy Room offers numerous resources for genealogical research and study for several states. There are local newspapers dating back to 1907. Some Civil War information is available on microfilm. Books and publications on American genealogy, Howell County Post Offices, area histories, county histories, family histories, cemetery records, Ridgerunner Magazines, West Plains Gazette magazines, and Zizzer annuals are available along with marriage records and census information.

https://www.westplainslibrary.org/

20 West Plains Senior Center
416 E. Main | (417) 256-4055



West Plains Daily Quill

The senior center offers a variety of programming and activities. There are many services for seniors, but the facility aims to involve community members of all ages, encouraging friendship, fun, and healthy living across generations. Lunch is served Mondays through Fridays, and the community room is also available for rent for events outside regular hours.

https://www.facebook.com/WestPlainsSeniorCenter

21 Witte's End Mountain Bike Trail
Buck Park Road, State Route BB


West Plains Bike Shop

Witte's End Mountain Bike Trail is a 3.7-mile mixed use trail just minutes from West Plains in the JMB Park. Local mountain bike enthusiasts meet weekly for a group ride, and the trail is available dawn to dusk.

https://www.facebook.com/westplainsbikeshop

MURAL & ART TOUR

1 Ozark Heritage Welcome Center
2999 Porter Wagoner Blvd.

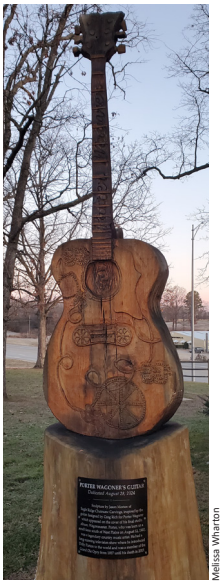


Ron Murphy

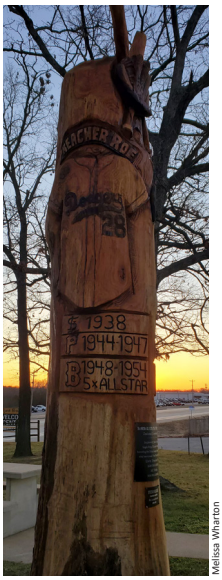
Greetings from West Plains Mural
Features images in and around West Plains and the Missouri State Bird and motto. *(Artist: Melissa Wharton)*


Melissa Wharton

Wings Mural Look closely for images relating to West Plains. *(Artist: Laura Driskell)*


Melissa Wharton

Porter Wagoner's Guitar Sculpture
When a large oak tree died, this sculpture was created. Inspired by the guitar designed by Greg Rich for Porter Wagoner's final studio album. *(Artist: Jason Morton, Eagle Ridge Chainsaw Carvings)*


Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton

Baseball Greats of West Plains Sculpture
Turning another lost tree into art, this sculpture honors Preacher Roe, Bill Virdon and Tedd Gullic. *(Artist: Jason Morton, Eagle Ridge Chainsaw Carvings)*



Melissa Wharton

Welcome to West Plains Canoe A laser-cut canoe greets visitors above the entrance to the welcome center. *(Artist: Bob Parker)*


Terry Hampton

Famous West Plainsians Mural Mural features Bill Virdon, Dick Van Dyke, Jan Howard, Preacher Roe, and Porter Wagoner. Pictured is West Plains area resident Dennis "Haxaw" Bottoms who toured and played with Porter Wagoner, Dolly Parton and other well-known musicians. *(Artist: Michael McClure)*

2 The Heights
2105 Hubert Redburn Drive



Melissa Wharton

Greetings from West Plains
Bright and trendy and seen from over a mile away! *(Artist: Cory McMahon)*



Melissa Wharton

Missouri Dogwood Mural
Giant state mural. *(Artist: Victoria Carey)*

3 Healthy Smiles Dental
1710 W. Broadway



Laura Driskell

Tooth Fairy Mural
Line art with a message. *(Artist: Laura Driskell)*

4 Wal-Mart Supercenter
1310 Preacher Roe Blvd.



Melissa Wharton

West Plains Mural
Featuring local wildlife and our West Plains Zizzers. *(Artist: Dan Ricketts)*

5 The Truck Patch
412 Porter Wagoner



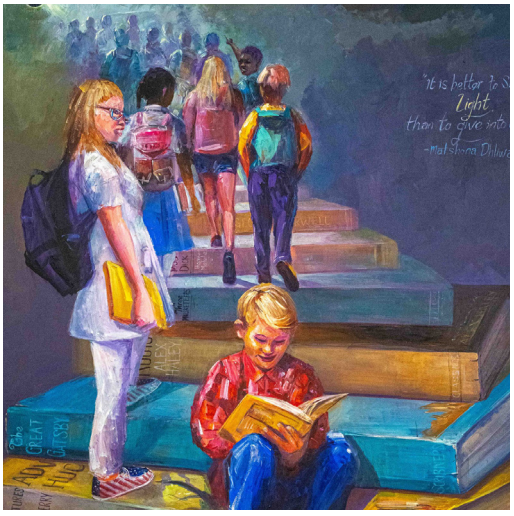
Melissa Wharton

Several murals inside and out in a store that used to be home to Preacher Roe's Market. *(Artists: Cindy Temple, Kathy Grigsby)*

6 West Plains Public Library
750 W. Broadway

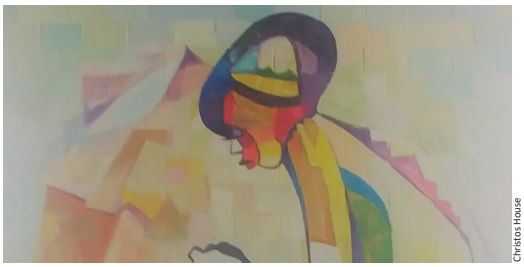

Terry Hampton

Fairy Tale Mural Sweet, colorful mural in the children's section. *(Artist: Mary-Louise Grisham Nash)*


Melissa Wharton

Let There Be Light Mural Painted to commemorate the total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024. *(Artist: Dr. Bolaji Ogunwo)*

7 Christos House Resale Shop
125 Jefferson


Christos House

Helping Hands Mural Painted during a Domestic Violence Awareness event in 2021. *(Artist: Dr. Bolaji Ogunwo)*

8 Missouri State University-West Plains
Various locations around campus


MSU-West Plains

Grizzly Statue This 10-foot, 1,385-pound bronze sculpture was dedicated in 2003. *(Artist: Dr. Robert R. Taylor)*



Dakota Bates

1963 Mural 1963 Lounge inside Hass-Darr Hall. *(Artist: Laura Driskell)*


Melissa Wharton

Ozarks Musical Heritage Mural Located at the Creative Discovery Center at Drago Hall. *(Artist: Michael McClure)*



Melissa Wharton

Past, Present & Future of the Ozarks This large-scale mural is inside the Garnett Library on the MSU-WP campus. *(Artist: Paul Jones)*


Melissa Wharton

Wagon Crossing at Fruitville This 6x20 foot mural is displayed inside the Ozarks Heritage Research Center on the MSU-WP campus. *(Artist: Farley Lewis)*

9 BURO
202 West Main Street



Laura Driskell

Art deco pays homage to the West Plains Bike Route. *(Artist: Laura Driskell)*

10 Wildflower Cafe'
207 South Aid Ave.


Melissa Wharton

Cafe' helps local high school special education students learn job skills. *(Artist: Forrest Ogden)*

11 Evans Arcade
6 Court Square

Neighbors give a friendly greeting from their windows in the Evans Arcade. *(Artist: Michael McClure)*



Melissa Wharton

12 Guiding Light Therapy
203 E. Main



Melissa Wharton

Wings mural witha great message: Stay Strong, You Matter. *(Artist: Emily Rae)*

13 West Plains Bank
11 Court Square

Features wildlife and plant life in 1978. *(Artist: Gary R. Lucy)*



Melissa Wharton



Jeff Tune

A collaboration of two artists stretching across decades. *(Artist: Dr. Bolaji Ogunwo, inspired by a Charles E. Kimberlin, II painting)*

14 Luster Arcade
14 Court Square

"The Protector," a massive-scale mural, was officially unveiled in late 2022 on the north wall of 14 Court Square in Luster Arcade.

The mural represents a beautiful collaboration between two artists stretching across decades to create a work of art which is breathtaking in both scope and meaning.

"The Protector" is based on a portrait by late local artist Charles E. Kimberlin II. The name was given to the original portrait by its current owners Crockett and Tonya Oaks, who commissioned the mural as owners of the building upon which it is painted.

Charles E. Kimberlin, II was a 1936 graduate of West Plains High School and longtime downtown business owner. During the dedication of the new mural, Kimberlin's son, Charles E. Kimberlin III, recalled that his father began painting as a hobby and did not have aspirations of selling his work, although many of his works were eventually sold. The artist responsible for the larger-than-life mural is Dr. Bolaji Ogunwo, a Nigerian artist who has more than 50 international art exhibitions to his credit. He currently is a studio artist and painting lecturer at the Department of Creative Arts, University of Lagos, Akoka, in Nigeria.

Dr. Ogunwo worked tirelessly for 10 days to recreate Kimberlin's original portrait while infusing touches of his own artistic style.

"The Protector" is not Dr. Ogunwo's only mural to adorn a wall in West Plains: In 2021, Crockett and Tonya Oaks commissioned a mural, "Helping Hands," that now graces an interior wall of Christos House West Plains Resale. In 2023, "Release the Peace" was added next to "The Protector." In 2024, he painted large canvases for the West Plains Public Library and Lincoln School.

"I have been many places in the states," said Dr. Ogunwo, "but West Plains is my second home."

From an article by Chris Herbolsheimer, West Plains Daily Quill

14 Luster Arcade
14 Court Square



Melissa Wharton

Release the Peace Mural Companion piece to The Protector. *(Artist: Dr. Bolaji Ogunwo)*

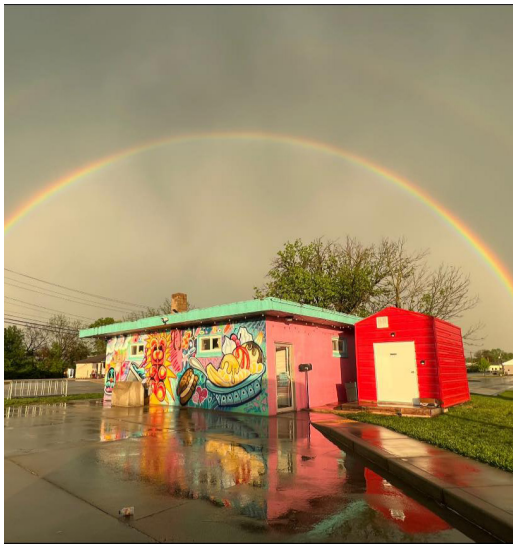
15 Ozarks Small Business Incubator (OZSBI)
408 Washington Ave.



Melissa Wharton

This Coca-Cola sign was brought back to life in 2021. *(Artist: Sandra Pemberton)*

16 Spring Dipper
675 Missouri Ave.



Spring Dipper

Spray paint graffiti art. *(Artist: Mike Devine)*

17 Lincoln School
1400 E. Pony Thomas Street



Lincoln School

By God's Grace Mural Mural depicting what the one-room schoolhouse classroom in Lincoln School could have looked like. Lincoln School was built in 1926 and closed in 1954 after the Supreme Court decision ruling segregation as unconstitutional.

18 Rocky Burgess property
4417 Highway 63, Pomona



Melissa Wharton

Howell County Tribute Mural
Sign of gratitude to those who serve our country. *(Artist: Sandra Pemberton)*

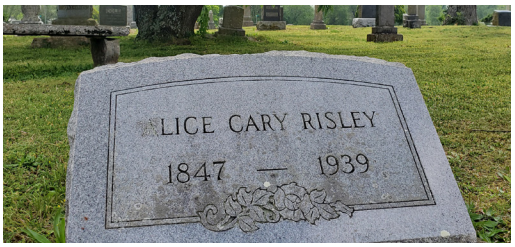
HISTORY TOUR

1 "Rock of Ages" Monument
Oak Lawn Cemetery
East Maple & Evans Street entrance


Melissa Wharton

This monument was erected October 6, 1929, to mark the mass grave for the unidentified dead from a Friday the 13th, April 1928, explosion which destroyed the Bond Dance Hall where many area residents were enjoying an evening of music and dancing. While 19 were unidentified, there are 20 bodies buried at this site. One of the victims, a woman named Mabel Riley, had been identified, but her family chose to bury her with her husband who was among the unidentified dead. A total of 38 people died outright, with another dying of his injuries days later. Dubbed the "West Plains Dance Hall Explosion," the unexplained blast could be heard 26 miles away, and the event made national and international news. It remains to this day one of the deadliest dance hall disasters in U.S. history. (See additional information about the explosion on page 17, item #17 on the history tour.)

2 Alice Farmer Risley Marker & Bench
Oak Lawn Cemetery
Near Amyx & Lanton



Melissa Wharton

Before she died in 1931, Alice Farmer Risley was the last known surviving Civil War nurse. Alice had volunteered as a nurse for the Union in New Orleans. Following the war's end, she married former patient, Samuel Risley, and the two moved to West Plains where Samuel established the South Missouri Journal newspaper. Samuel and Alice also served as Postmaster and Assistant Postmaster. Alice wrote of her days in West Plains, and much of our early history is preserved because of her.

3 Civil War Cannon Ball
Oak Lawn Cemetery
Near corner of Mark & Evans


Melissa Wharton

Local legend has it that this cannon ball is the one that struck the original Howell County Courthouse during the West Plains Civil War skirmish in February 1862. During the war, West Plains was completely abandoned by its inhabitants, and only a handful of people remained in the entire county. Most who left the area returned to rebuild when the war was over.

4 Polly the Parrot Marker
Oak Lawn Cemetery
Near Evans & Amyx



Melissa Wharton

This oldest area of the cemetery is the final resting place for many of the prominent early citizens of West Plains, including the Langstons and their parrot, Polly, the only known non-human buried in Oak Lawn. Polly was the pet of Dr. Thomas and Laura Bradford of Marshfield, Mo. On April 18, 1880, a tornado killed nearly 100 people in Marshfield, including Dr. Bradford. Following his death, Polly would so often ask, "Hey, ma. Where's pa?" that the grief-stricken widow sent the parrot to live with her daughter, Sallie Bradford Langston, in West Plains where Polly lived out her days as a well-known, local "celebrity." In 2023, Polly was recognized by the Pomeroy Foundation, added to their Legends & Lore program, and honored with a roadside marker.

5 Evans House | Grace Ave.


Melissa Wharton

Built in the 1880s, six generations of the Evans family have lived, and continue to live, in the Evans house.

6 Knoerle/Hogan House | Grace Ave.


Melissa Wharton

This house was completed in 1897 by Joseph Knoerle, the superintendent of a nearby 114-acre peach orchard. The next owners were Dr. Robert Hogan and his wife. One street over, north of Grace Ave., was the Christa Hogan Hospital. Named in honor of his mother, Robert established the hospital in a building that had formerly housed West Plains College. That structure is gone – Ozark Action is now located on the site – but it is where Dr. Hogan delivered Dick Van Dyke on Dec. 13, 1925.

7 McFarland House | Grace Ave.


Melissa Wharton

On the other side of the street is the house built by John Henry McFarland and his wife, Egbertine Green McFarland, granddaughter of Union Brigadier General Egbert B. Brown who died in the McFarland home on Feb. 12, 1902. Current owners are in the process of restoring the home from the foundation up, as you can see by its present condition.

8 All Saints' Episcopal Church
Curry Street


Melissa Wharton

Built in 1888, little has changed since the cornerstone of All Saints' was laid. One of the oldest public buildings in the area, the church is considered second in West Plains public building age only to the First Presbyterian Church.

9 Town Spring/Historic Post Office
East Main Street



Melissa Wharton

Under the Historic Post Office building (which previously also served as the town library and is currently a privately owned event center) runs the spring where members of the Howell family settled in October of 1839. West Plains is the county seat of Howell County, namesake of that pioneer family. In the early to mid-1800s "hardly a stick of timber grew within sight of the spring, only tall blue stem prairie grass." This historical note offers the reason for our town's eventual name, based on "the plains west of Thomasville," a neighboring Oregon County community which was established with a post office in 1846, two years before West Plains gained its post office in 1848.

10 First Presbyterian Church
Aid Avenue



Melissa Wharton

The First Presbyterian Church is believed to be the oldest public structure in Howell County. The front portion of the church is original, built in 1885 at a cost of $4,000. In 1910, the back portion of the building was added, with a further addition on the north side in 1978. The stained glass, original to the building, underwent restoration in 2018 as part of an extensive preservation project by the congregation.

11 Zorn Building | Aid Avenue



Melissa Wharton

The W.J. Zorn building was built in 1912 by Will Zorn, publisher of the Howell County Gazette newspaper. The newspaper work was done downstairs, and the family lived upstairs. This arrangement continued over the years as the building changed hands, housing different businesses and families, including long-time owners Russ and Shirley Cochran. Russ, who died in 2020, was a noted publisher in the comic art industry and of the West Plains Gazette historical magazine. The family also owned several chimpanzees over the years and had large exterior cages installed to house them. The building is currently owned by a local attorney.

12 Courthouse Square Historic District



Melissa Wharton

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2003, the entire Historic District sits on approximately 11.5 acres and contains 46 historic buildings, ranging in age from 1881-1950. Not all are included on the route of this tour. The average age of the court square buildings, not including the courthouse or the newer bank building and county office building, is 115 years.

13 Aid Hardware
1 Court Square



Melissa Wharton

The Aid building was built in 1914 after the first one was destroyed by fire. After the fire, the 42,000-square-foot structure was built with a state-of-the art sprinkler system on every floor, designed to be as fireproof as possible. Records show the construction cost to be $25,000, a huge sum in 1914. After 105 years in business, Aid Hardware closed in 1990, and the Aid family opened an antique mall in the building which operated until 2024.

14 Catron Opera House
37 Court Square



Melissa Wharton

Built in 1893, the Opera House served as the cultural and entertainment center for the town, including plays, music, and in later years, as an upstairs basketball court. Its construction followed the prosperity of the railroad. The first train arrived in West Plains on Christmas Day 1883 and ushered in a population explosion. In 1880, West Plains had a population of 350. Over the next decade the population grew to 2,091.

15 Civil War Skirmish Site Historical Marker | West Side of Court House



Melissa Wharton

The only confrontation which occurred between Union and Confederate regulars in Howell County was at this site on Feb. 19, 1862. Six Confederate infantrymen were killed, eight wounded, and 40 taken prisoner. There were no Union casualties. The population of West Plains at that time was 150. By 1863 West Plains was burned to the ground by guerilla fighters. Information about the skirmish can be found on the marker or from official Civil War records, available in an exhaustive Civil War history on the Ohio State University website: *https://ehistory.osu.edu/books/official-records/008/0067*

16 Howell County Courthouse
Court Square



David Johnston

This courthouse, completed in 1937, is the fourth courthouse for the county. The first courthouse was destroyed during the Civil War. The second one burned, taking with it the county records that had been hidden and protected throughout the war. The third courthouse was damaged so badly in the Bond Dance Hall explosion that it had to be torn down.

17 Site of Bond Dance Hall Explosion
East Main Street



Melissa Wharton

The building at 10 Court Square was constructed in 1916 and was the second home of West Plains Bank. The bank, established in 1883, holds the distinction of being the longest continuously operated business in town. Just behind it is the lot where the Bond Dance Hall was located above Weiser Motor Company. On Friday the 13th, April 1928, a massive explosion destroyed the dance hall and two adjoining buildings, damaging several others. Thirty-nine people were killed and at least 23 were injured. The resulting property damage was estimated at the time to be $250,000, over $4.6 million in today's currency. After extensive investigation, no exact cause was determined for the blast, but the motor company's owner, J.N. Weiser, was found dead behind the building with the doorknob to the garage's back door in his hand, only adding to the mystery. In February 2022, a fire gutted another building which had been constructed on the site several years after the explosion. When the building was demolished, this West Plains Bank sign was revealed. Evidence of the explosion is still visible in the rafters of the bank building.

18 Sheriff Kelly's Murder by the Ma Barker Gang | East Main Street


David Johnston

Just across the street from the Dance Hall explosion site is where Sheriff C. Roy Kelly was shot and killed on Dec. 19, 1931, minutes after exiting what was then the brand-new West Plains Post Office. As he exited the post office, the sheriff was quietly tipped off by the owner of Davidson Motor Company, located across the street, that three men having tires repaired seemed suspicious and were wearing clothes that looked like items taken from a recent robbery from C.C. McCallon's store. Sheriff Kelly stepped to his car to get his gun, slipping it under his coat. As he crossed East Main to question the men, Alvin Karpis, a member of the Ma Barker Gang, shot Sheriff Kelly, and the gang members fled in their car. It would be four and a half years before Karpis was tracked down and arrested by FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover.

19 Lincoln School
1400 E. Pony Thomas Street


Lincoln School

The West Plains African American community developed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries around the north end of Washington Avenue where the Lincoln School is located. First built in 1890, Lincoln School was rebuilt around 1920. It is this structure that continues to stand. The one-room building was the only African American educational facility in Howell County. It offered instruction only through the 8th grade.

In 1955 West Plains schools were desegregated, and classes were discontinued at Lincoln. However, as it had since its inception, the structure continued to serve as an important community meeting spot for African Americans in West Plains. Eventually, the building was used infrequently and fell into some disrepair. A major renovation project was undertaken in 2023 by West Plains residents Crockett and Tonya Oaks, who purchased the building from the City of West Plains. They are returning the building to its original use as an educational and cultural center. As development continues, art installations are already part of the project, including a large mural in the building and the Reflection Plaza on the east lawn. While founded during times of segregation, the newly renovated building is available for use by all.

20 Sadie Brown Cemetery
Jct Highways 63 & 14



West Plains Daily Quill

Established in the late 19th century, the cemetery rests on the homestead of Saint Leger "Sadie" Brown, a Methodist minister who had been enslaved. It is one of the only burial grounds established for the Black community in Howell County. Some of the graves are marked, but others are not. A research project is currently underway to identify unmarked graves and a recent grant will help in the quest to provide headstones.



Visit *unlocktheozarks.org* for a list of key locations and other historical information about the Ozarks.

Plenty of free parking in our downtown area is available on street or in several off-street parking lots. Watch for parking area signage.

PARKS

1 Butler Children's Park
Corner of Broadway & Halstead


Melissa Wharton

A music-themed splash pad and an all-inclusive playground are the centerpiece of this park which is dedicated to children's activities and good times for families. In addition to this wonderful, water-fun feature, the park has playground equipment which was installed in 2006 when the park was remodeled. There is also a large pavilion, available on a first come, first serve basis, which is great for parties and get-togethers. Other amenities include walking trail, restrooms, picnic tables, benches, and trash receptacles.

2 Galloway Creek Nature Park
2804 County Rd. 1770


Melissa Wharton

Galloway Creek Nature Park is a 40-acre tract featuring a 5.3-mile-long tributary creek that runs through the property. Areas in the park serve as a "green area" for wildlife, maintaining the natural habitat of native plants and animals. A covered bridge crosses the creek as part of the walking trail through the park. Other amenities include a restroom, a play area, barbecue grills, and picnic tables. A large pavilion is available for reservation.

3 Georgia White Walking Park
Thornburgh Street
Between Minnesota & Missouri


Bob Anderson

The Georgia White Walking Park features a lit .4-mile blacktopped walking track and greenspace. The park is named in honor of Georgia White, who in 1989 donated a portion of the land behind her home to the city of West Plains to develop a walking park.

As an interesting historical note, included in the park's tree population is a special tulip popular. Standing tall in the middle of the Georgia White Walking Park is an offspring of a tulip poplar that George Washington planted in 1775 at Mount Vernon, Virginia. The Missouri Department of Conservation, with assistance from the West Plains Rotary Club, planted the offspring tree April 3, 1991.

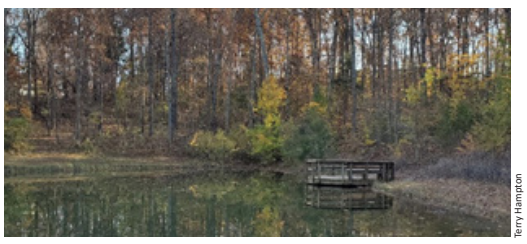
4 JMB Park | BB Highway



Melissa Wharton

The JMB Park's main attraction is a disc golf course and a 3.7-mile, mixed use mountain bike trail. A small pavilion is available on a first come, first serve basis, and a larger, 3,500-square-foot pavilion can be reserved. Other amenities include picnic tables, barbecue grills, and restroom facilities.

5 Missouri Department of Conservation
551 Joe Jones Blvd.


Terry Hampton

The MDC Ozark Regional Office and recreational area is a 20-acre hidden gem right in the city limits of West Plains. It features a park, walking trails, a nature area that includes an educational pond, with a catch-and-release fishing opportunity for children 15 and younger from May to September. In addition to the trail and pond, the area has a backyard feeder/bird viewing area and pollinator-benefiting landscaping surrounding the building, with a picnic table and benches. In the office lobby, children can interact with a life-sized tent, draw and color outdoor photos at a picnic table, and view the native fish aquarium. Free MDC publications are available at this location.

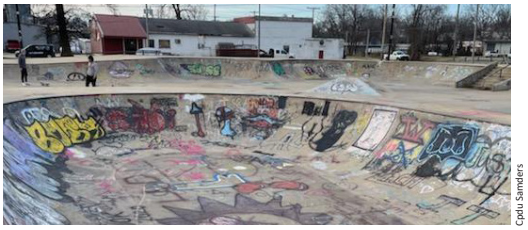
6 People's Park/Aquatic Center
1136 W. Broadway St.


Cody Sanders

A large pavilion – 4,500 square feet – is at the heart of People's Park, but there are also picnic tables, barbecue grills, a short walking trail, a tennis court, and a basketball court. Restroom facilities are available. There is no charge to use park facilities, but there is a fee to reserve the pavilion for organized events.

The aquatic center consists of two swimming pools, including a large lap pool. The smaller pool is a zero-entrance pool and equipped with a mother's bench in the water, a mushroom waterfall, a frog slide for smaller children, and a large water slide located at the opposite end of the pool.

7 Robert Neathery Skate Park
349 E. First Street


Cpdu Sanders

The Robert Neathery Skate Park provides in-line and skateboard enthusiasts a layout designed especially for their sport, offering features to match all skill levels. In addition to the concrete skate areas, the park has a small pavilion.

HOTELS

1 Baymont Inn by Wyndham
1605 Imperial Drive
(417) 204-5114



Feel the comforts of home at Baymont Inn & Suites. Situated just off Highway 63, the hotel is in a quiet neighborhood, offering indoor pool, hot tub, and fitness center. Complimentary Wi-Fi and business center are included in amenities. Baymont is a non-smoking, pet-friendly hotel which has RV parking available and a full range of accessibility features.

2 Hampton Inn
1064 London Lane
(417) 255-0442



Hampton Inn is on Highway 63, next door to plenty of shopping and dining options at the Southern Hills Shopping Center and just 15 minutes away from the Legit Speedway Park. Enjoy free Wi-Fi, indoor pool, and fitness center. A business center and meeting rooms are available along with non-smoking rooms and ADA-guideline accessibility throughout the facility.

3 Holiday Inn Express & Suites
1301 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 257-3000



Set among casual restaurants in a commercial area off highways 63 and 160, Holiday Inn offers luxurious and modern accommodations with an indoor pool and work-out facility. A 24-hour business center and meeting rooms are available. Guest rooms feature complimentary Wi-Fi, Keurig brewer, refrigerator, microwave, and in-room safe. Small pets are allowed.

4 Quality Inn
220 Jan Howard Expressway
(417) 257-2711



A stay at Quality Inn offers a central location with convenient routes to downtown, local attractions, and outlying shopping areas. On Highway 63, this informal roadside inn provides free Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs, mini fridges, microwaves, and tea and coffeemaking facilities. There's also an indoor pool, a communal hot tub, and an exercise room.

5 Super 8 by Wyndham
1210 Porter Wagoner Blvd.
(417) 204-5728



Stop in at Super 8 for value and a convenience. Not far from the West Plains Civic Center and other local attractions and amenities, it offers an ideal location off Routes 63 and 160. Wi-Fi, large-vehicle parking spaces, along with coffee and tea served 24/7 in the lobby are all free. It's pet friendly and has accessible and non-smoking rooms available.

6 West Plains Motel
505 Porter Wagoner Blvd.
(417) 256-4105



You've tried other options, but you haven't fully experienced what hometown motel accommodations feel like until you stay with West Plains Motel. Rest your head and your budget with high-quality, low-cost lodging in this family-owned and operated motel which offers plenty of mid-century charm along with modern amenities, including free Wi-Fi.

WEST PLAINS IN FILM & LITERATURE

Of the published authors who live in or are from West Plains, none have gained more widespread acclaim than long-time resident Daniel Woodrell who has written nine novels, most of them set in the Missouri Ozarks. Three of them have been adapted for feature films. *Woe to Live On* (1987) was adapted for the 1999 film, *Ride with the Devil*, directed by Ang Lee; *Tomato Red* (1998) was adapted for a 2017 film by the same name; and most famously, his novel *Winter's Bone* (2006) was adapted for film and released commercially in 2010. After winning two awards at the Sundance Film Festival, *Winter's Bone* went on to receive four Academy Award nominations, including for Best Picture. The film is also known as the breakthrough role for Jennifer Lawrence who was nominated for Best Actress for her portrayal of lead character, Ree Dolly. Local musician and singer Marideth Sisco and the band Blackberry Winter had songs featured in the film. Woodrell was a favorite author of the late Anthony Bourdain. Because of that admiration, Season 7, Episode 5, of Bourdain's *No Reservations* travel and food show was filmed in West Plains in 2010.

Lost Child is a feature film helmed by Los Angeles-based director Ramaa Mosley. Filmed entirely on location in and around West Plains, it was released in 2017 and originally titled *Tatterdemalion,* a folklore reference explained in the film. It stars Leven Rambin (credits include *The Hunger Games*) as Fern Sreaves; Taylor John Smith (*Where the Crawdads Sing*) as Billy Sreaves; and Jim Parrack (*True Blood* and *Suicide Squad*) as Mike Rivers. Local residents round out the cast.

Lost Child is about an army veteran, Fern, who returns home to the Ozarks to look for her brother and finds an abandoned boy in the woods. As she searches for answers about who the child is, she discovers a mysterious world of folklore and deceit. There are twists and turns along the way before an unexpected ending is revealed. The screen play was written by Ramaa and Tim Macy who has family connections in the West Plains area. *Lost Child* is available on streaming services and offers a glimpse not only of our town – not the most beautiful parts, by the way! – but also some of the surrounding outdoor scenery.



ADVENTURE AWAITS!

With West Plains as your base, start exploring our beautiful Ozarks using these suggested day trip routes or plan out your own adventure using our map and key on pages 26-29. No matter what time of year of your visit, you are sure to see why we call this beautiful place home.

Melissa Wharton

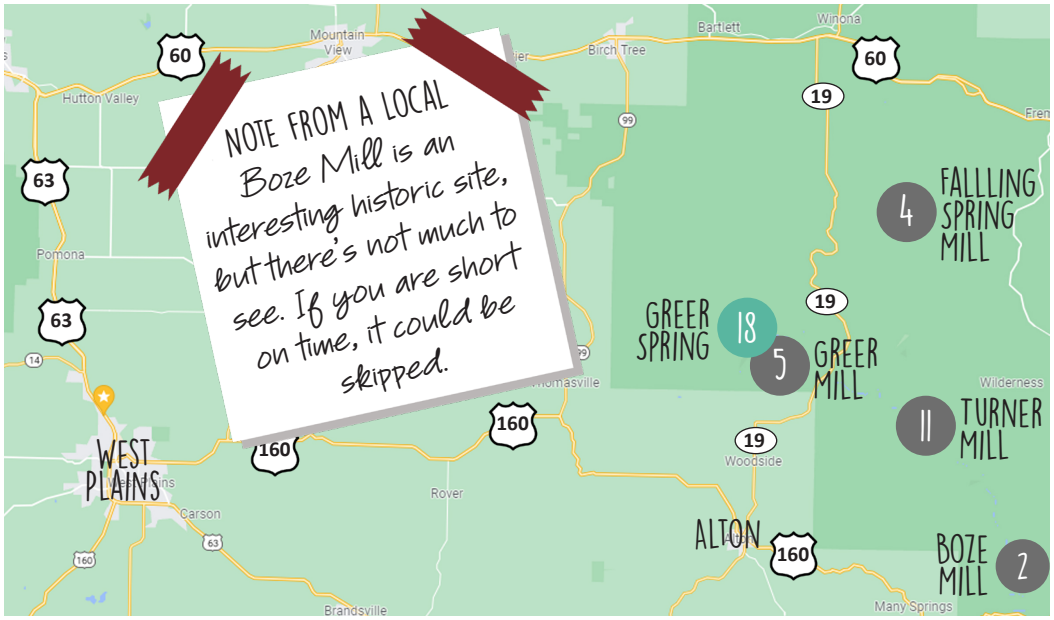
DAY TRIP ROUTES

Take the roads less traveled through our beautiful Ozarks to explore historic mills, crystal-clear springs, scenic byways, and miles of trails. No matter what the season, you are sure to be amazed at the natural splendor around you.

Choose from several Day Trip Routes listed on pages 21-25 or make your own path using the map and information about all there is to see and do on pages 26-70.

Happy exploring!

EASTERN MILLS 156.2 total miles



50 miles to Boze Mill: *Take Highway 160 east toward Alton. Stay on Highway 160 in Alton and travel 14 miles. Turn left on County Road 152. Boze Mill will be ahead in 2.4 miles.*

24.4 miles to Greer Spring Trail: *Leave Boze Mill and take County Road 152 back to Highway 160. Turn right on Highway 160 and drive to Alton. In Alton, turn left on Highway 19 north. Go 8 miles and the parking area for Greer Spring and Trail will be on your left. (It is a 0.9 mile hike to the spring.)*

.5 miles to Greer Mill: *Continue on Highway 19 to the mill. It is on the left and easy to miss. There is not much of a parking area at the mill.*

11.6 miles to Turner Mill: *Continue on Highway 19 for 3 miles. Turn right on County Road 3152. Go 6 miles then turn right on County Road 3190 for another 2.6 miles to a small parking area.*

16.7 miles to Falling Spring Mill: *Backtrack to Highway 19 then turn right. Travel for 5.5 miles to County Road 156 and turn right. Go left at the fork and in 2.6 miles, the parking area will be on your right.*

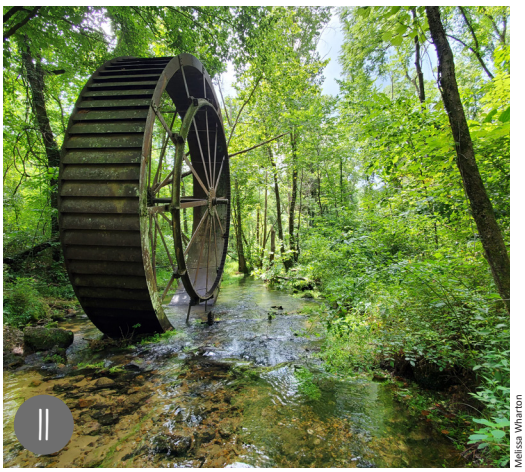
53 miles to West Plains: *Backtrack to Highway 19, then turn right and continue to Highway 60. Turn left on Highway 60. In 34 miles, take left ramp for Highway 63 South to West Plains.*



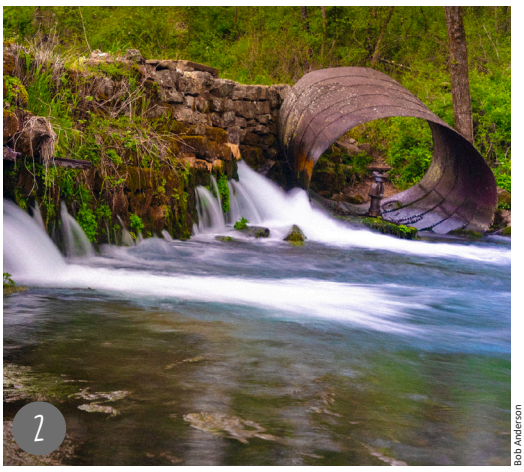
Melissa Wharton



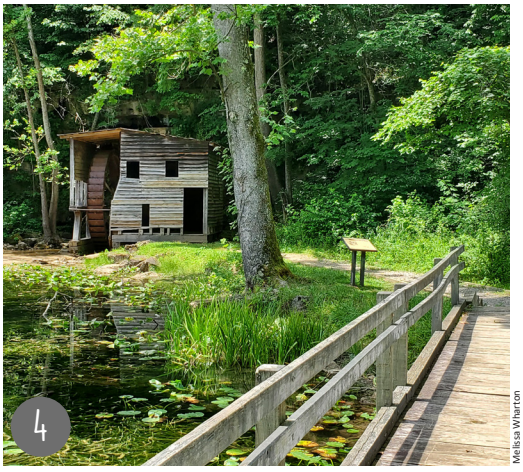
Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



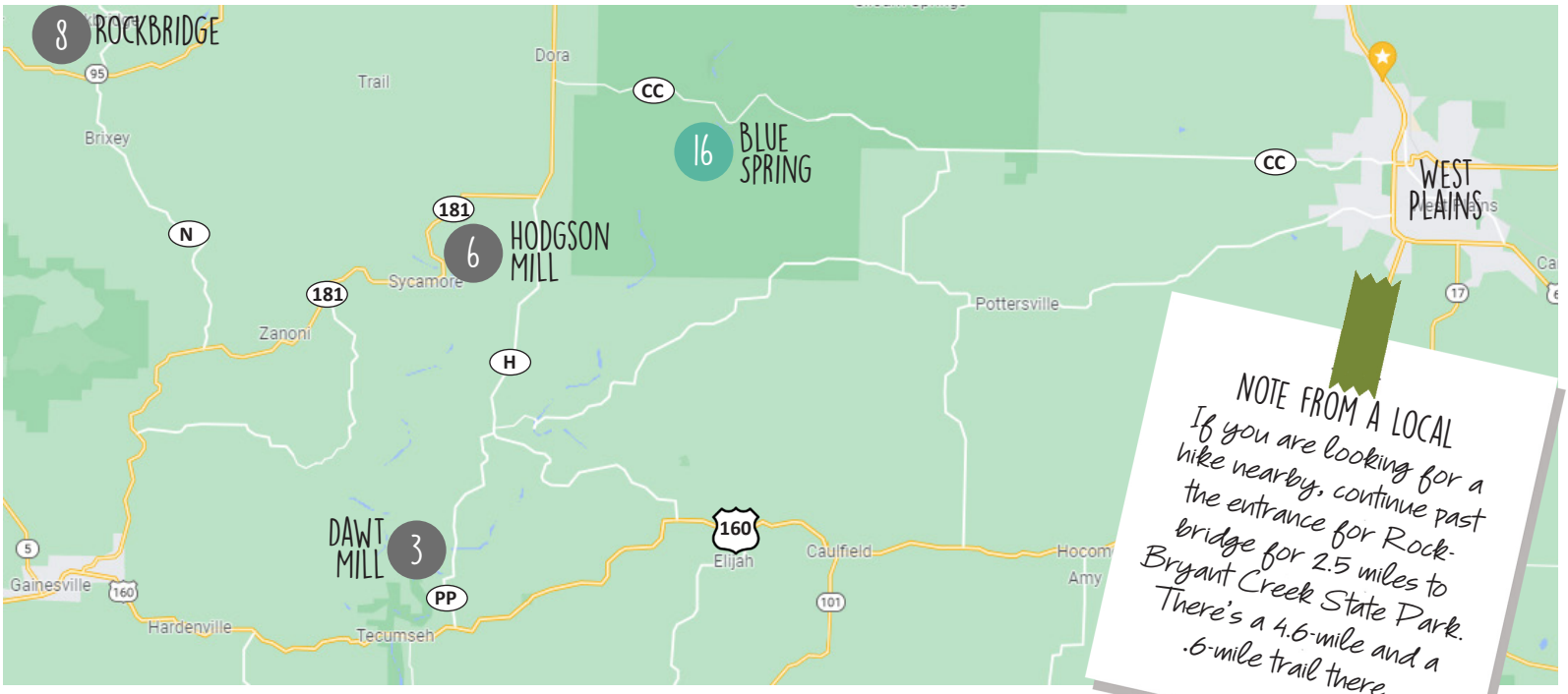
Bob Anderson



Melissa Wharton

"TAKE THE BACKROADS INSTEAD OF THE HIGHWAYS." ~ Minnie Pearl

WESTERN MILLS 110.7 total miles



32 miles to Dawt Mill (open seasonally): *Take Highway 160 west toward Caulfield. Stay on 160 and travel approximately 11 miles past Caulfield then turn right on PP Highway. In about one mile, turn left on County Road 318 to Dawt Mill.*

15.3 miles to Hodgson Mill: *Leave Dawt Mill and go back to PP Highway. Turn left and go 4.3 miles then turn left on H Highway. Go 6 miles then turn left on Highway 181. Hodgson Mill will be on your left in 4 miles.*

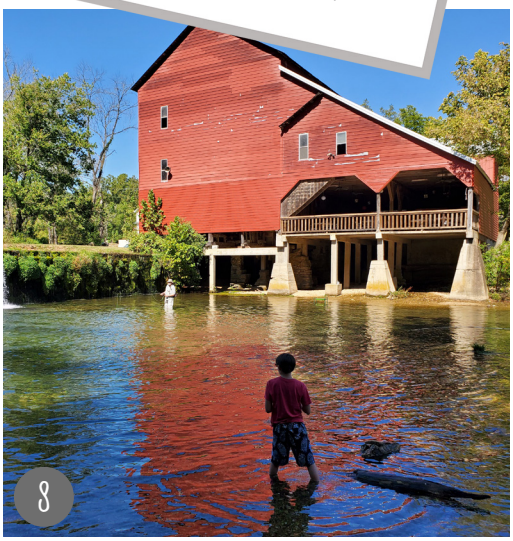
17.2 miles to Rockbridge: *Continue on Highway 181 and go 7.2 miles then turn right on N Highway. Go 8 miles and cross over Highway 95. The entrance to Rockbridge is 2 miles ahead on the left.*

28.2 miles to Blue Spring: *Leave Rockbridge and turn right on N Highway. Cross Highway 95 and continue on N Highway to Highway 181. Turn left on Highway 181. At junction of Highway 181 and H Highway, turn left. In 2.8 miles, turn right on CC Highway. In 4.2 miles, the entrance to the North Fork Recreation Area is on your right. The Blue Spring trail will be about a half mile from the entrance. There is a parking area at the trailhead.*

18 miles to West Plains: *Turn right on CC Highway from North Fork Recreation Area. Highway 63 in 17.5 miles ahead.*



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



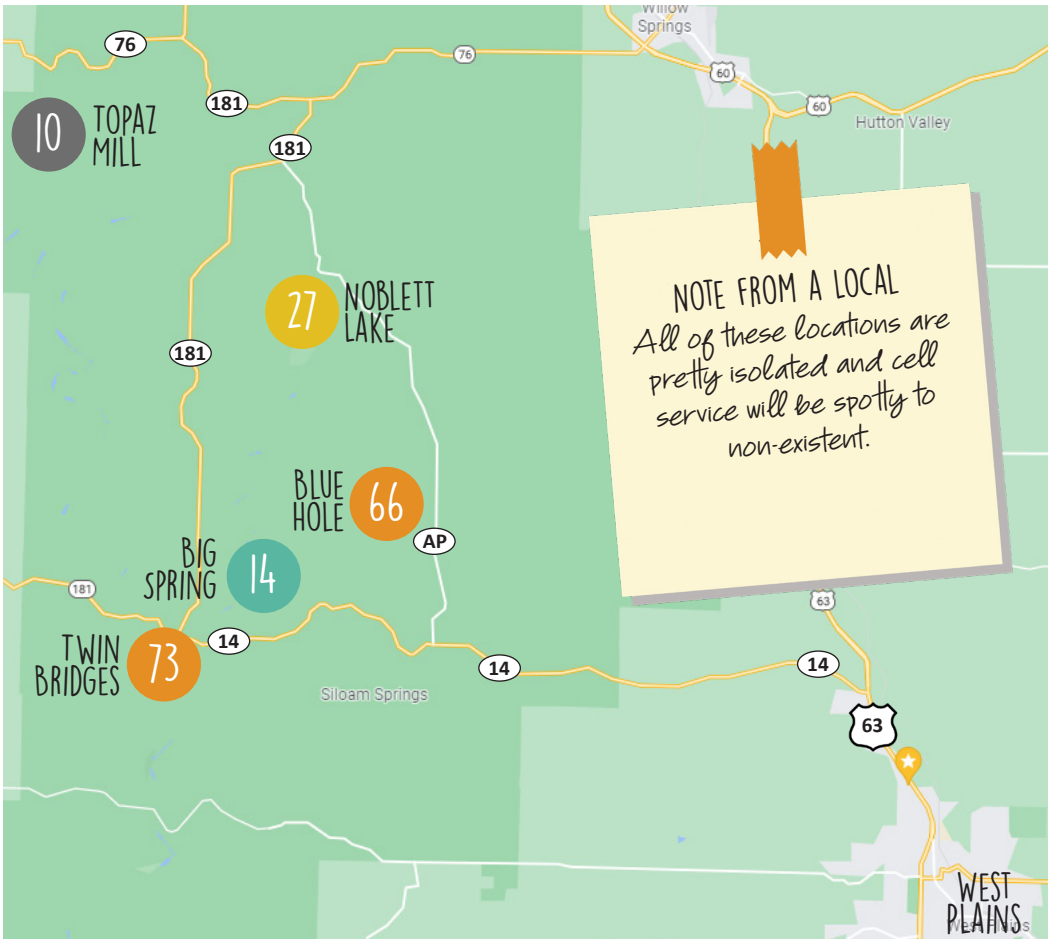
Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton

Not all who WANDER are lost. ~ J.R.R. Tolkien

GEMS OF THE FOREST 74.7 total miles



13 miles to Blue Hole: *Take Highway 63 north. In 2 miles, turn left on Highway 14 and go 9.5 miles then turn right on AP Highway. The entrance to Blue Hole will be on the left in less than 2 miles.*

6.5 miles to Noblett Lake: *Continue on AP Highway. In 6.5 miles, the entrance to Noblett Lake will be on your left.*

13.8 miles to Topaz: *Continue on AP Highway and travel 3.1 miles to Highway 181. Turn right and go 1.4 miles then turn left onto Highway 76/181. Go 4 miles then turn left on E Highway. Go 4 miles and continue straight on County Road E-276. Go 1.3 miles and Topaz Mill will be on the left.*

21.9 miles to Twin Bridges: *Go back to Highway 76 and turn right. In 4 miles, turn right on Highway 181. In 12.6 miles, you will arrive at Twin Bridges.*

3 miles to Big Spring: *Turn left on Highway 14. In 2 miles, turn left on County Road 292. Big Spring will be 1 mile on the left.*

16.5 miles to West Plains: *Go back to Highway 14 and turn left. In 13.5 miles, turn right on Highway 63.*



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton

"OH THE PLACES YOU'LL GO."
~ Dr. Seuss

OUR UNUSUAL OZARKS 145.4 total miles





Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL

Akers Ferry is now closed, but it is just past the turn off for Welch Spring. It might be worth a visit.

NOTE FROM A LOCAL

Instead of going back the way you came to return to West Plains, you could drive through Eminence. There are several dining options there.

63 miles to Round Spring: *Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. After Mountain View, turn left on Highway 17. Stay on Highway 17 for 13 miles to Summersville. At Summersville, turn right on Highway 106. You will pass by Summersville Mill (tours by appointment). In 7 miles, continue straight on D Highway. Go 9 miles then turn left on Highway 19. In 5 miles, the entrance for Round Spring will be on your right.*

2.2 miles to Echo Bluff: *Continue on Highway 19 to the entrance of Echo Bluff State Park.* 24

13.2 miles to Devil's Well: *Continue on Highway 19 for 9.2 miles then turn left on KK Highway. In 2 miles, turn left on Devil's Well Road. Devil's Well will be ahead in 2 miles.*

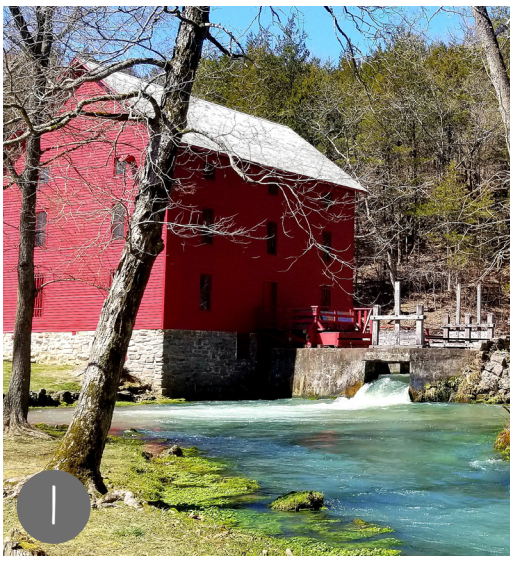
7 miles to Welch Spring: *Backtrack to KK Highway and turn left. Go 3.8 miles then turn right on K Highway. Turn left on the first gravel road past the Akers Group Camp. At the end of the road, park next to the river and walk a trail north along the river for about a half mile. At the end of the trail you will be able to see the hospital ruins, although you will be across the river from it.*

63 miles to West Plains (returning the way you came): Go back to K Highway and turn right. Turn left onto KK Highway then turn right onto Highway 19. Stay on Highway 19. Turn right onto D Highway then continue on Highway 106 into Summersville. At Summersville, turn left onto Highway 17. At Highway 60, turn right. Take Highway 63 South to return to West Plains.

"SO MUCH OF WHO WE ARE IS WHERE WE HAVE BEEN."
~ William Langewiesche

MILLS, SPRINGS & FALLS, OH MY 149.2 total miles





Melissa Wharton

"ONCE A YEAR, GO SOMEPLACE YOU'VE NEVER BEEN BEFORE."
~ the Dalai Lama

Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton

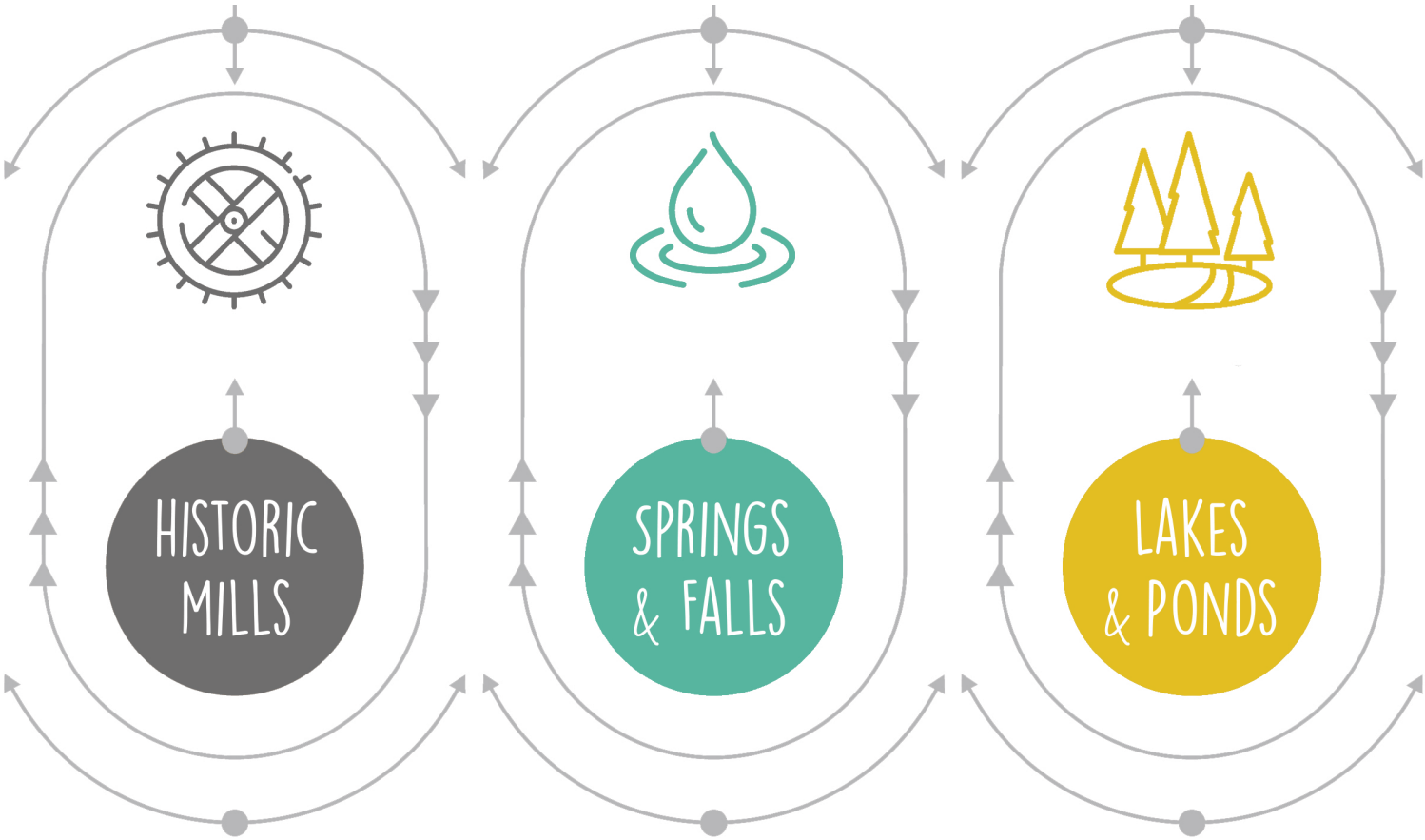
50 miles to Alley Spring: *Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Stay on Highway 60 for 15 miles then turn left on Highway 17 north. In 13.5 miles, turn right onto Highway 106. In approximately 14 miles, the entrance to Alley Spring and Mill will be on your left.*

16.2 miles to Blue Spring: *Leave Alley Spring and go left on Highway 106. From Eminence, travel 8 miles, turn right on County Road 535 (there will be a sign for Blue Spring). In 2.5 miles, you will reach a parking area at the trailhead.*

19 miles to Klepzig Mill: *Backtrack on County Road 535 to Highway 106 and turn left. In 7.6 miles, turn left on H Highway. In 4 miles, turn left on NN Highway. In 4 miles, pavement ends, veer left on County Road 522. The mill is less than a mile on the right. (Not recommended for motor-homes or trailers.)*

3 miles to Rocky Falls: *Go back to NN Highway and go 2 miles. Turn left on County Road 526. Turn left into parking lot.*

61 miles to West Plains: *Go back to NN Highway and turn left. In 8.5 miles, turn left onto Highway 19. At Highway 60, turn right. Stay on Highway 60 for 36 miles then take the left ramp onto South Highway 63 to West Plains.*



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3 DAWT PG. 33
4 FALLING SPRING PG. 34
5 GREER PG. 35
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10 TOPAZ PG. 40
11 TURNER PG. 41
12 ALTHEA SPRING PG. 43
13 BIG SPRING PG. 44 (CURRENT RIVER)
14 BIG SPRING PG. 45 (SPRING CREEK)
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16 BLUE SPRING PG. 47 (NORTH FORK RIVER)
17 BLUE SPRING PG. 48 (CURRENT RIVER)
18 GREER SPRING PG. 49
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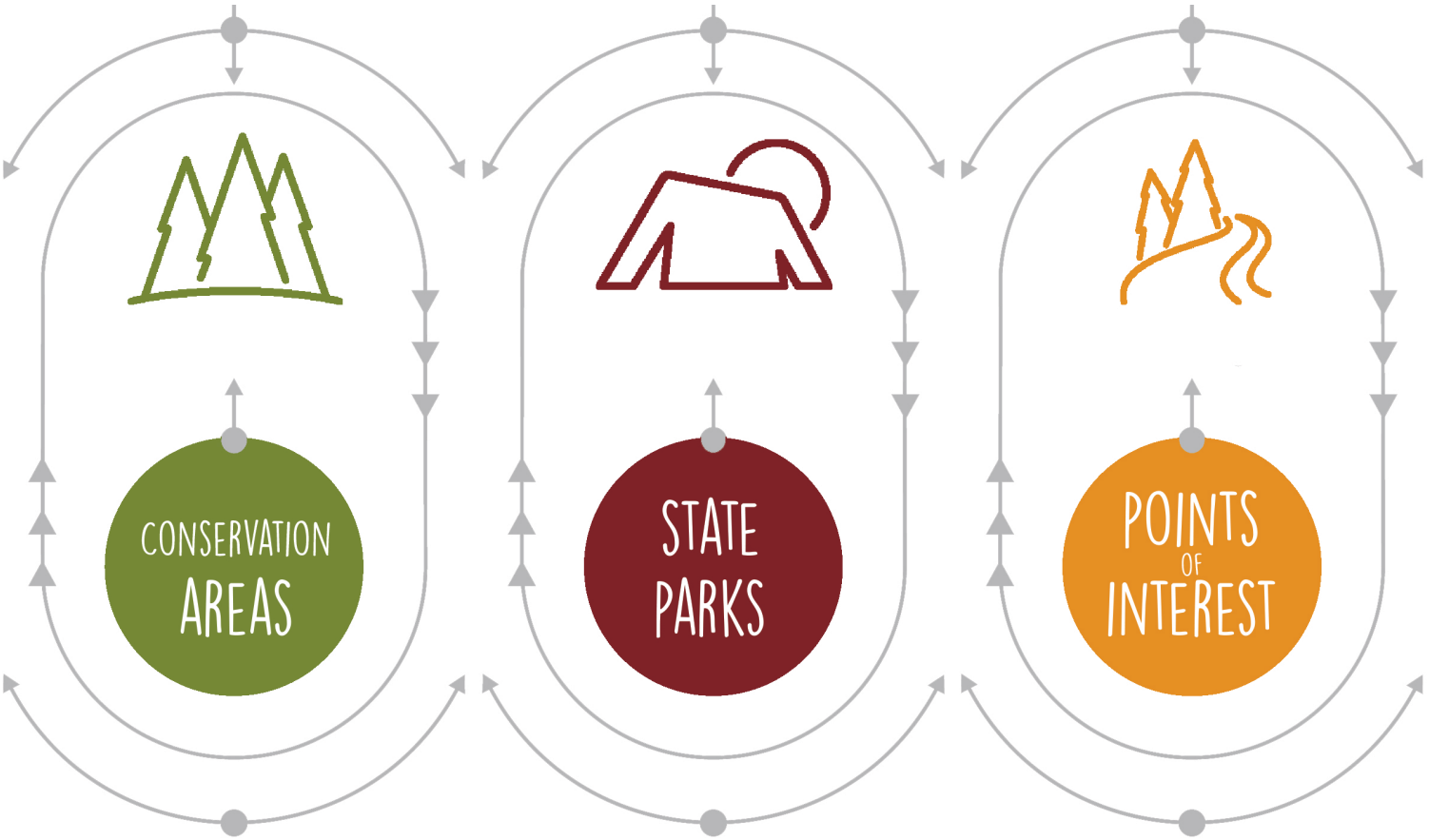

CONSERVATION AREAS

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34 BARN HOLLOW PG. 58 (NATURAL AREA)

35 BIRCH CREEK PG. 58

36 CANEY MOUNTAIN PG. 58

37 CARRICK W. DAVIDSON ROBERT G. PARIS PG. 58 (WILDLIFE AREA)

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39 COVER MEMORIAL PG. 58 (WILDLIFE AREA)

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41 DEAN DAVIS PG. 58

42 GIST RANCH PG. 58

43 HORSESHOE BEND PG. 58 (NATURAL AREA)

44 JOHN ALVA FUSON, MD PG. 58

45 LOGAN CREEK PG. 58

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56 TINGLER PRAIRIE PG. 59 (NATURAL AREA)

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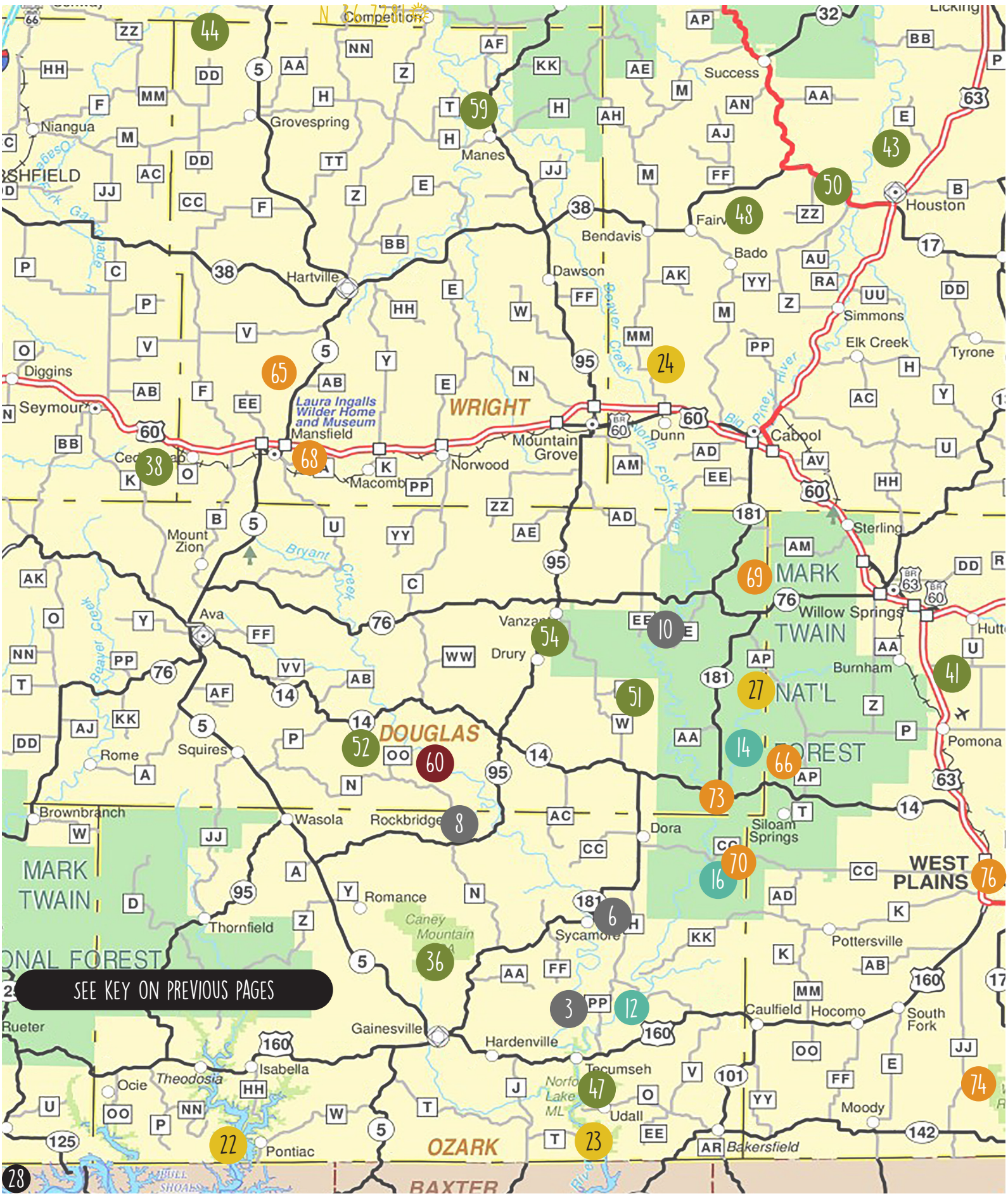
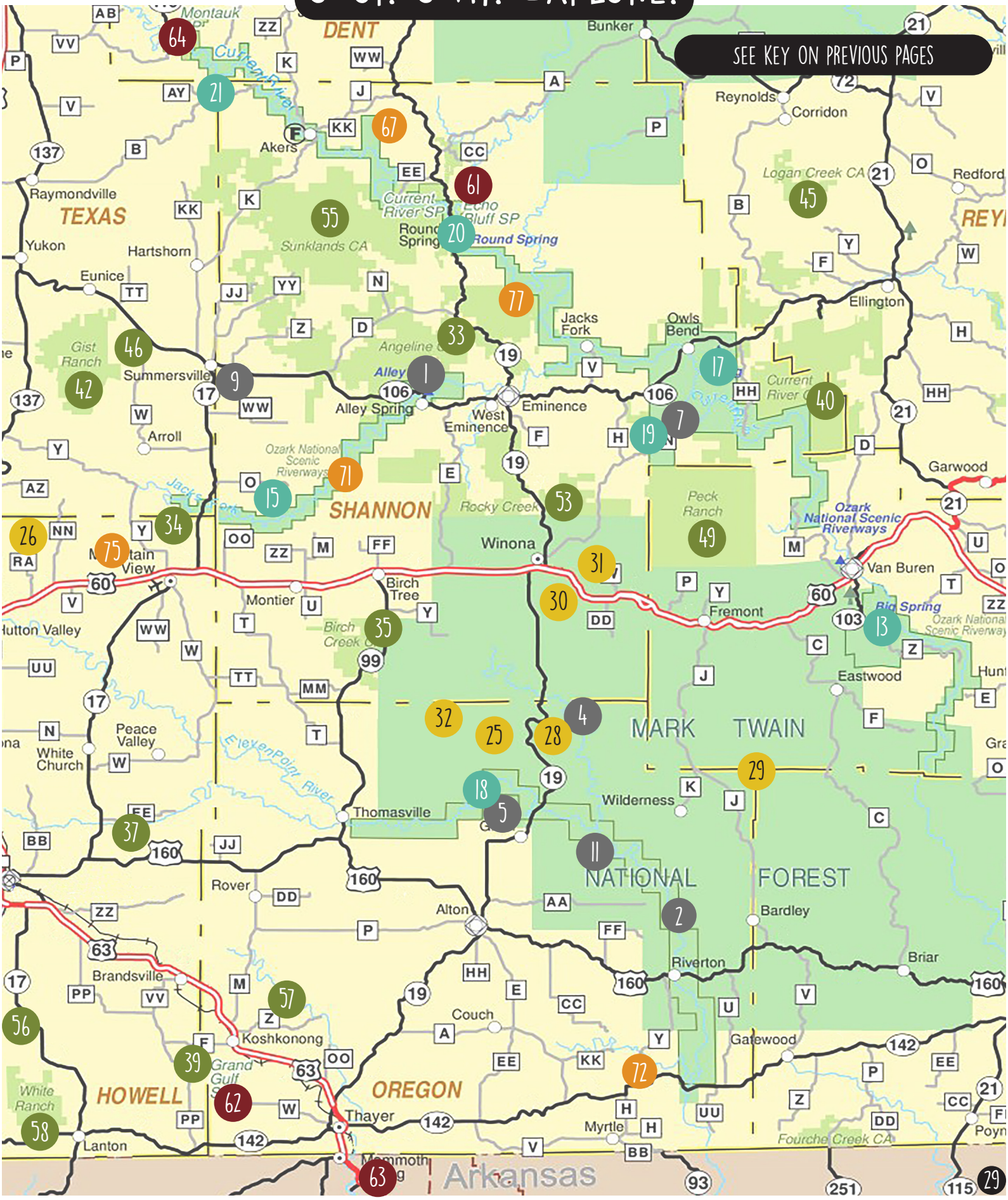
SEE MAP ON FOLLOWING PAGES

EXPLORE WEST PLAINS



STOP. STAY. EXPLORE.





HISTORIC MILLS

BUSHING WATER was the power that turned grain into flour and timber into lumber at the many historic mills that you can visit around West Plains. Some mills provide an interpretive history about life in the 1800s, while others simply provide a place to walk, take photos, or just enjoy the beauty and history of the Ozarks.

KEY TO SYMBOLS

Your guide to adventure! Use this key for the symbols on pages 29-68.

- Archery Range
- Bird Watching
- Bow Hunting
- Camping
- Dining
- Fishing
- Floating
- Gun Hunting
- Gun Range
- Hiking
- Horseback Riding
- Lodging
- Mountain Biking
- Picnic
- Restrooms
- Swimming

Bob Anderson

HISTORIC MILLS

1 ALLEY SPRING MILL
37.1442141–91.4615359

- 7th largest spring in Missouri
- 81 million gallons per day
- Spring conduit extends at least 3,000 feet undergound
- Spring lake approximately 155 feet deep
- Mill was built in 1894

"A mill was vital to community life, where grain was ground to provide the daily bread. The present building was constructed during 1893-1894 by George Washington McCaskill as a merchant mill. It was larger than most mills in the Jacks Fork area and replaced an earlier mill on this same site that was built by 1868. Originally unpainted, it was first painted white with green trim, then later the famous red color associated with Alley Mill today." ~ Cindy Von Halle

There are several things to see and do at Alley. Alley Mill is open to visitors. (Check days and times using links below). Informal tours are available upon request.

Storys Creek One Room Schoolhouse is within walking distance of the mill and has limited hours. A pavilion and public restrooms are available on the property.

Two hiking paths begin at the mill. One is a 1.8-mile loop that goes up the bluff to a breath-taking view of the mill. The other is a short walk around the mill pond and alongside the Alley Branch. It ends at a foot bridge leading back to the parking lot.

https://www.nps.gov/ozar/learn/historyculture/alley-mill.htm
https://nature.mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/alley-spring


Melissa Wharton


Bob Anderson


Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL
Considered one of the most photographed mills in Missouri, don't miss your chance for a great shot! Be sure to take the path just past the entrance to the mill to walk around the mill pond.


Melissa Wharton

50 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Stay on Highway 60 for 15 miles then turn left on Highway 17 north. In 13.5 miles, turn right onto Highway 106. In approximately 14 miles, the entrance to Alley Spring and Mill will be on your left.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Echo Bluff State Park
- Klepzig Mill
- Rocky Falls
- Round Spring
- Summersville Mill


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

HISTORIC MILLS

2 BOZE MILL

36.6436819,-91.8062252

- 12-14 million gallons of water per day
- 1880s turbine and rock wall still exists

Once the site of the Lucas Boze Grist Mill, the area was an important center of commerce where farmers had their wheat and corn ground into flour. All that remains is the historical 1880s turbine and hand-layered rock wall.

Boze Mill Spring forms a sparkling blue pool that runs into the spring branch above the remnants of the mill. Aquatic plants add many shades of green to the spring branch. Boze Mill is nestled in a beautiful glen beside the Eleven Point River just above Riverton.

Access from trailhead or from the Eleven Point River.





Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL

A beautiful area in the summer with all the lush greenery, Boze Mill is just the remnants of a time gone by. If you visit, be sure to also follow the trail to the spring. It's worth a look!



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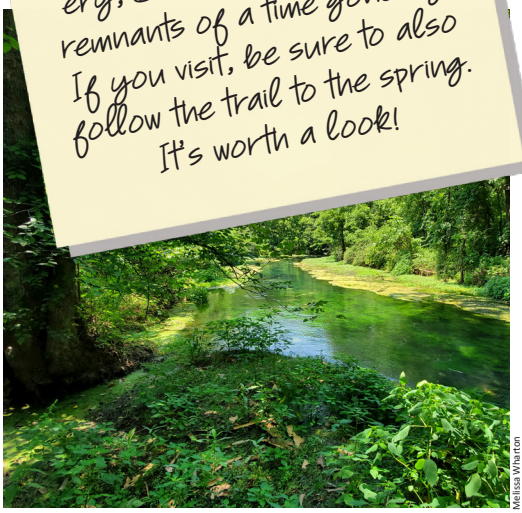

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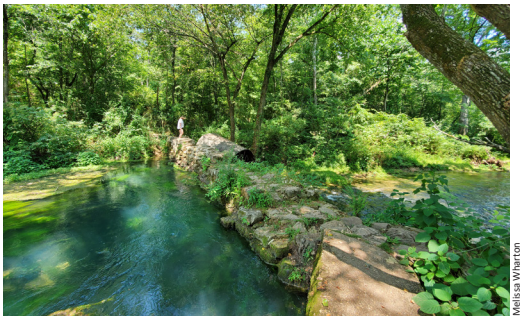
50 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 160 east toward Alton. Stay on Highway 160 in Alton and travel 14 miles. Turn left on County Road 152. Boze Mill will be ahead in 2.4 miles.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Greer Mill
- Greer Spring
- Turner Mill



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HISTORIC MILLS

3 DAWT MILL
36.7108421–92.3383248

- Original mill established in 1866
- Current mill built in 1897
- Now home to Dawt Mill Resort



Melissa Wharton

Dawt Mill has a rich history dating back to the original land grant of 1874. A Mill building has been on the land since 1866. In 1889 John Caldwell owned the property and a rival mill owner, Thomas Harkins, paid a young Thomas Carrol $10 to burn the Mill down. Carrol was caught due to riding an easily trackable lame mule. Dawt was once a bustling town with a General Store, Post Office , Cotton Gin, Blacksmith Shop, Saw Mill and Grist Mill. There have been multiple caretakers that have each left their mark on the township; including Alva and Charles Hodgson who built the current Mill building circa 1897 along with the notable Hodgson Mill.
In the 1920s Dawt Mill was owned by the Bushong family and had times where grain would be ground and cotton ginned day and night excluding Sundays. From 1930 through the mid 40s when many mills in the area were shutting down, owner Charles Thompson kept it going until selling to Ray and Fanny Hunt in 1945. The Hunts put in gas pumps and continued the milling process. In 1967 Wayne and Ruth Dinnell became the next owners and welcomed tourists with many improvements including building the Log Cabin and campsites. Between 1971 and 1994 the Fishers, Hornes, Smiths and Joe Stone were all stewards of Dawt Mill. It was sold again in 1995 to the current owners and has grown and changed with the times. Due to flooding and the dam being taken out Dawt is no longer a working Grist Mill. Today, Dawt Mill Resort offers seasonal dining and options for year round lodging, camping and floating. Please call for availability.

"To look at Dawt Mill today, it is hard to imagine a once bustling community where neighbors met as they waited to get their wheat and corn ground or their cotton ginned. Now, in the summer, you can find floaters, families, friends and tourists coming to take in the beautiful Ozarks. Like the river, Dawt mill has been shaped and altered with the passage of time, but like the bedrock, it holds its place firmly in Ozark history. "

~ dawtmill.com/about-us/history/


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL

While the resort is open year-round, the mill building is now a restaurant and gift shop and is open seasonally. Be sure to check hours before you go.


Melissa Wharton

32 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 160 west toward Caulfield. Stay on 160 and travel approximately 11 miles past Caulfield then turn right on Hwy PP. In about one mile, turn left on County Road 318 to Dawt Mill.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Norfork Lake
- Patrick Bridge
- Althea Spring
- Blair Bridge
- Caney Mountain Conservation Area
- Hodgson Mill

HISTORIC MILLS

4 FALLING SPRING MILL
36.8680167–91.2951167

- 500,000 gallons per day

The Falling Spring area was homesteaded in 1851 by Thomas and Jane Brown of Tennessee. One of four houses built at this site, the Thomas Brown Cabin still stands. The current mill was constructed in 1927. Its overshot wheel was used for power to grind corn, saw shingles and firewood, as well as generate electricity. Looking inside the mill, one can still see some of the original machinery in place.

The spring provides 500,000 gallons of water per day. During the Civil War, it is believed that soldiers camped in the area. Falling Spring was so busy at times that 10 to 12 wagons would be camped alongside the road in front of the spring.

The area is managed by the U.S. Forest Service and is a day-use area with picnic tables and pedestal grills.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/mtnf/recarea/?recid=21730


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL
A very sharp, narrow turn on the county road would probably be a good reason to not try to take a motorhome or trailer to Falling Spring Mill.


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

53 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Stay on Highway 60 for 34 miles then turn right on Highway 19 south. In 8 miles, turn left onto County Road 3170 then left on County Road 3164. Travel 2.6 miles on gravel road and the parking lot for Falling Spring Mill will be on the right.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Greer Mill
- Turner Mill
- Rocky Falls


Melissa Wharton


Bob Anderson

HISTORIC MILLS

5 GREER MILL

36.786558–91.3423582

- Constructed in 1883
- Restored in 2016
- Sits on ridge above Greer Spring

In 1859, Samuel Greer, for whom the spring is named, purchased the spring. In 1860, Greer built a gristmill at the spring.

After returning from the Civil War, he found his mill burned. He rebuilt and resumed milling operations. Around 1870, he enlarged the mill, constructed a dam at the spring, installed a turbine waterwheel, and built a three-story mill building. The mill was used to grind corn, saw lumber, gin cotton, and card wool. He trained oxen to haul loads up and down the steep slope above the spring without a driver.

As more people settled in the area, the need for flour, lumber, and other milled products increased. In 1883, he rebuilt the dam and began construction of a new roller mill on top of the ridge above the spring. Materials and equipment were used from the old mill to construct the new mill. A unique cable system was used to transfer power from the turbine wheel at the spring to the new mill on top of the ridge. This is the mill that stands today.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/mtnf/recarea/?recid=21722



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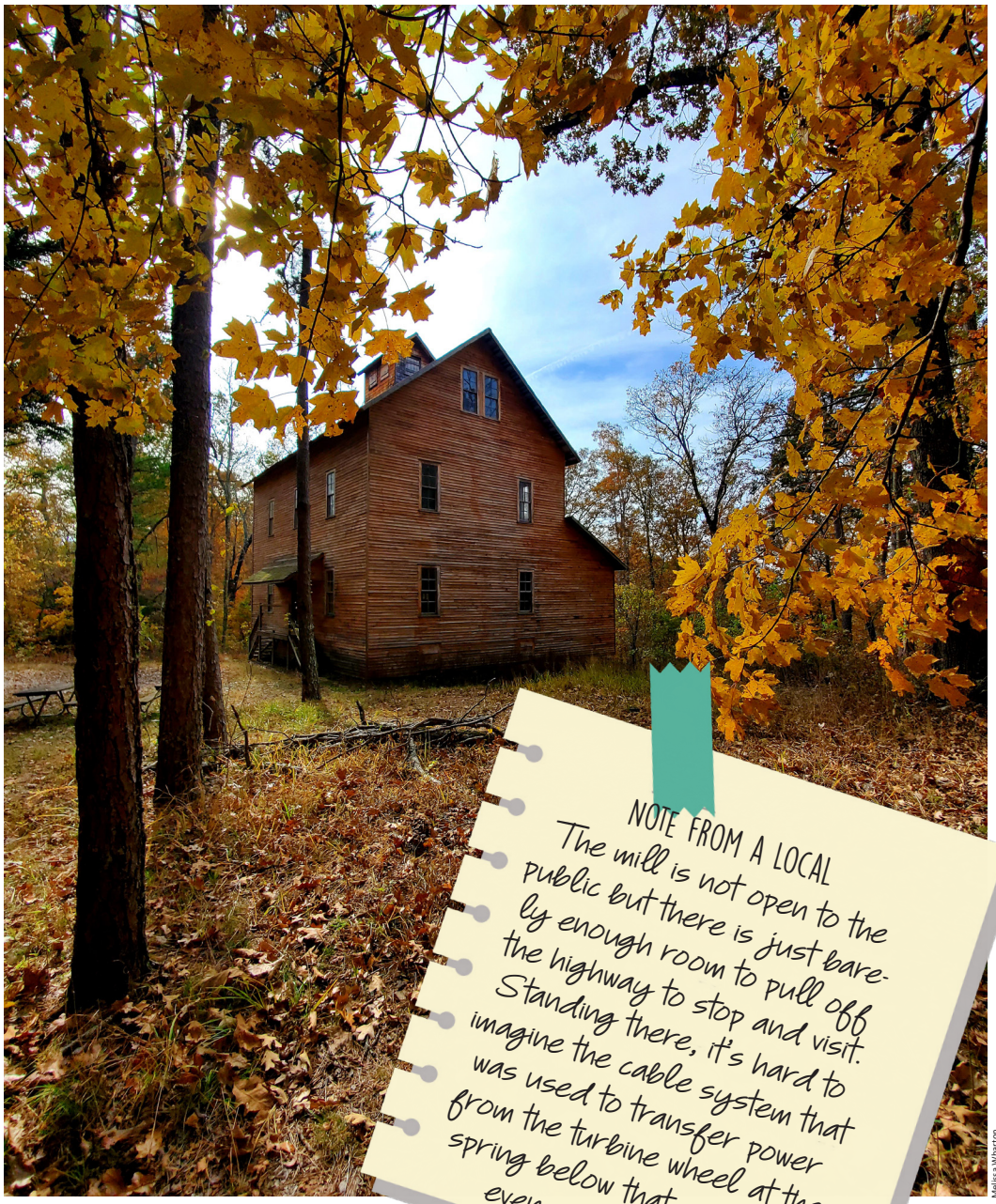


Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL

The mill is not open to the public but there is just barely enough room to pull off the highway to stop and visit. Standing there, it's hard to imagine the cable system that was used to transfer power from the turbine wheel at the spring below that you can't even see from here.

41 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 160 east toward Alton. In Alton, turn left on Highway 19 north. Go 8.5 miles to Greer Mill. It is on the left and is easy to miss. There is not much of a parking area at the mill.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Alley Spring
- Boze Mill
- Cupola Pond
- Falling Spring Mill
- Klepzig Mill
- McCormack Lake
- Rocky Falls
- Turner Mill



Melissa Wharton

HISTORIC MILLS

6 HODGSON MILL
36.7095031–92.2843352

- Original mill built in 1861
- Current mill constructed in 1897
- 28 million gallons per day

Hodgson Mill was built in 1861 by William Holeman at the base of the cliff where Hodgson Spring discharges. The spring produces 28 million gallons of water per day. The mill closed during the Civil War and it is unclear whether Holeman reopened the mill or had to build a new one after the war. Holeman operated the mill until his death in 1879.

In 1884, the mill was purchased for $500 by Alva Hodgson and his mother, Mary. Hodgson upgraded the machinery which made the mill capable of producing a higher quality "white" flour.

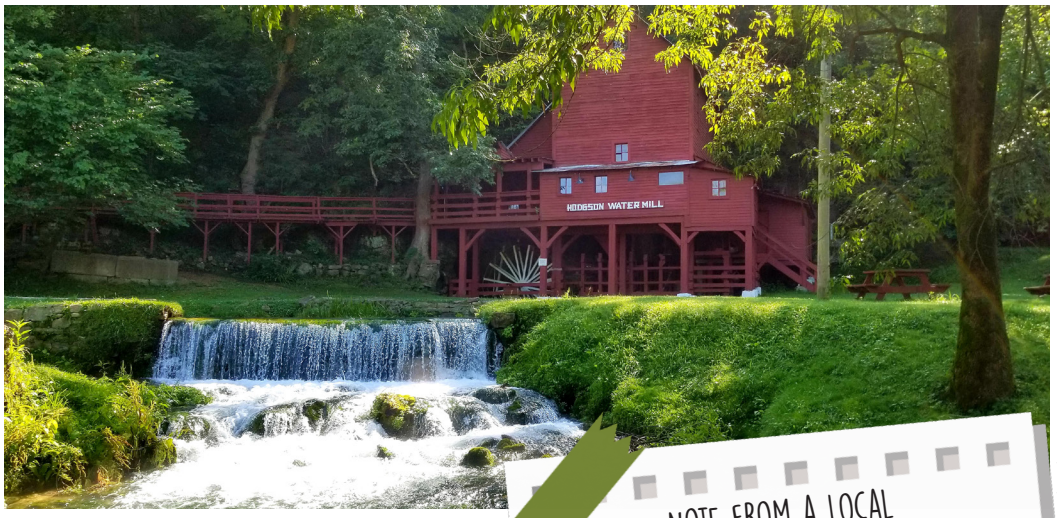
At the time, the mill building housed a general store, the Sycamore Post Office, sawmill, and cotton gin. Farmers visited the mill to have their grain (corn and wheat) ground into flour or meal.

A new mill was completed around 1897. This is the structure that stands today. Alva Hodgson's brother, George, bought 1/3 interest in the mill and by 1901, had purchased the mill entirely from his brother. Alva Hodgson went on to build nearby Dawt Mill, completed in 1909. Alva died in 1921 and George continued to operate the mill until his death in 1927.

Ownership of the mill passed to Fred O. Foster from 1927-1934. In 1934, the mill was purchased by businessman Charles Theodore Aid. The mill remained in the Aid family until 1998.

The mill suffered flood damage in 1982 when water rose into the main milling room.

Between 1985 and 1993, Herbert Smith (great-nephew of Alva Hodgson) and his wife leased the mill and provided tours, a store, resort cabins and campground.



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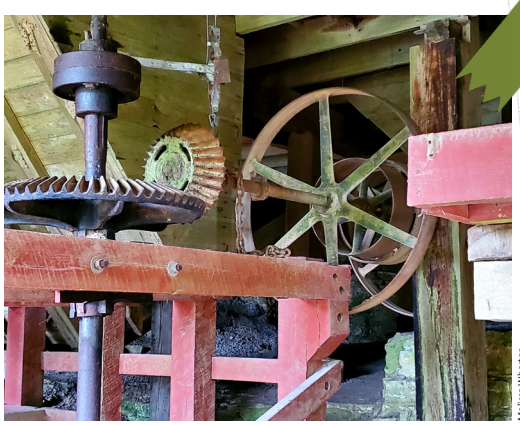
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NOTE FROM A LOCAL

While you can't go inside, be sure to go up on the porch of the mill and look at the door that goes inside. You will find marks where different flood stages have been documented. In 2017, the flood water was over the roof of the mill!

In 1998, the mill was sold to Hank and Jean Macler who registered it in the National Register of Historic Places. In 2011, the mill was sold to John and Gwen Deakle.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/mtnf/recarea/?recid=21730


Bob Anderson



Melissa Wharton

29 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

From Hwy 63 take CC Highway west for 21 miles. At Highway 181, turn left. In 2.75, stay on Highway 181 by turning right at the Junction of H Highway. Stay on 181 and in 4 miles, Hodgson Mill will be on your left.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Althea Spring
- Blair Bridge
- Caney Mountain Conservation Area
- Dawt Mill
- Patrick Bridge
- Warren Bridge
- Zanoni Mill

HISTORIC MILLS

7 KLEPZIG MILL
36.786558, -91.3423582

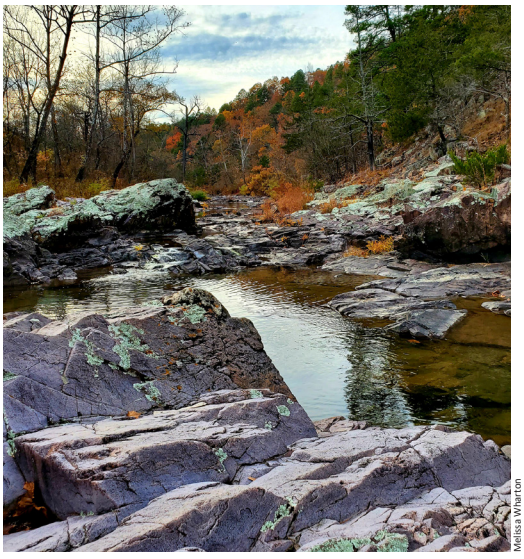
- Constructed in 1928

A small turbine mill built in 1928 by Walter Klepzig sits alongside Rocky Creek. Son of a Prussian German immigrant, Walter was a forward thinker, introducing barbed and woven fence wire and a refined breed of milk cow to the area. He sawed his own logs into boards to build his house and out-buildings. He even saved good boards to build coffins for neighbors. He would grind corn for free for neighbors who could not afford to pay.

Klepzig Mill was a sawmill house built by nailing vertical planks to a hand-hewn sill at the bottom and a sawn two-by-four plate at the top, replacing the customary log built structure of its time. Its foundation is piers of uncut and unmortared native stone.

"In a spectacular setting, surrounded by the rhyolite rock of the 'shut in' canyon made by Rocky Creek. It is a lasting testament to the hardships of every day life in the Ozarks in a time not so long ago." ~ National Park Service

https://www.nps.gov/ozar/learn/historyculture/klepzig-mill.htm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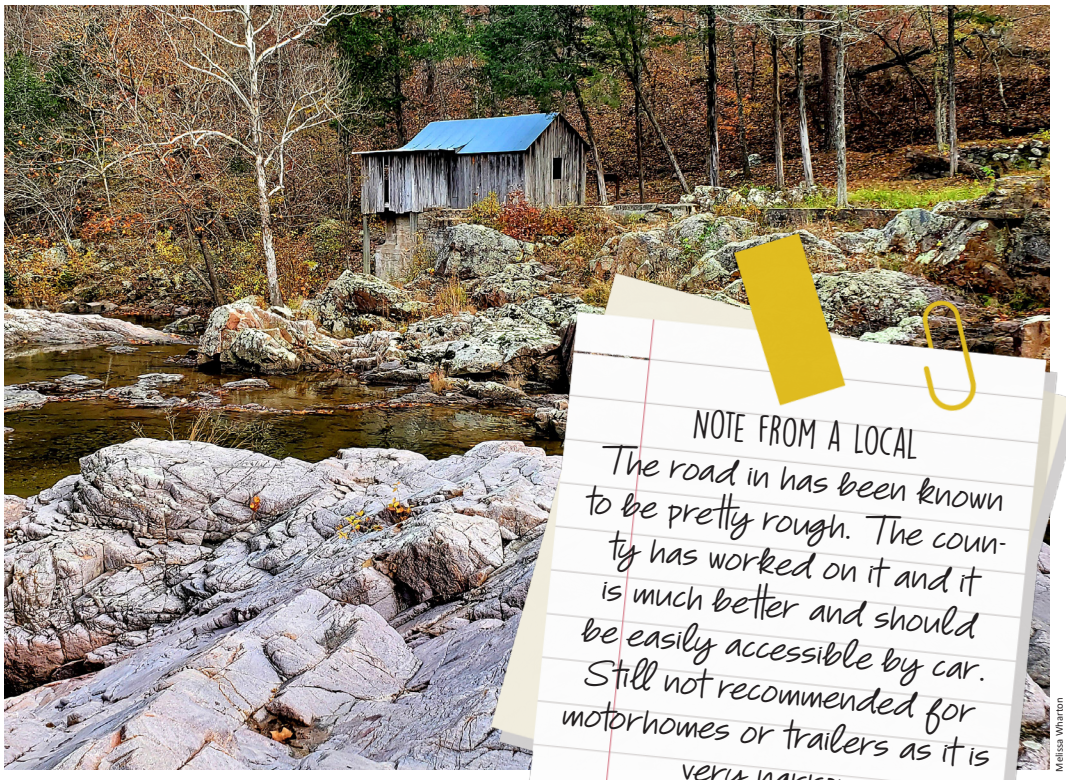
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NOTE FROM A LOCAL

The road in has been known to be pretty rough. The county has worked on it and it is much better and should be easily accessible by car. Still not recommended for motorhomes or trailers as it is very narrow.


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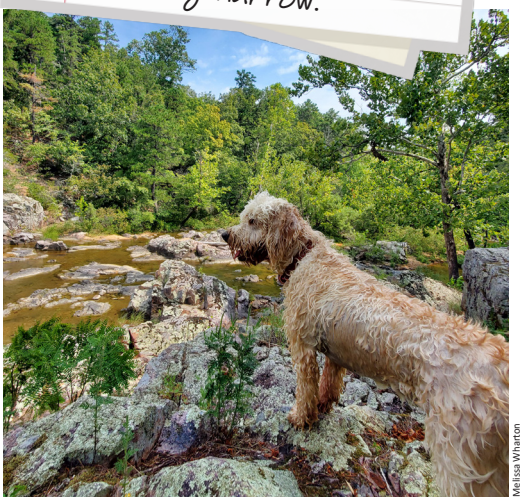
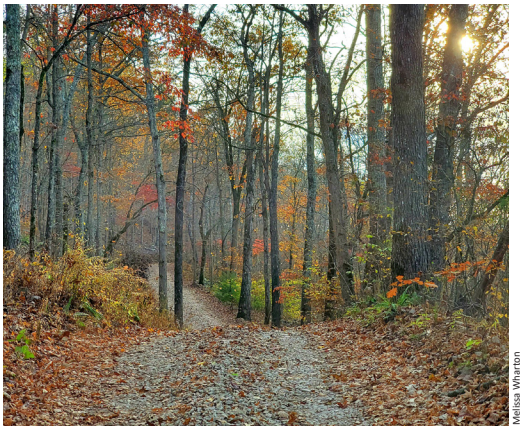

Melissa Wharton

62 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Stay on Highway 60 for 36 miles. Turn left on Highway 19 toward Winona. Go through Winona then turn right on H Highway. Stay on Highway H for 8.5 miles then turn right on NN Highway. In 4 miles, turn left on County Road 522. The mill is less than a mile on the right. (Not recommended for motorhomes or trailers.)

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Blue Spring (Current River)
- Rocky Falls


Melissa Wharton


Sawyer Smith

HISTORIC MILLS

8 ROCKBRIDGE MILL
36.7894064–92.4095865

- Mill built in 1868
- Now a resort and rainbow trout and game ranch

"Late in the summer of 1841 a group of families left Marion County, Kentucky, in three ox and horse drawn wagons led by Captain Kim Amyx. Their destination would require some 500 miles and six months of challenging travel. They were searching the unknown for a new life in the virgin wilderness of the Ozarks, and would end their journey near present-day Hodgson Mill.

It is reported that members of this wagon train, along with other previous settlers, set about to establish a new community known as Rockbridge. The original town and mill site was located near the confluence of Spring Creek and Bryant Creek. It was the county seat of Ozark County, and encompassed what today is three separate counties: Douglas, Howell, and Ozark. After a few short years, the town and mill were destroyed by fire during a civil war battle.

In 1868, B.V. Morris rebuilt the original mill on its present day location. The mill's reconstruction was followed by the reinstatement of the post office, a general store, Masonic Lodge, bank, church, school, blacksmith shop, and a large farmhouse. The village of Rockbridge was a gathering place for people from the countryside. A trip to the mill was a great occasion, enabling people to visit old friends and neighbors, to get their meal and flour, to utilize the post office, to vote on Election Day, and to get news of the outside world.

Activity flourished during the latter years of the 19th century and continued until the 1920s and 1930s, but as gasoline power and better roads came along, the need for the mill and the blacksmith shop gradually declined. Eventually there was not a need for the general store. The world changed and Rockbridge was almost abandoned. Only the post office remained to mark the existence of this once bustling community.

In 1946, the Amyx family moved to Rockbridge. Lile and Edith Amyx had a saw mill on the lower part of the stream. In 1954, the family began to develop the Rockbridge Rainbow Trout & Game Ranch." ~ https://www.rockbridgemo.com/

NOTE FROM A LOCAL
The inside of the mill is now the Grist Mill Club. It is open seasonally. Check website for hours.


Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

43 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north to Highway 14. Turn left on Highway 14 and travel 30 miles to Highway 95. Turn left and go 9 miles to N Highway. Turn right on N Highway and the entrance to Rockbridge will be on your left in 2 miles.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Caney Mountain Conservation Area
- Hodgson Mill
- Sycamore Access
- Twin Bridges

HISTORIC MILLS

9 SUMMERSVILLE GRIST MILL
37.1792267,-91.6538368

- Began operating in 1886

"The mill dates to 1886, when Jim McCaskill purchased and installed machinery for the mill. The mill produced soft wheat flour and provided a place for farmers to have their wheat ground without having to travel.

The Summersville Mill has undergone a huge restoration in the last few years, thanks to the Revitalization and Action Board of Summersville and the many volunteers from the community who have worked on the project." ~ visitmo.com

Mill tours are offered by appointment. Email tourism@westplains.gov to schedule a tour.

https://www.visitmo.com/things-to-do/summersville-mill
http://summersvillemill.org/


Shirley Robertson


Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL
Summersville Mill is truly a step back in time. It's like they just closed the door and would be right back to work the next day. If this mill is on your list to visit, email us a few days in advance to see if we can set up a tour by appointment. (see information at left)

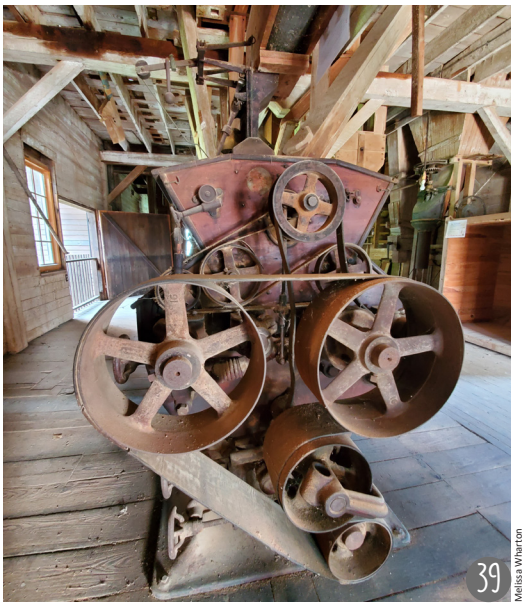

Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

43 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Stay on Highway 60 for 15 miles then turn left on Highway 17 north. In 13.5 miles, turn right onto Highway 106. In less than a half mile, the mill will be the right.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Alley Spring Mill
- Blue Spring (Jacks Fork)
- Round Spring


Melissa Wharton

HISTORIC MILLS

10 TOPAZ MILL
36.9462381,–92.2029418

- 10 million gallons per day
- Mill built in the mid-1800s

"Little is known about Topaz's early years. It's believed that Henry Schoolcraft initially discovered the settlement's spring in the early 1800s, which he dubbed Elkhorn Spring. Unfortunately, many other details around Topaz's existence are piecemeal." ~ https://ozarksalive.com/topaz-a-spring-fed-time-capsule/

Topaz Mill was built sometime between 1840 and 1850. Information shows that John Talley was the first to set up a store at the mill area. Richard Hutcheson bought the store from Talley around 1890, after which his brother Robartus relocated with his family from the St. Louis area.

Richard eventually became discouraged and sold out to his brother and moved away. Robartus saw the need for a bigger store and a post office. His wife was the postmistress at Topaz all the years they lived there.

Around the turn of the 20th century, a new mill and a new way to harness power for the mill was implemented. By raising the level of that spring 12 feet, running the spring water down a raceway, dumping it down a boiler flue on to a turbine, there was more power than with just the waterwheel.

Topaz grew and as is common in the Ozarks, became the gathering place of the locals. At one point there was a blacksmith, tomato canning factory, a garage, general store, and a barber shop.

By the 1940s, the town was almost gone. The mill made flour through the 1920s and ground corn through the 1930s. The post office closed in 1943 and the general store closed in 1945. The O'Neal family purchased the property in 1957. The third generation of the O'Neal family cares for the mill.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/mtnf/recarea/?recid=21730 Facebook: Friends of Topaz Mill



Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL
Topaz Mill is a working mill with the third generation of owners on site. Check their Facebook page "Friends of Topaz Mill, Inc." to see if you are lucky enough to visit on a day when the mill is milling.


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

34 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north to Willow Springs. Take the 2nd Willow Springs exit for Highway 76. Turn left at the top of the ramp. Stay on Highway 76 for 11.5 miles. Turn left on E Highway. Stay on E Highway for 4 miles then continue straight on E-277. The mill will be on your left in 1.4 miles.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Noblett Lake

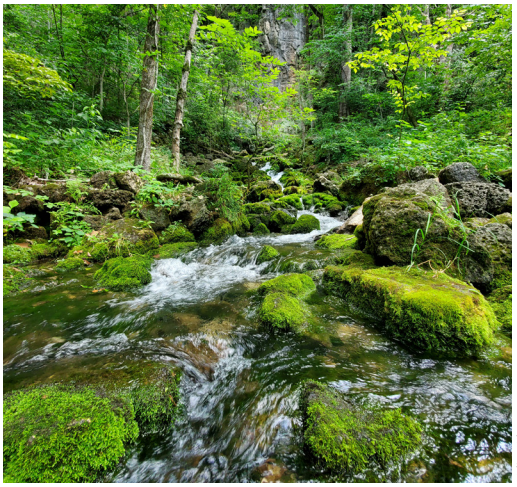
HISTORIC MILLS

11 TURNER MILL
36.7664442–91.2752775

- 1.5 million gallons per day from bluff wall
- 1915 25-foot steel overshot wheel

What remains of Turner Mill is where the now extinct town of Surprise, Missouri, had its own post office from 1895 until 1925. In the early 1850s, G. W. Decker operated the original mill utilizing a wooden overshot wheel. In 1891, Jesse L. (Clay) Turner bought the mill. He refurbished the four-story mill building, rebuilt the wheel, and added a system of belts, pulleys and drive shafts. The mill had various types of saws for lumber and also equipment for grinding wheat and corn. Turner abandoned the wooden wheel for a turbine which furnished power until 1915. Then the turbine was replaced with the 25-foot steel overshot wheel that is visible today. The wheel was hauled to the site in sections by oxen. Logs were brought to the mill by floating them down the Eleven Point River. Teams of oxen hauled the logs out of the river and to the mill. At that time, roads were almost non-existent or in very poor condition.

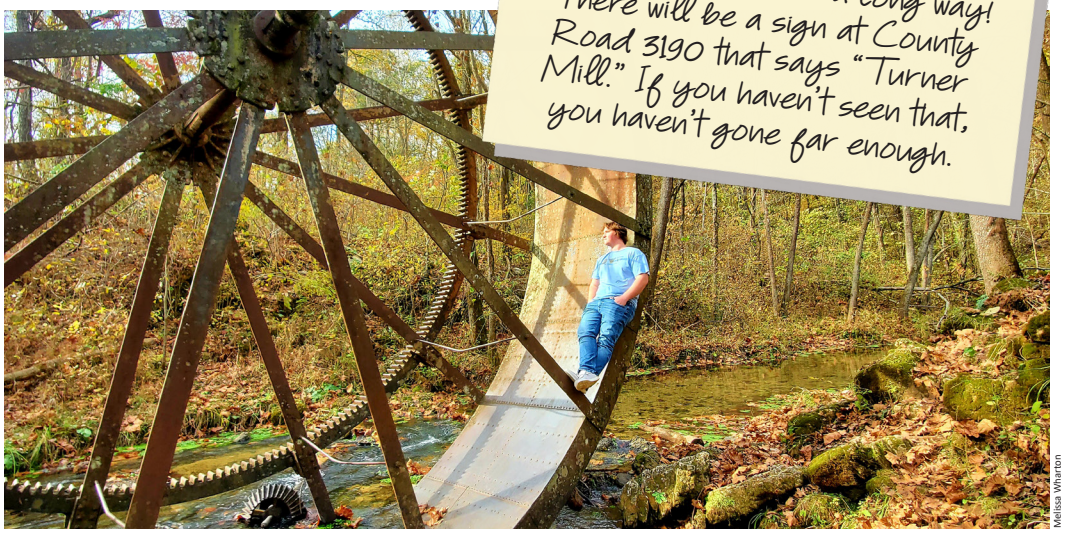
https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/mtnf/recarea/?recid=21684

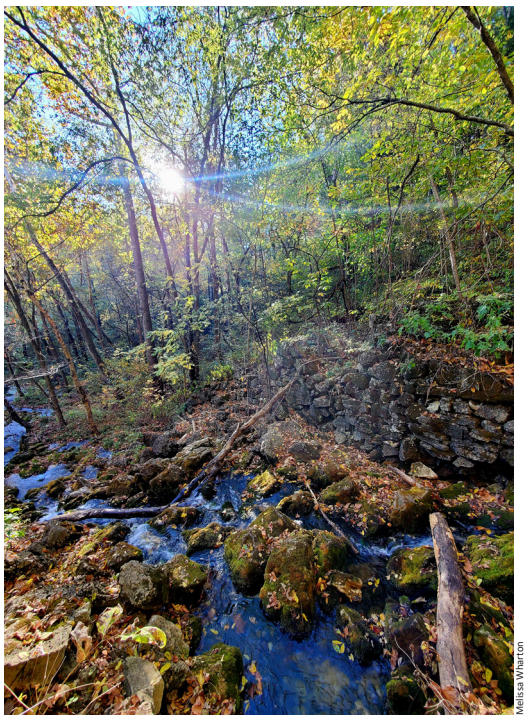

Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL

The first time we tried to find Turner Mill, we turned around because we thought we had gone the wrong way. You might reset your tripometer. Six miles on a dirt road seems like a long way! There will be a sign at County Road 3190 that says "Turner Mill." If you haven't seen that, you haven't gone far enough.


Melissa Wharton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50 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

(In inclement weather, a 4WD vehicle is recommended.) Take Highway 160 east toward Alton. In Alton, turn left on Highway 19 north. Go 11.5 and turn right on County Road 3152. Go 6 miles then turn right on County Road 3190 for another 2.6 miles to a small parking area. To find the wheel, take the trailhead just past the restrooms and follow that along the creek.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Greer Mill
- Greer Spring
- Falling Spring
- McCormack Lake



SPRINGS & FALLS

THE OZARKS REGION

is known for its many springs and waterfalls, and you'll encounter them frequently as you explore the natural areas around West Plains. This scenery is the backdrop for quiet rest as well as outdoor recreation.

Melissa Wharton

SPRINGS & FALLS

12 ALTHEA SPRING

36.6417376,–92.2279011

- 12 million gallons of water per day

Althea Spring is the 23rd largest spring in Missouri. It was named for the daughter of Dr. Paul Patrick who was an early owner. The spring was used to power a domestic power plant from 1958 to 1977. It comes up from rocks in the hillside and then runs downhill into the North Fork River.

Althea Spring is a popular stopping spot for floaters and is located in the Patrick Bridge Conservation area. It is accessible by land, too. Parking is available at Patrick Bridge then it's a short walk to the spring.



Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL

Althea Spring is a popular stop on float trips and a great way to cool off! Access from the river is just past Patrick Bridge. Land access is available and just a short walk from the parking area at Patrick Bridge.



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton

28 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 160 west toward Caulfield. Four miles past Caulfield, turn right on H Highway. In 4 miles, you will reach Patrick Bridge. Park before crossing the bridge then look for the trail to Althea Spring.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Dawt Mill
- Norfork Lake
- Blair Bridge
- Caney Mountain Conservation Area
- Hodgson Mill

SPRINGS & FALLS

13 BIG SPRING (CURRENT RIVER)

36.9490813,–90.9899613

- One of the largest springs in the world
- Largest spring in Missouri
- 286 million gallons of water per day
- One of Missouri's first state parks

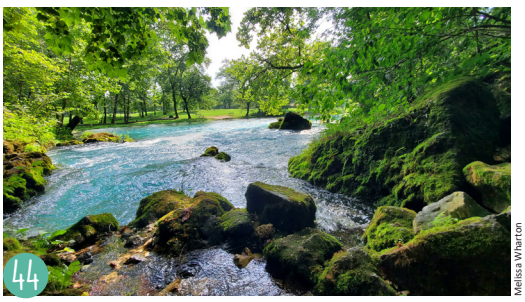
Big Spring was established as a state park in Missouri in 1924 and was developed by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Depression era of the 1930s. The people of Missouri donated it, Alley Spring, and Round Spring to the National Park Service to become a part of the Ozark National Scenic Riverways in 1969.

Big Spring ranks up there with Idaho's Snake River Spring Complex and Florida's Silver Spring as the biggest spring in America. With an average daily flow of 286 million gallons of water, the water from Big Spring travels from as far as 45 miles away through a series of undergound passages. Divers have discovered that the spring is at least 80 feet deep. As much as 70 tons of dissolved limestone is in the spring water each day. This is what gives the spring water its turquoise blue color.

The spring discharges from the base of a bluff and flows into the Current River.

https://www.nps.gov/ozar/planyourvisit/big-spring.htm
https://nature.mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/big-spring




Melissa Wharton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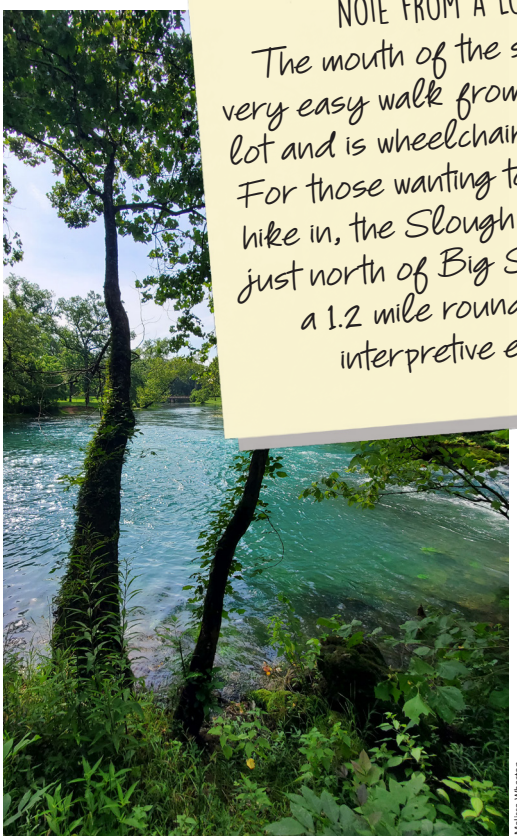
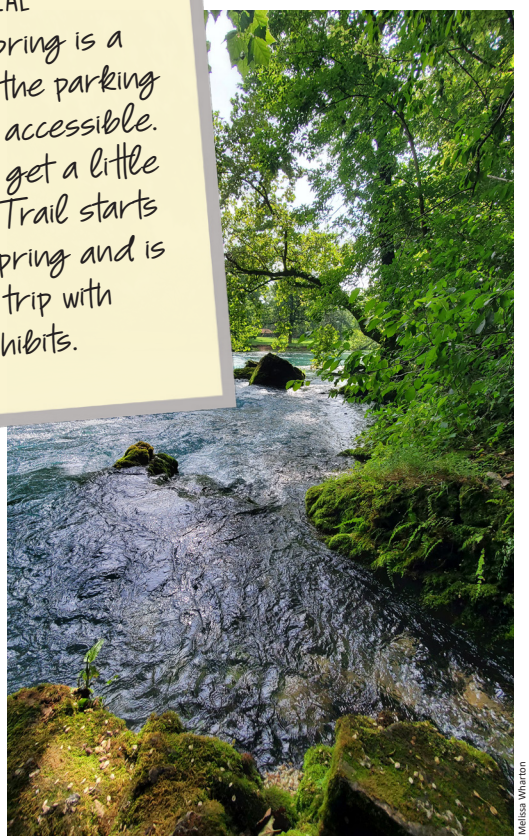
NOTE FROM A LOCAL

The mouth of the spring is a very easy walk from the parking lot and is wheelchair accessible. For those wanting to get a little hike in, the Slough Trail starts just north of Big Spring and is a 1.2 mile round trip with interpretive exhibits.


Melissa Wharton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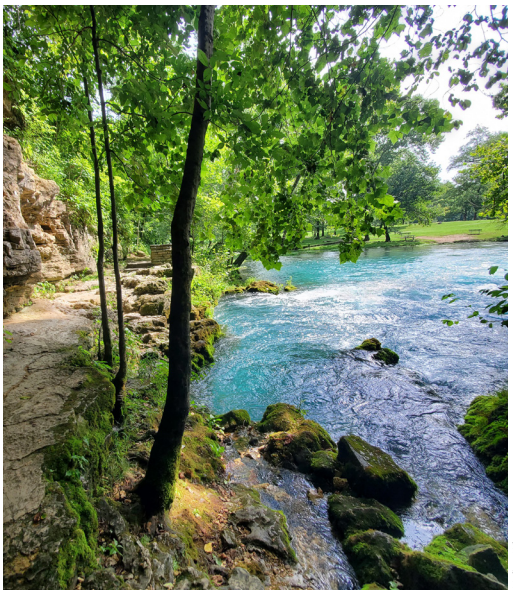
67 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Stay on Highway 60 for 55 miles then turn right on Highway 103 in Van Buren. Big Spring State Park will be ahead in 4.25 miles. Highway 103 ends and turns into County Road 60-102.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Falling Spring
- Klepzig Mill
- Rocky Falls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SPRINGS & FALLS

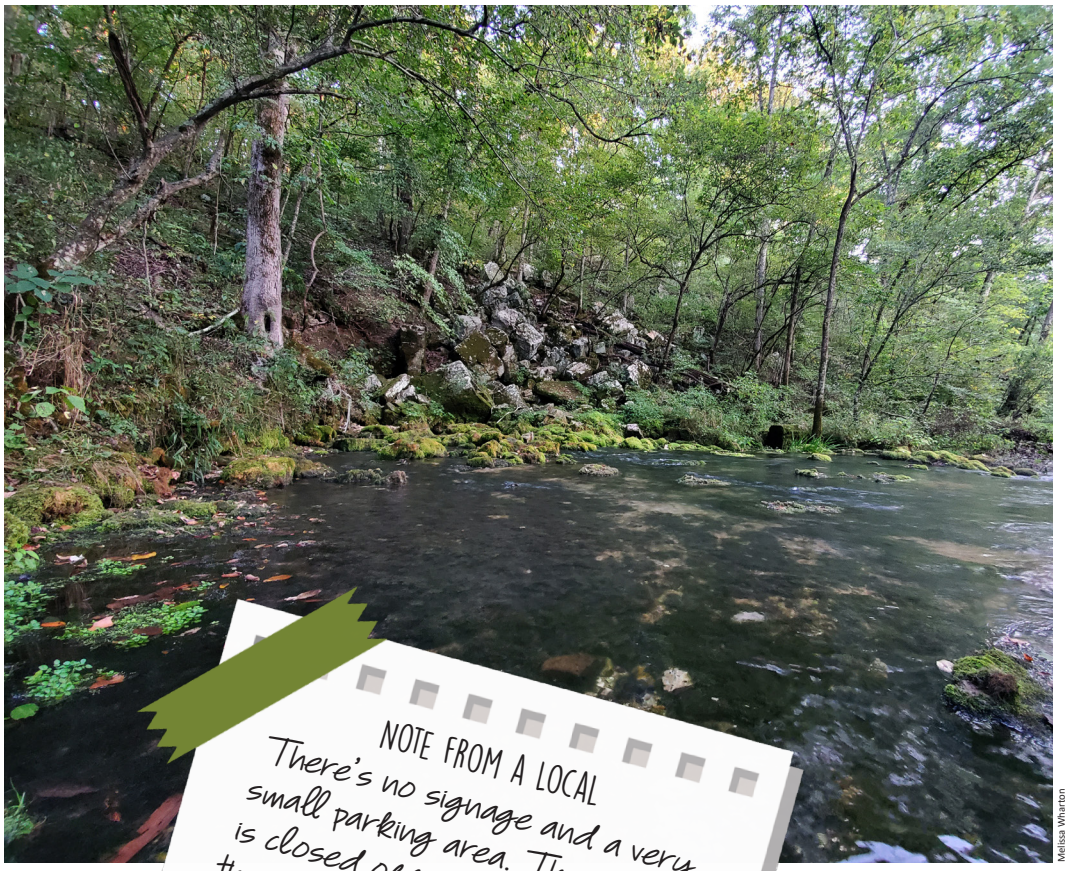
14 BIG SPRING (SPRING CREEK)

36.821717,–92.127829

- 6.5 million gallons of water per day

Big Spring is located down a small path in the Mark Twain National Forest. It flows from beneath a large pile of sandstone blocks at the base of a hill and into Spring Creek.

https://share.mo.gov/nr/mgs/MGSData/Books/Volumes/The%20Large%20Springs%20of%20Missouri/V-029.pdf



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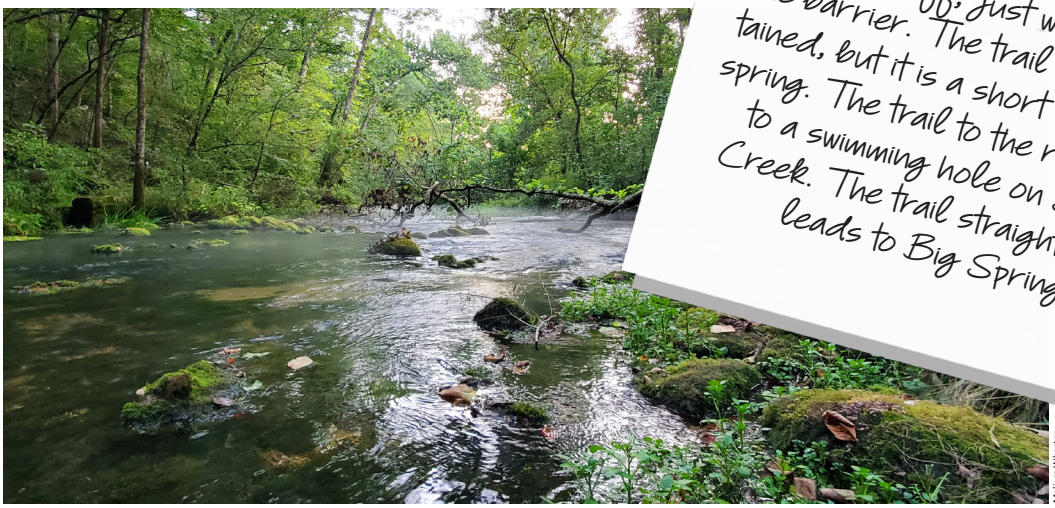
NOTE FROM A LOCAL

There's no signage and a very small parking area. The road in is closed off; just walk around the barrier. The trail is not maintained, but it is a short walk to the spring. The trail to the right leads to a swimming hole on Spring Creek. The trail straight ahead leads to Big Spring.



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16.5 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north and turn left on Hwy 14. In 13.5 miles, turn right on County Road 292. In 1 mile, there is a small parking area at white cornerposts. Follow the trail. At the clearing, take the trail straight ahead to the spring. The trail to the right leads to a swimming hole on Spring Creek.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Noblett Lake
- Topaz Mill
- Twin Bridges



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SPRINGS & FALLS

15 BLUE SPRING (JACKS FORK)
37.0383573,–91.6358402

- Good wading and fishing site

Blue Spring, located on the Jacks Fork River, gets its color from dissolved minerals in the water. The Blue Spring area is a wonderful stop to explore caves and bluffs along the river. There is river access to the Jacks Fork. (Campsites available by reservation.)

https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/natural-areas/jacks-fork



35 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. After Mountain View, turn left on OO Highway and go 2 miles to County Road OO-493. Turn left on County Road OO-493. Follow it for 1.5 miles. When the road T's, turn left and follow it until it ends. It is a short walk to view Blue Spring which flows from a cave on the other side of the river.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:
- Alley Spring
- Summersville Mill



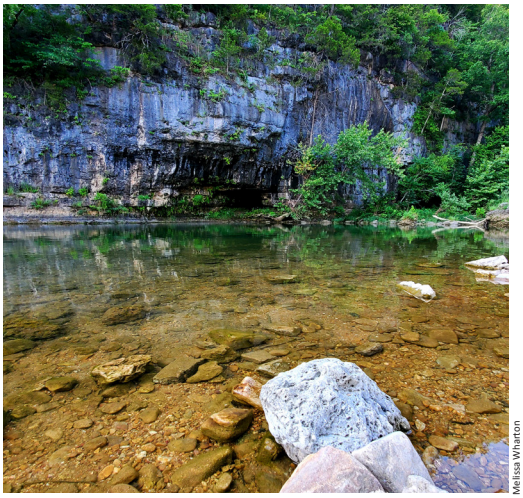
Bob Anderson



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



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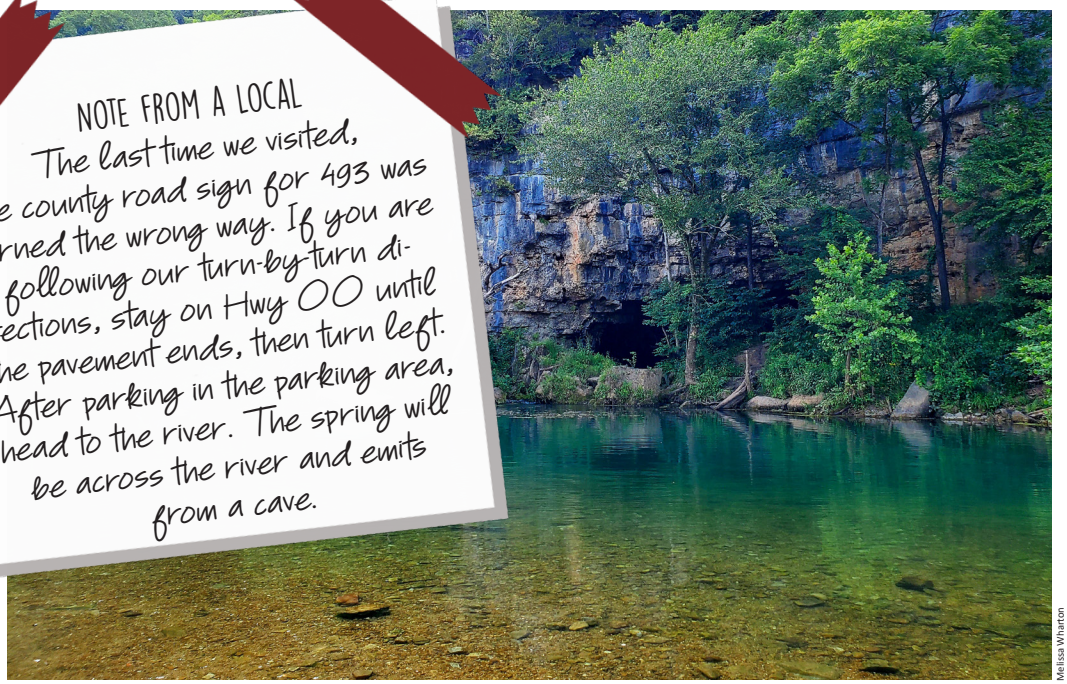
NOTE FROM A LOCAL
The last time we visited, the county road sign for 493 was turned the wrong way. If you are following our turn-by-turn directions, stay on Hwy OO until the pavement ends, then turn left. After parking in the parking area, head to the river. The spring will be across the river and emits from a cave.



Melissa Wharton

SPRINGS & FALLS

16 BLUE SPRING (NORTH FORK)

36.7485735,-92.1646827

- 7 million gallons of water per day

Blue Spring is located at the North Fork River Recreation Area. The trail to the spring follows along the river and is a fairly easy hike. The colorful oval spring is about 30 feet in diameter. It is surrounded on three sides by a stone wall and bluffs, and it flows into the North Fork River.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/mtnf/recreation/recarea/?recid=21750



Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL

The spring is about a half-mile walk from the parking area. Don't miss the overlook when you are there! If you walk around the spring, you'll find steps to the overlook where you'll be able to photograph the spring and the river.



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton

18 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take CC Highway west from Highway 63 in West Plains. In about 17.5 miles, the turn in for the North Fork Recreation Area will be on your left. The Blue Spring trail will be about a half mile from the entrance. There is a parking area at the trailhead.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Hodgson Mill
- Althea Spring
- Dawt Mill

SPRINGS & FALLS

17 BLUE SPRING (CURRENT RIVER)

36.767649,-91.8786504

- 310 feet deep
- 90 million gallons of water per day

The spring was called "Spring of the Summer Sky" by Native Americans. It is 310 feet deep! That is what gives it the vivid blue color. It is one of the deepest springs in the United States. How deep is 310 feet? You could put the Statue of Liberty in Blue Spring and her torch would be five feet below the surface of the water! Blue Spring is the 6th largest spring in the state with a daily discharge of 90 million gallons of water per day.

The spring itself is owned by the Missouri Department of Conservation, but the land surrounding it belongs to the National Park Service.

https://www.nps.gov/ozar/blue-spring.htm
https://nature.mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/blue-spring



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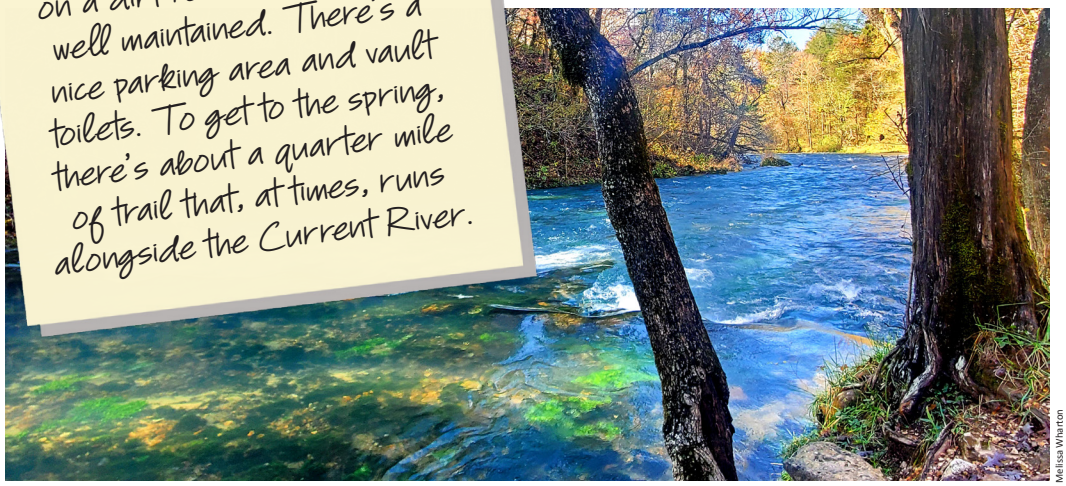
NOTE FROM A LOCAL

You will have a bit of a drive on a dirt road that is pretty well maintained. There's a nice parking area and vault toilets. To get to the spring, there's about a quarter mile of trail that, at times, runs alongside the Current River.



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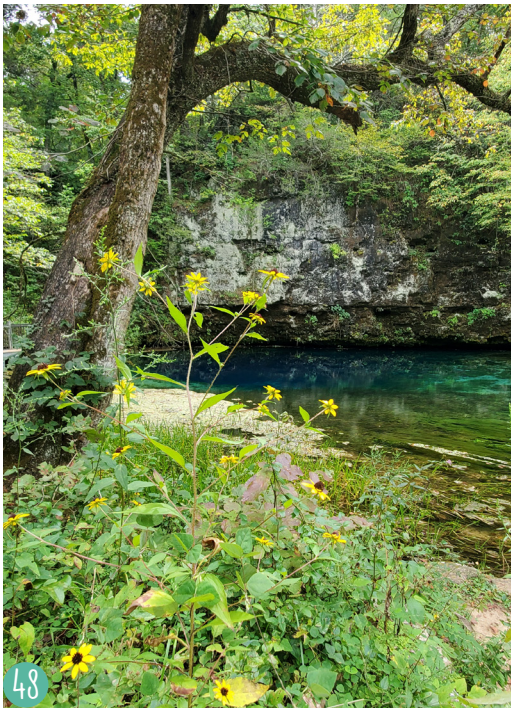

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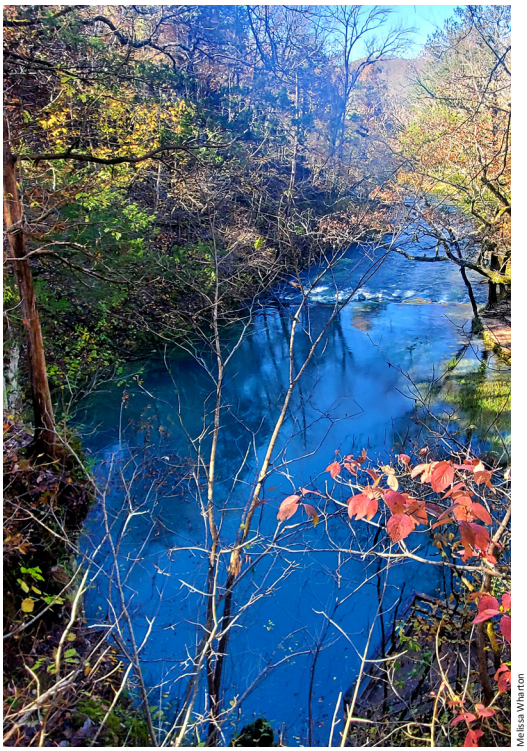
71 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Stay on Highway 60 for 34 miles then turn left on Highway 19 at Winona. In a half mile, turn right on H Highway. In 12.5 miles, turn right on Highway 106. In 8 miles, turn right on County Road 535 (there will be a sign for Blue Spring). In 2.5 miles, you will reach a parking area at the trailhead.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Alley Spring
- Klepzig Mill
- Rocky Falls
- Round Spring



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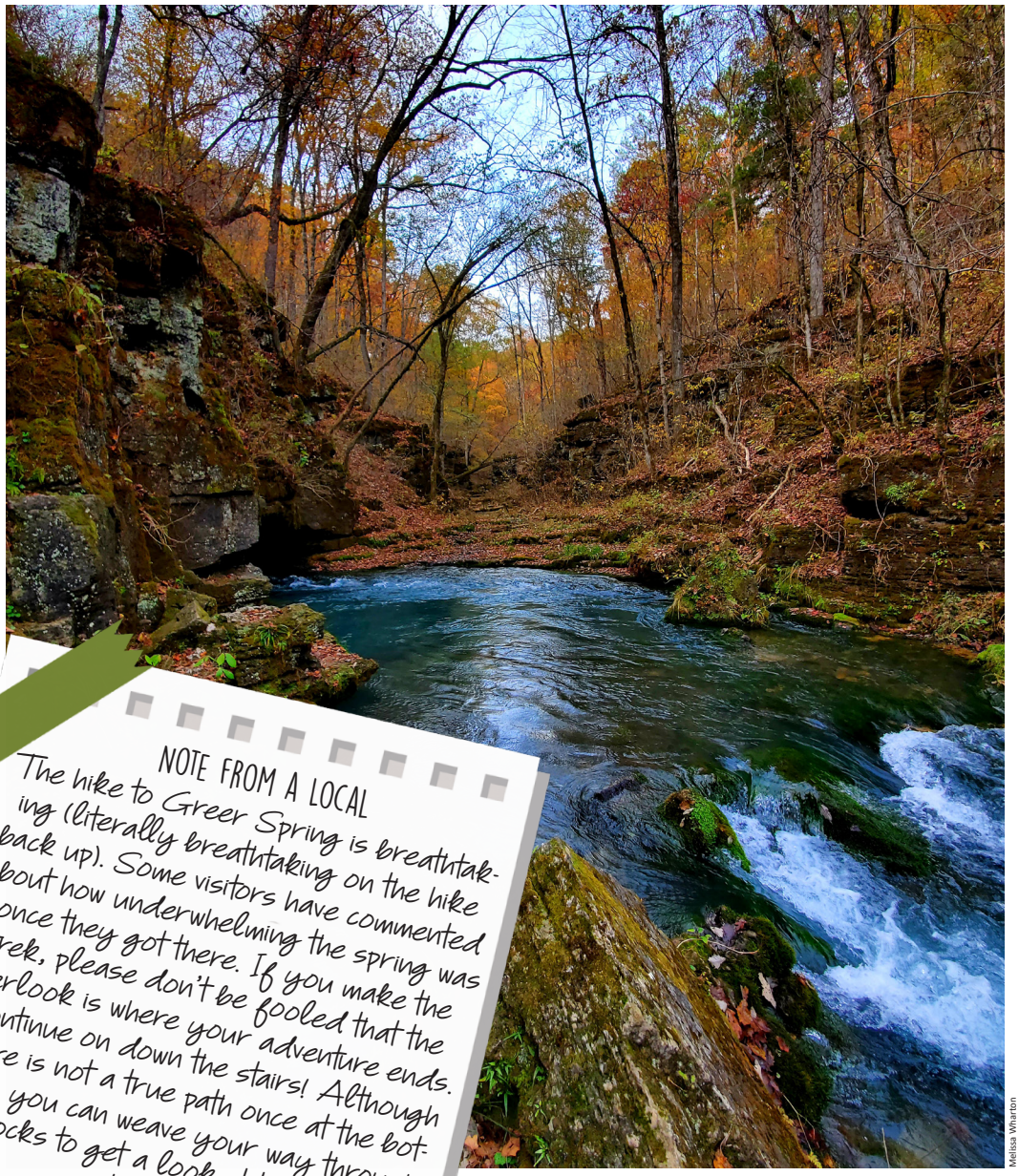
SPRINGS & FALLS

18 GREER SPRING
36.793448, −91.3423582

- Second largest spring in Missouri
- 222 million gallons per day

"The spring flows from two outlets about 250 feet apart at the bottom of a steep, shaded ravine at the terminus of the trail. The spring run drops 62 feet in elevation for 1.25 miles where it runs into the Eleven Point National Scenic River. Access to Greer Spring is via a 0.9 mile trail that descends about 250 feet in elevation along a gentle gradient from the trailhead at Missouri Highway 19." ~ fs.usda.gov


Melissa Wharton

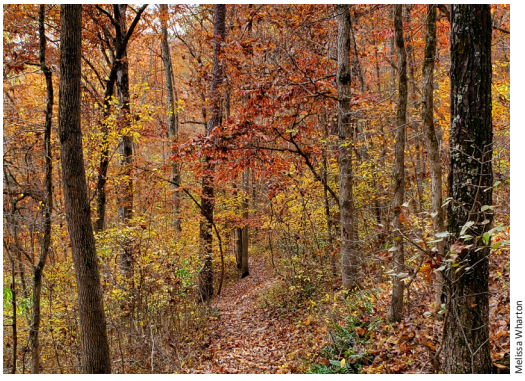
NOTE FROM A LOCAL

The hike to Greer Spring is breathtaking (literally breathtaking on the hike back up). Some visitors have commented about how underwhelming the spring was once they got there. If you make the trek, please don't be fooled that the overlook is where your adventure ends. Continue on down the stairs! Although there is not a true path once at the bottom, you can weave your way through the rocks to get a look at the source of the spring.


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

41 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 160 east toward Alton. In Alton, turn left on Highway 19 north. Go 8 miles and the parking area for Greer Spring and Trail will be on your left.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Blue Spring (Current RIver)
- Falling Spring Mill
- Klepzig Mill
- McCormack Lake
- Rocky Falls
- Turner Mill

SPRINGS & FALLS

19 ROCKY FALLS

37.093381,–91.2270849

- A shut-in formed 1.5 billion years ago

Rocky Falls is made of rhyolite, a hard rock. Typically, a stream erodes softer dolomite (a type of limestone) and makes a wider valley to travel through. Since the rhyolite is harder, the stream tends to stay within whatever cracks that it finds, deepening them only a little by erosion. This is how a "shut in" is formed. Rocky Falls can be visited year round and is a popular swimming hole in the summer.

https://www.nps.gov/ozar/learn/nature/rocky-falls.htmmill.htm



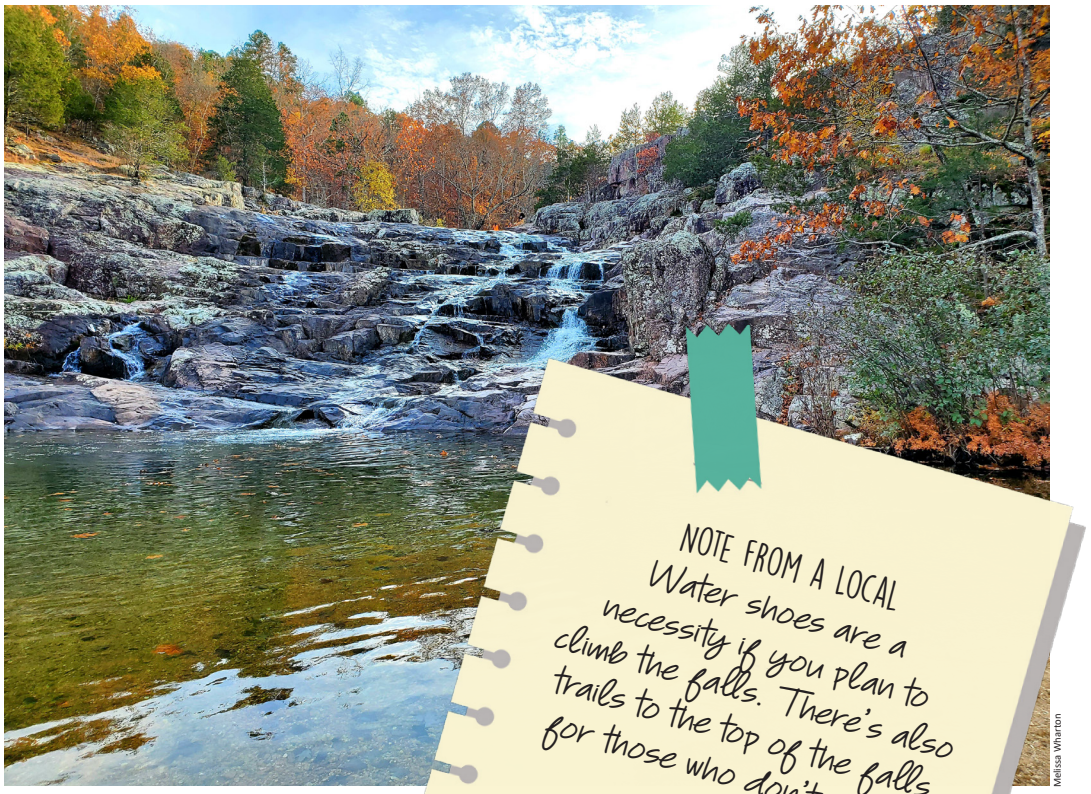


61 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Stay on Highway 60 for 36 miles. Turn left on Highway 19 toward Winona. Go through Winona then turn right on H Highway. Stay on Highway H for 8.5 miles then turn right on NN Highway. In 2 miles, turn right on County Road 526. The falls is just a short walk beyond the parking area.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Blue Spring (Current RIver)
- Falling Spring Mill
- Greer Mill
- Greer Spring
- Klepzig Mill
- McCormack Lake
- Turner Mill



NOTE FROM A LOCAL
Water shoes are a necessity if you plan to climb the falls. There's also trails to the top of the falls for those who don't want to get wet!

Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton

SPRINGS & FALLS

20 ROUND SPRING
37.2802091,–91.4109827

- 26 million gallons of water per day

Round Spring is a nearly circular pool of water that flows under a natural bridge into the Current River. The spring is 55-feet deep. Round Spring Cave, with ranger-guided tours, is also at this location. Tours are seasonal for a fee.

"Round Spring was a Missouri State Park from 1932 until 1964 when the people of Missouri donated it to the National Park Service to become part of the Ozark National Scenic Riverways. Like Alley and Big Spring, it was a gift from Missouri to the nation." ~ National Park Service

https://www.nps.gov/ozar/planyourvisit/round-spring-and-round-spring-cave.htm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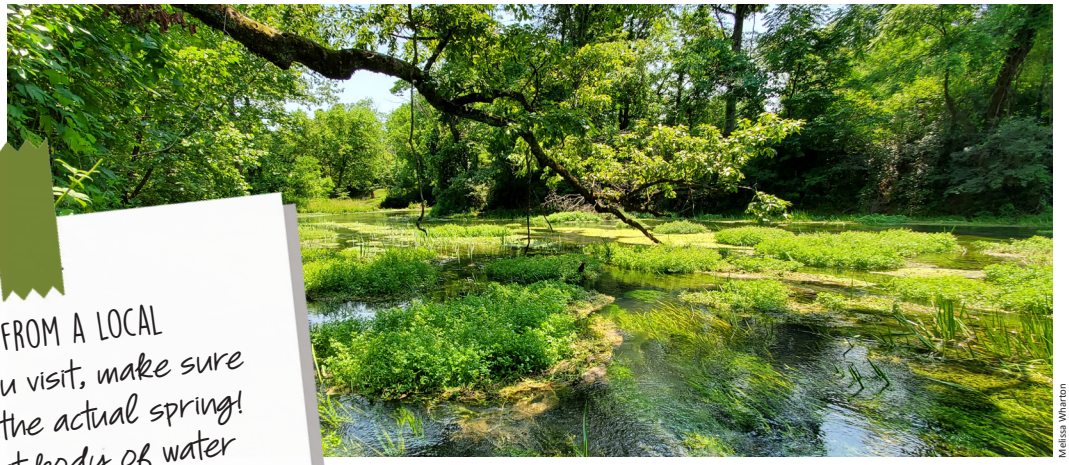
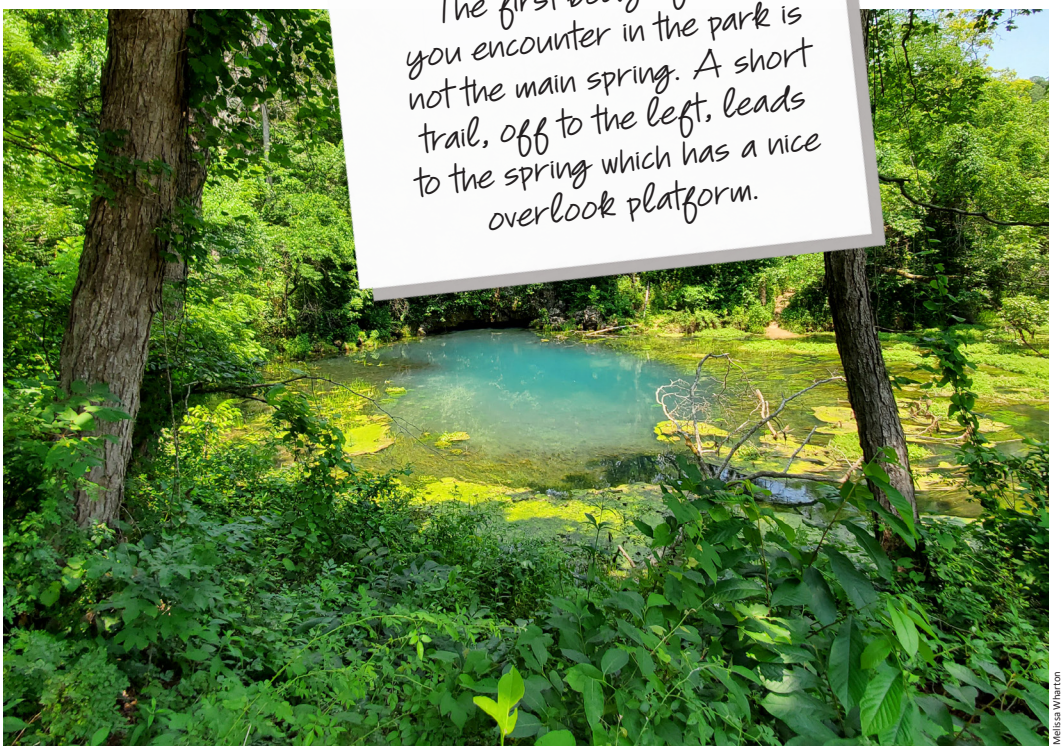

Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL
When you visit, make sure you see the actual spring! The first body of water you encounter in the park is not the main spring. A short trail, off to the left, leads to the spring which has a nice overlook platform.


Melissa Wharton

63 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. After Mountain View, turn left on Highway 17. Stay on Highway 17 for 13 miles to Summersville. At Summersville, turn right on Highway 106. In 7 miles, continue straight on D Highway. Go 9 miles then turn left on Highway 19. In 5 miles, the entrance for Round Spring will be on your right.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:
- Alley Spring
- Devil's Well
- Echo Bluff State Park
- Summersville Mill

SPRINGS & FALLS

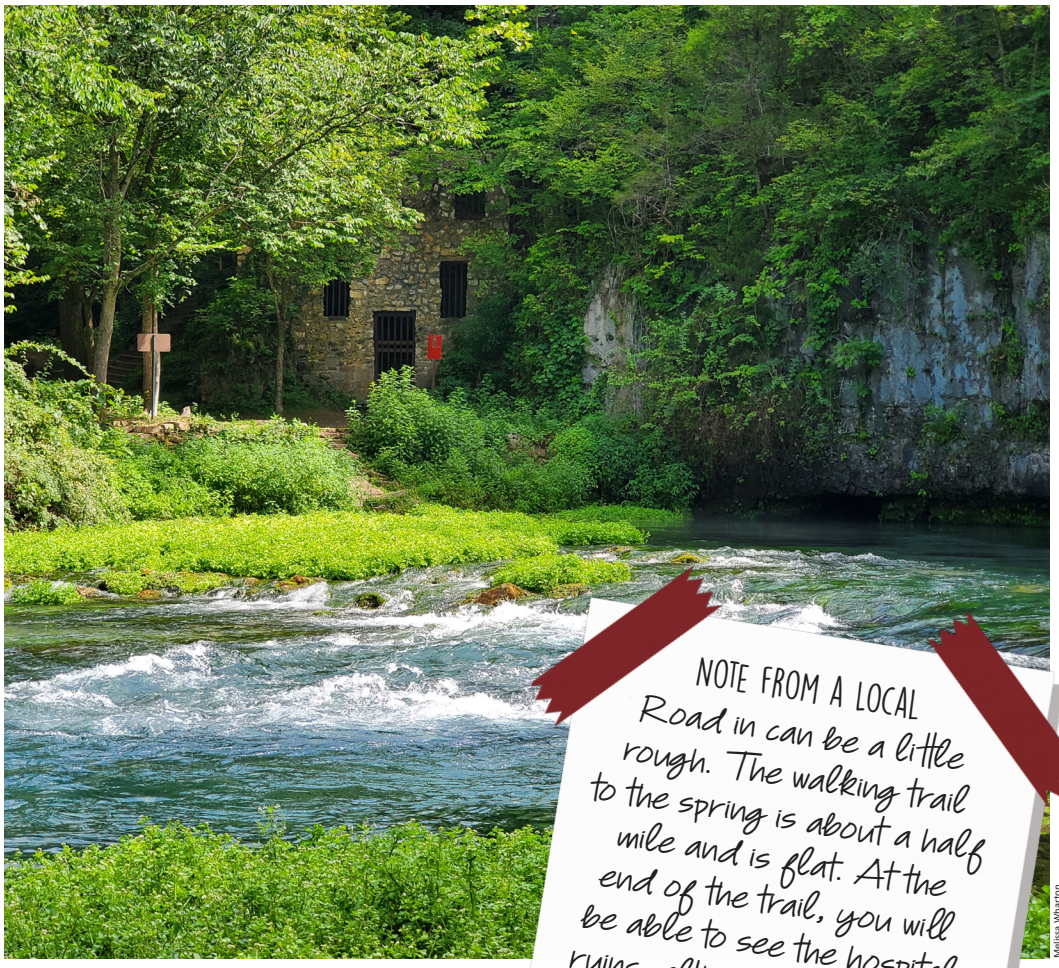
21 WELCH SPRING
37.3004033,–91.6684652

- 75 million gallons of water per day
- 5th largest spring in Missouri

Welch Spring was named after Current River Welch who was born in 1859 and died in 1912. The Welch family ran a grist mill at the property until nearly 50 years after the Civil War.

In 1913, an Illinois doctor named C.H. Diehl bought Welch Spring for $800 from Current River and Martha Welch's sons, James and Arnold. Dr. Diehl built a hospital over the mouth of Welch Cave believing that the cool, pollen-free air coming from the cave and the spring water had healing properties. Welch Spring, which flowed from the cave, was dammed up so the water would close off the entrance. This forced air from the cave opening into the hospital. Unfortunately, the hospital was not a success. Dr. Diehl died in 1940 and his family was not interested in keeping the property up. They sold the property and it was run as a trout fishing resort until the National Park Service purchased it in 1967.

https://www.nps.gov/ozar/learn/historyculture/welch-hospital.htm


Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL
Road in can be a little rough. The walking trail to the spring is about a half mile and is flat. At the end of the trail, you will be able to see the hospital ruins, although you will be across the spring from it.


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

82 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. After Mountain View, turn left on Highway 17. Stay on Highway 17 for 13 miles to Summersville. At Summersville, turn right on Highway 106. In 7 miles, continue straight on D Highway. Go 9 miles then turn left on Highway 19. In 18 miles, turn left on KK Highway. In 6.5 miles, turn right on K Highway. Turn left on the first gravel road past the Akers Group Camp. At the end of the road, park next to the river.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Devil's Well
- Round Spring
- Echo Bluff State Park



SEVERAL LAKES AND PONDS are close by. Some are for watersports and fishing. Others are for exploring unique environments.

Rob Jeckstadt

LAKES & PONDS

22 BULL SHOALS LAKE

Accesses available in Ozark County are:

- Pontiac (W Highway)
  53 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
- Spring Creek Public Use Area
  55 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
- Theodosia
  55 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Bull Shoals Lake is located in Missouri and Arkansas. With its hundreds of miles of coves and lake arms, common activities include boating, water sports, swimming and fishing. Best bet on fishing is for Largemouth Bass, Spotted Bass, Walleye, and Crappie. Be sure to visit the Missouri Department of Conservation website for regulations and more information.

https://fishing.mdc.mo.gov/reports/bull-shoals-lake



Rob Jeckstadt

23 NORFORK LAKE

Accesses available in Ozark County are:

- Bridges Creek (Ozark County Road 551)
  30 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
- Liner Creek (T Highway)
  44 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
- Tecumseh (Highway 160)
  31 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
- Udall (O Highway)
  34 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Most of Norfork Lake is located in Arkansas but there are four accesses available in Missouri. Norfork Lake has more than 550 miles of shoreline and covers 22,000 acres. Water activities include boating, water skiing, swimming, and fishing. Best bet on fishing is for Largemouth Bass, Spotted Bass, Walleye, and Crappie. Be sure to visit the Missouri Department of Conservation website for regulations and more information.

https://fishing.mdc.mo.gov/reports/norfork-lake



Rob Jeckstadt

24 AUSTIN LAKE
36.1579455,–92.177752

- 20-acre lake
- Bluegill & Redear Sunfish

https://fishing.mdc.mo.gov/reports/austin-lake

37 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Stay on 63 North and 60 West at the junction. Continue on Highway 60 west at Cabool. At the first Mountain Grove exit, take the ramp for MM Highway and turn right. In a little less than one mile, turn right on County Road 5526.

25 MCCORMACK LAKE
36.822513,–91.351175

- 15-acre lake
- Panfish and Bass

https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/mtnf/recarea/?recid=21708



Melissa Wharton

45 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 160 east toward Alton. In Alton, turn left on Highway 19 north. Go 13.5 miles then turn left on County Road 3155. The lake is 2 miles ahead.

26 SIMS VALLEY LAKE
36.9517691,–91.9375983

- 41-acre lake
- Redear Sunfish, Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass & Channel Catfish

https://fishing.mdc.mo.gov/reports/sims-valley-lake
https://nature.mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/sims-valley-community-lake

27 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. In 5 miles, turn left on RA Highway. Sims Lake is 2 miles ahead.

LAKES & PONDS

27 NOBLETT LAKE
36.8214493,–92.0082295

- 26-acre lake
- Bluegill, Sunfish, Bass & Catfish

Noblett Lake was built in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservations Corps. The area boasts a 26-acre lake for fishing, picnic area and pavilion, and a primitive camping area. There is a trailhead for the 22-mile Ridge Runner Trail through the Mark Twain National Forest.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/mtnf/recarea/?recid=21748




Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL
One of our favorite spots for photographs is at the dam at Noblett Lake. If you are looking for a quiet place to picnic, be sure to drive around to the pavilion. Follow the signage for both locations.


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

21 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north to Pomona. At Pomona, turn left on P Highway. In 7 miles, turn right on AP Highway. The entrance to Noblett Lake will be on your left in 8.5 miles.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Blue Hole
- Twin Bridges


Melissa Wharton

LAKES & PONDS

28 BRUSHY POND
36.80124,–91.5388127

- Sinkhole marsh
- Wild hibiscus in the summer
- Unusual wetland plants

https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/natural-areas/brushy-pond

48 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 160 east toward Alton. In Alton, turn left on Highway 19 north. Go 15 miles and turn right onto Forest Service Road 4220. Brushy Pond is just north of the pull off.

29 CUPOLA POND
36.79922,–91.1070838

- 5-acre swamp
- Water Tupelo trees usually found in the Mississippi delta
- Sediments dating back 23,000 years

https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/natural-areas/cupola-pond

70 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. At Fremont, turn right on J Highway. In 14 miles, turn left onto Forest Service road 3224. Travel 1 mile then turn left onto Forest Service road 4823 (CR C-7Ab). Continue 1 mile. The road will dead-end. Park at the turn-around. The trailhead is on the northwest corner of the parking area. A map and compass are recommended to explore the area.

30 GRASSY POND
36.9718708,–91.2997299

- Sinkhole pond
- Typically wet in winter and spring and dry in summer and fall

https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/natural-areas/grassy-pond

53 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Past Winona, turn right on County Road 583 (Forest Road 4261). In one mile, the pond will be on your right.

31 MARG POND
36.8211917,–92.0814191

- Sinkhole pond
- Surrounded by Sphagnum Moss
- Typically wet in winter and spring and dry in summer and fall

https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/natural-areas/marg-pond

54 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Marg Pond is on County Road 60-A. Past Winona, make a U-turn at W Hwy and head back west on Highway 60. (County Road 60-A cannot be accessed from the eastbound lane.) County Road 60-A will be the next road to the right. Marg Pond is on the left in less than a half mile.

32 TUPELO GUM POND
36.8712038,–91.9477773

- Ancient sinkhole pond, swamp and marsh
- Water Tupelo trees usually found in the Mississippi delta
- Typically wet in winter and spring and dry in summer and fall
- In wet years, blooms of American lotus and rose mallow

https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/natural-areas/tupelo-gum-pond


Bob Anderson

37 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 160 east toward Alton. Turn left onto Highway 99 toward Thomasville. From Thomasville, go 3.25 miles to County Road 3173. Go approximately 8 miles then turn right on Forest Service Road 3239. In 2 miles the road will Y, go to the left. Park and head south to the pond. A map and compass are recommended to explore this area.



Melissa Wharton

CONSERVATION AREAS

Whether you hunt with a firearm, an archery method, prefer to capture images with a camera, or are simply looking to relax, the Missouri Department of Conservation offers dozens of hunting, fishing, bird watching, and camping opportunities within the counties surrounding West Plains. Most are a short drive, only a handful are more than an hour away. Amenities such as picnic areas, individual campsites, and privies are available in limited areas.

For specific information, directions, and area maps, visit *mdc.mo.gov*. Click on the "Discover Nature" link and "Places to Go." Be sure to check hunting and fishing seasons, licensing regulations, and permit requirements for each area.

33 ANGELINE

- 39,590 acres

Points of interest include a scenic overlook on Highway 19, Flat Rock Lookout Tower, Lick Log Hollow Nature Trail, and a 9.5 mile Equestrian loop trail.

34 BARN HOLLOW (NATURAL AREA)

- 250 acres

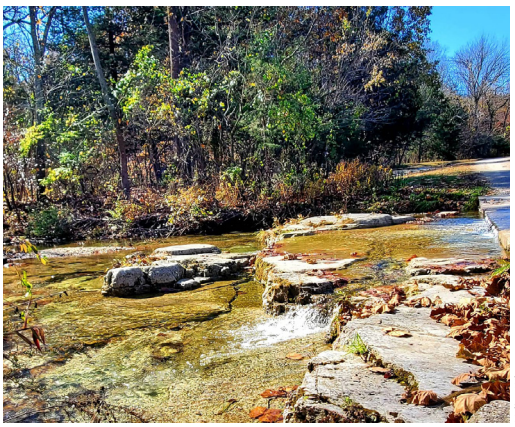
35 BIRCH CREEK

- 5,645 acres

36 CANEY MOUNTAIN

- 7,899 acres

The hills are remnants of an old elevated plateau that has been cut into by numerous streams. View surrounding peaks of Bear Cave Mountain, High Rock Mountain, Morrison Knob, Long Bald, and Tater Cave Mountain.



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37 CARRICK W. DAVIDSON ROBERT G. PARIS (WILDLIFE AREA)

- 270 acres

38 CEDAR GAP

- 431 acres

Second-highest point in the State of Missouri.

39 DAN & MAUREEN COVER MEMORIAL (WILDLIFE AREA)

- 281 acres



Bob Anderson

40 CURRENT RIVER

- 29,290 acres

Places of interest include Paint Rock Bluff, Deer Run Fire Tower, and Elk Driving Tour.

41 DEAN DAVIS

- 173 acres

42 GIST RANCH

- 11,240 acres

The area has small springs and wetlands.

43 HORSESHOE BEND (NATURAL AREA)

- 233 acres

44 JOHN ALVA FUSON, MD

- 1,534 acres

45 LOGAN CREEK

- 12,341 acres

Popular place for hunters seeking deer, turkey and squirrel.

46 MIDVALE

- 80 acres

47 NORFORK LAKE (MANAGEMENT LANDS)

- 4,861 acres



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48 P.F. BARNES

- 120 acres

49 PECK RANCH

- 23,763 acres

Rugged, forested hills and hollows and the area's highest point Stegall Mountain at 1,348 feet above sea level. Home to Missouri's wild elk.



Terry Hampton

50 PINEY RIVER NARROWS (NATURAL AREA)

- 258 acres

51 RICHARD MASSENGILL

- 207 acres

52 RIPPEE

- 418 acres

53 ROCKY CREEK

- 39,546 acres

The area contains many springs, caves, and karst features that contain some of the rarest plants and animals in the state.

54 SHANNON RANCH

- 1,565 acres

Ozark glades are found throughout the area which feature uncommon plants or striking geological features.

55 SUNKLANDS

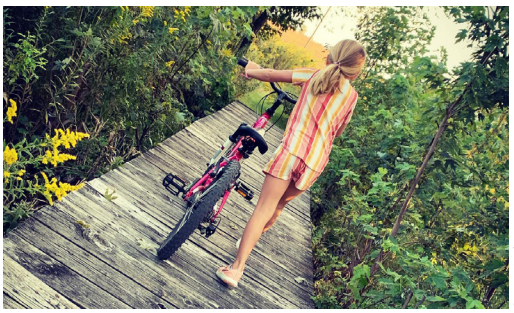
- 6,295 acres

At the center of this natural area is a complex of sinkholes. What is known as the "sunkland" is the longest sinkhole in Missouri, nearly a mile long, 200 feet deep and 600 feet wide.

56 TINGLER PRAIRIE

- 240 acres

The area has three maintained trails: the Woodland, the Wetland, and the Prairie trails and is just 9 miles from West Plains.



Courtney Hughes

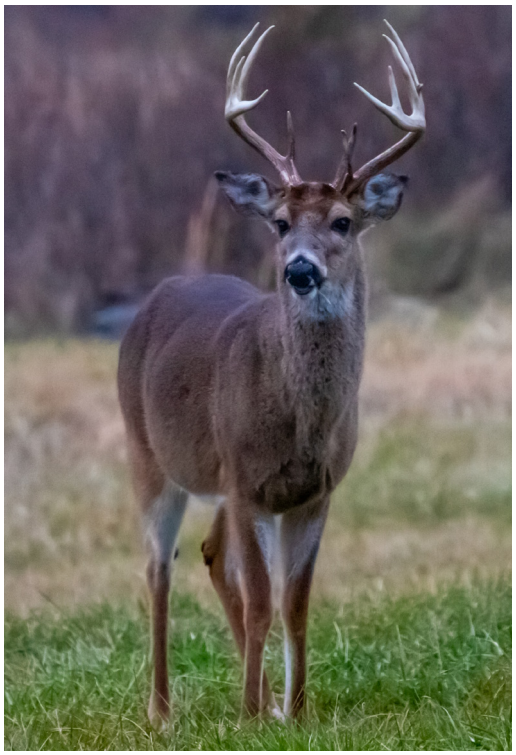
57 WARM FORK

- 185 acres

58 WHITE RANCH

- 6,703 acres

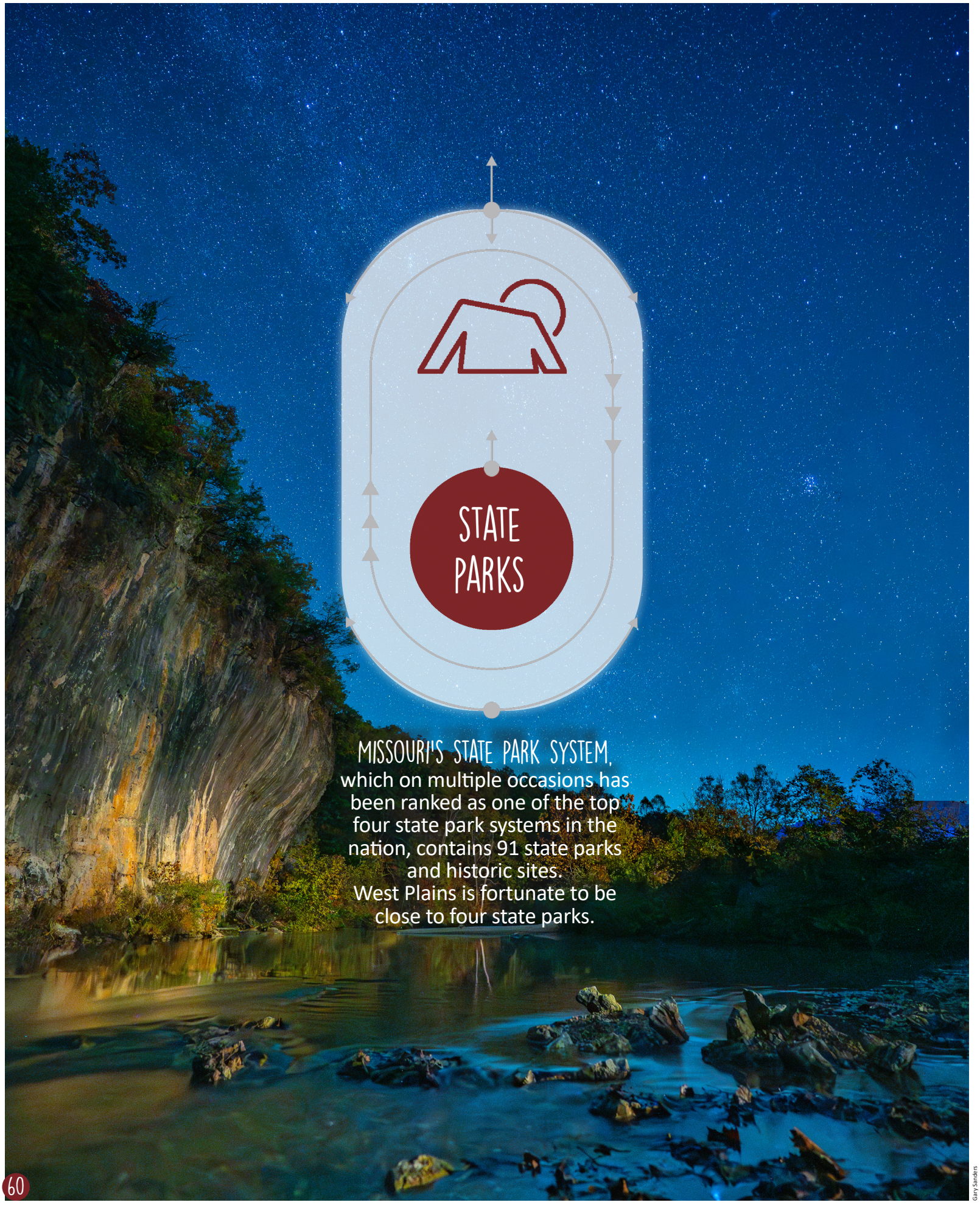
Approximately 11 miles south of West Plains, White Ranch has an abundant population of deer, turkey, and other forest wildlife species.



Bob Anderson

59 WILBUR ALLEN MEMORIAL

- 380 acres



MISSOURI'S STATE PARK SYSTEM, which on multiple occasions has been ranked as one of the top four state park systems in the nation, contains 91 state parks and historic sites. West Plains is fortunate to be close to four state parks.

Gary Sanders

STATE PARKS

61 ECHO BLUFF

37.3158922,-91.4116711

- 476 acres
- Opened to the public in 2016

A year-round outdoor destination for adventurers and nature lovers. The park features a lodge, cabins and campground. Other amenities include a restaurant, a gift shop, bluff-top shelter for special events, a 50-seat amphitheater, and hiking and mountain biking trails.

Echo Bluff State Park gets its name from the massive cliff towers rising above Sinking Creek. The State of Missouri developed this park after acquiring the property which was formerly Camp Zoe, a summer camp for children that opened in 1929.

https://mostateparks.com/park/echo-bluff-state-park



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL

Echo Bluff Drive will loop around by the campground, lodge, and amphitheater. At the end of the drive is the Current River Trailhead.



Melissa Wharton



Bob Anderson

66 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. After Mountain View, turn left on Highway 17. Stay on Highway 17 for 13 miles to Summersville. At Summersville, turn right on Highway 106. In 7 miles, continue straight on D Highway. Go 9 miles then turn left on Highway 19. In 8.5 miles, the entrance for Echo Bluff will be on your right.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Alley Spring
- Devil's Well
- Round Spring
- Welch Spring

STATE PARKS

62 GRAND GULF
36.5739011,−91.7798014

- Formed 10,000 years ago
- Cave system with collapsed roof

Known as Missouri's "Little Grand Canyon," Grand Gulf State Park is breathtaking. Grand Gulf is a collapsed dolomite cave system that stretches about three-quarters of a mile between 130-foot-high walls. One can view Grand Gulf from trails on top or venture down to the floor to meander under a natural bridge which spans 250 feet with a 75-foot opening.

Water from Brussell Branch drains into Grand Gulf where it flows under the natural bridge before entering the mouth of an underground cave system. It then travels 9 miles underground and re-emerges at Mammoth Spring in Arkansas.

One of the earliest writings of exploring the area was from Luella Agnes Owen. From her book "Cave Regions of the Ozarks and Black Hills" (1898), she recounted her explorations of Grand Gulf including seeing numerous, small, eyeless fish that were pure white. In the 1920s, a severe storm washed many downed trees and other debris into the gulf, filling the cave.

Today, heavy rains fill the gulf to depths exceeding 100 feet. The water slowly drains out over a period of several weeks.

In 1971, Grand Gulf was designated a National Natural Landmark, and in 1984, the property became a Missouri State Park.

https://mostateparks.com/park/grand-gulf-state-park



Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL
Two trails are available at Grand Gulf: the Natural Bridge Trail and and Interpretive Trail Loop. If there has been a recent rain, you might even witness a wet-weather waterfall.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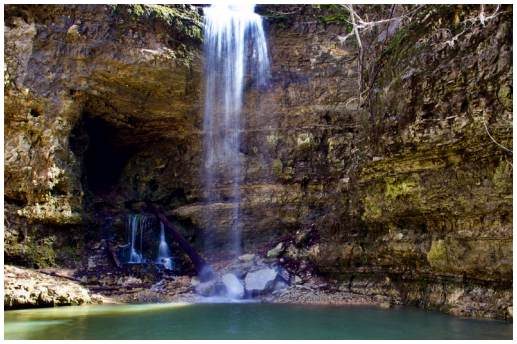
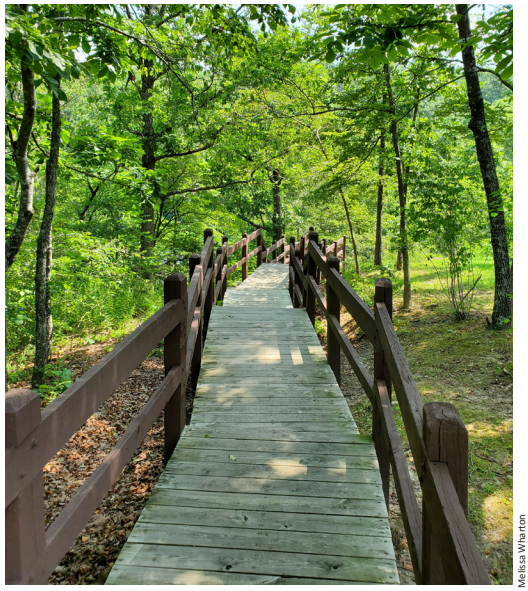

Bob Anderson


Melissa Wharton

25 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 south toward Thayer. At Koshkonong, turn right on F Highway. After crossing the railroad tracks, turn left on County Road 377. Stay on CR 377 for 3.75 miles. This will be a dirt road. At W Highway, turn right. The entrance to Grand Gulf will be on the right in less than a half mile.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Mammoth Spring State Park
- Tingler Prairie
- Vanderhoef Forest


Melissa Wharton

STATE PARKS

63 MAMMOTH SPRING (ARKANSAS)

36.5170074,–91.5960565

- 216 million gallons of water per day
- 10-acre lake
- 1886 Frisco Train Depot & Museum
- Arkansas Welcome Center

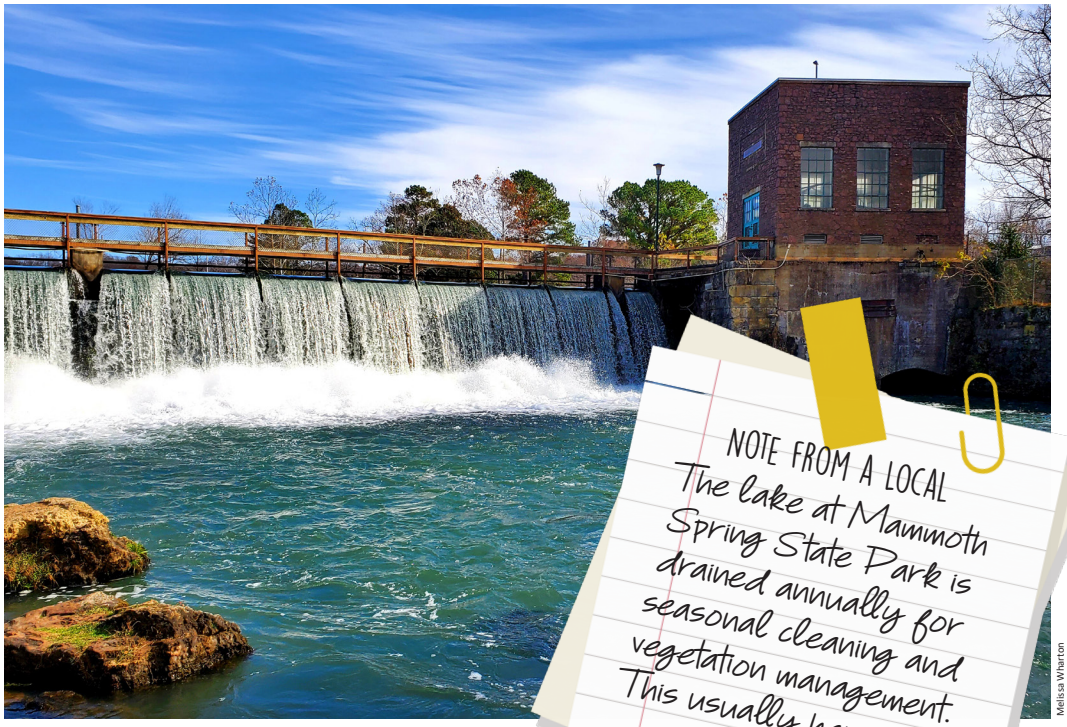
Mammoth Spring State Park, a National Natural Landmark, is Arkansas' largest spring and one of the world's largest springs. It forms a 10-acre lake then runs over a dam to start the Spring RIver.

Native Americans, particularly the Osage, inhabited the Mammoth Spring area for thousands of years prior to the arrival of Europeans. Recorded local history dates to the early 1800s, when settlers called the spring "Head of the River." In 1850, geologist David Dale Owen examined the spring itself, and the area became a tourist attraction. The first industry in the region was a simple wooden-wheel gristmill. While settlement was slow, a town did emerge just west of the spring, and the coming of the St. Louis–San Francisco Railway (Frisco) in 1883 launched an era of progress.

The 225-foot milldam provided power for a large flour production company, and the railroad brought tourists. A 56-room resort and many cabins welcomed summer guests. One of the earliest national fish hatcheries was established there in 1903.

In 1925, the Arkansas-Missouri Power Company bought rights to the dam and built a hydroelectric plant there that provided power until 1972. Mammoth Spring was approved as a state park in 1957. ~ https://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/entries/mammoth-spring-state-park-1238/

https://www.arkansasstateparks.com/parks/mammoth-spring-state-park



Melissa Wharton


Bob Anderson


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

31 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 south toward Thayer. Just past the Arkansas state line, the entrance to the park is on the left.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Grand Gulf State Park
- The Narrows
- Tingler Prairie

STATE PARKS

64 MONTAUK
37.1169771,–92.154219

- 40 million gallons of water per day
- Located at headwaters of Current River
- Famous opening trout day on March 1

The valley surrounding the springs that form the Current River attracted settlers in the early 1800s. Early residents came to the area from New York and named their first post office after Montauk in Suffolk County, Long Island. Because of its proximity to the springs and its abundant supply of water power, the village of Montauk proved to be an excellent spot for milling. Four mills were constructed to serve the community. The last one, a gristmill built in 1896, still stands today and retains much of its original machinery. It is open seasonally for tours.

The next big step in the park's history was in 1926 when it became a Missouri state park. Members of the Civilian Conservation Corps built many of the amenities and structures in the park in the 1930s. Many of these structures still stand today, a testament to the craftsmanship of this era.

Montauk State Park is best known for being one of the three "trout parks" in the Missouri state park system. Canoe access is located just outside the park's southeast border, making Montauk State Park the perfect place to stay during a river adventure. ~

https://mostateparks.com/page/54986/park-history
https://mostateparks.com/park/montauk-state-park



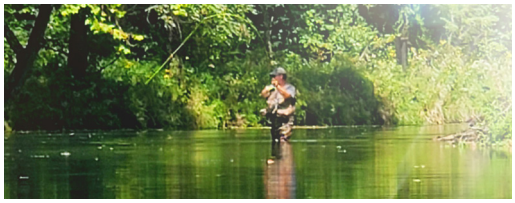


Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL
Montauk State Park was damaged by a flood in November 2024. Before visiting, be sure to check with the park for updates.



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton

71 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Follow Highway 63 and Highway 60 west toward Cabool. At Cabool, take exit for Highway 63 north. Eleven miles after Houston, turn right on P Highway. In 1 mile, turn left on Highway 137 then in 1.25 miles, turn right on VV Highway. In 10 miles turn left on Highway 119. Then in less than a mile, turn right on County Road 6660. Montauk is 1 mile ahead.

MAKE IT A DAY TRIP and visit other attractions close by:

- Devil's Well
- Welch Spring



POINTS OF INTEREST

FROM LEGENDS and lore to a viewing platform suspended above an underground lake, there are several interesting places to visit.

Melissa Wharton

POINTS OF INTEREST

65 BAKERSVILLE PIONEER VILLAGE

37.3841224,-91.5534603

- Heirloom seed store
- Recreated pioneer village

In the rolling hills of the Missouri Ozarks stands a legacy to the passing of time. The Homestead Act in the mid-1800s encouraged the Rippee family to move west and settle what is reputed to be the longest-lasting homestead in Missouri. The family raised many varieties of produce, birds and animals, and were quite skilled in the crafts of the region. They traded with the Osage Indians and cared for soldiers during the Civil War in their hand-hewn log-cabin.

Bakersville is situated on the original Rippee farm. The Baker Creek Seed Store now stands where the family's market garden once was. In 2007, construction began on the historic town. Besides the Baker Creek Seed Store, there is a donation-based vegan restaurant, speaker barn, an old-time mercantile, herbal apothecary, a natural bakery and blacksmith shop, two music barns, a Western jail, a native rock oven, a windmill, seed warehouses, and many breeds of historic poultry and livestock. The best part? It's free (except for festivals three times per year.)

https://www.rareseeds.com/our-village



Melissa Wharton

NOTE FROM A LOCAL

Bakersville is closed on the weekends. Be sure to check their hours of operation before you visit by going to their website or email seeds@rareseeds.com



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton

66



Melissa Wharton

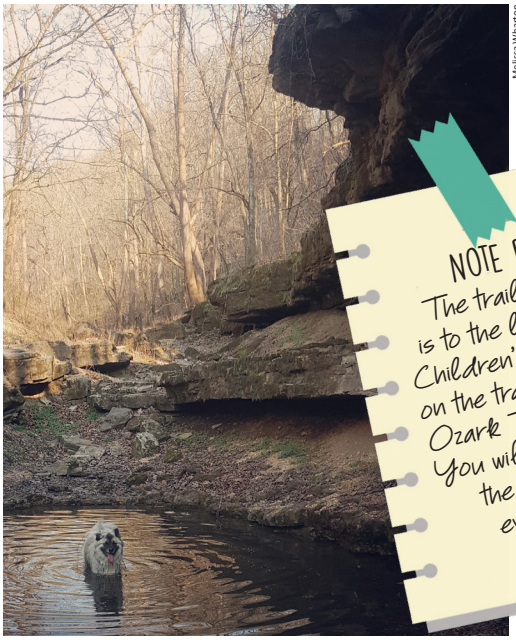
63 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Follow Highway 63 and Highway 60 west toward Cabool. Continue on Highway 60 west at Cabool. In 28 miles, take Highway 5 north at Mansfield. In 3.5 miles, turn left onto London Road then in .5 mile, turn left onto Baker Creek Road.

POINTS OF INTEREST

66 BLUE HOLE
36.83512,–92.05361

- Trailhead for North Fork section of the Ozark Trail
- Missouri Children's Forest
- Blue Hole reached by trail


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

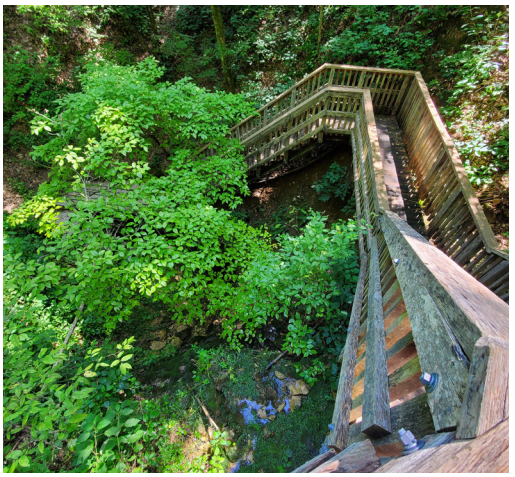
NOTE FROM A LOCAL
The trail to the Blue Hole is to the left (just before the Children's Forest Trail). Once on the trail, look for the green Ozark Trail markers on trees. You will be on the ridge above the Blue Hole and will eventually be able to descend to view it.

13 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north. In 2 miles, turn left on Highway 14 and go 9.5 miles then turn right on AP Highway. The entrance to Blue Hole will be on the left in less than 2 miles.

67 DEVIL'S WELL
37.1133205,–91.92116

- Viewing platform is 100 feet above the lake
- Lake is 80 feet deep and holds about 22 million gallons of water

This "karst window" was formed when the roof of a huge cavern, containing an underground lake, collapsed. The trailhead for the Cave Spring Trail is at this location.


Melissa Wharton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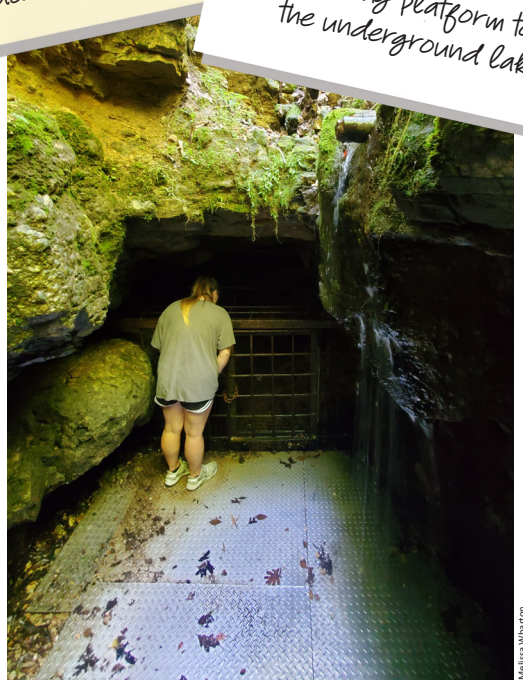
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NOTE FROM A LOCAL
The final driveway to Devil's Well is narrow, but the parking lot itself is well-maintained. Also, there's a lot of steps to get down to the viewing platform to see the underground lake.


Bob Anderson

79 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. After Mountain View, turn left on Highway 17. Stay on Highway 17 for 13 miles to Summersville. At Summersvile, turn right on Highway 106. In 7 miles, stay straight to continue on D Highway. In 9 miles, turn left on Highway 19. In 17.5 miles, turn left on KK Highway. In 2 miles, turn left on Devil's Well Road. Devil's Well will be ahead in 2 miles.

POINTS OF INTEREST

68 LAURA INGALLS WILDER HISTORIC HOME & MUSEUM

37.1018164,–92.5239815

- Tours are available of the home
- Open seasonally

This home on the Rocky Ridge Farm in Mansfield is where Laura, Almanzo, and Rose lived when they moved to Missouri in 1894. *https://lauraingallswilderhome.com/*



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton

57 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Stay on 63 North and 60 West at the junction. Continue on Highway 60 west at Cabool. Past Norwood take the exit ramp for Y Highway. At the top of the ramp, turn left and cross the overpass. Then turn right on Old Highway 60 and A Highway. In 5 miles, the entrance to the museum will be on the left.

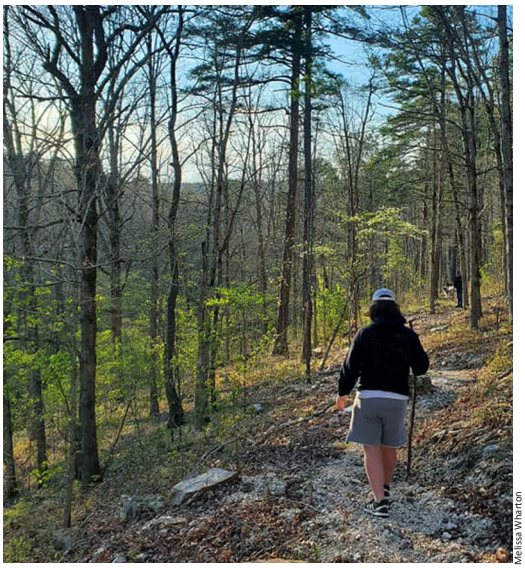
68

69 MARK TWAIN NATIONAL FOREST

- 1.5 million acres in 29 counties in Missouri
- More than 750 miles of trails for hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, and motorized use
- More than 350 miles of streams suitable for floating canoeing or kayaking

The Mark Twain National Forest maintains a healthy, working forest and offers a wide range of recreation activities.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/mtnf



Melissa Wharton



Melissa Wharton

8 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

To reach the forest that is closest to West Plains, take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Turn left at Pomona on P Highway. The trailhead is less than a mile on the left, Forest Road 835.

LEGEND OF 'BLUE MAN' OF THE HILLS REMEMBERED



The legend of Bigfoot began in the Ozarks in the winter of 1865 when a noted hunter from the eastern part of Douglas County, Sol Collins, who was past 60, was hunting game on the ridge that forms the watershed between the Big North Fork and Spring Creek. There was snow on the ground and Collins was tracking his game when he came upon a set of tracks somewhat like a bear. Old Sol had trailed and killed many a bear in his time, but these tracks were the largest and broadest that he had ever seen; and at each side of the tracks were marks in the snow such as might have been made by long claws.

He immediately took up the trail, determined to kill the biggest bear in Ozarks history. For hours he followed those great footprints far away to the north, almost to Indian Creek, then in a wide semi-circle to the west until he was close above the Big North Fork River. It was while he was climbing the north slope of Upper Twin mountain that he looked up and barely escaped being hit by a huge boulder that crashed by him. He barely escaped two more huge boulders that hurled down the hillside, and as he took shelter behind a big post oak, his blood froze to see, up on the hillside, a gigantic figure shaped like an immense man, stark naked, except for the skin of some animal around its waist and other wrappings of skin around his feet.

The creature was covered from head to foot with a tightly curling coat of short black hair, which as the sun struck upon it took on a dark blue hue. Collins always claimed that the giant was not less than nine feet tall, and his estimate is among the least of many made by other men in the years to follow.

Collins stared only long enough to make these observations before the creature cast aside the great ten foot club he carried and tore out another boulder from the frozen ground, hurling it with such deadly aim that the rock shattered against the huge post oak. The giant then lifted up his voice and made the hills echo with an ear-splitting scream more terrifying than ever came from any wild beast that roamed the woods. ~ Douglas County Herald

POINTS OF INTEREST

70 NORTH FORK RECREATIONAL AREA

- Ridge Runner National Recreational Trail and the Blue Spring Trail
- Area rebuilt after the Flood of 2017

https://www.fs.usda.gov/mtnf



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18 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take CC Highway west from Highway 63 in West Plains. In 17.5 miles, the North Fork Recreation Area will be on the left.

71 OZARK NATIONAL SCENIC RIVERWAYS

- First national park to protect a river system, Current and Jacks Fork Rivers
- Hundreds of freshwater springs, caves, trails and historic sites

https://www.nps.gov/ozar/index.htm

70 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

To reach the Visitor Information Center, take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. In Van Buren, turn left on James Street then right on Main Street then left on Watercress Road. The Visitor Center will be on the right.

72 THE NARROWS

- The last river access for the Eleven Point River
- Hike to Blue Spring overlook and Morgan Spring

The Narrows gets its name from a narrow ridge of land between the Eleven Point River and Frederick Creek. A footpath leads to the overlook at Blue Spring where a part of a karst complex known as "The Narrows" can be seen. The footpath continues to the remnants of Thomasson Mill, consisting of a small dam and rockwork on Fredrick Creek. Within one square mile are four springs: Blue Spring, Morgan Spring, Jones Spring, and Sullivan Spring.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/mtnf/recarea/?recid=21706



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NOTE FROM A LOCAL

While this hike might not be for everyone (it seems to be uphill, both ways!), the overlook of Blue Spring is less than a quarter-mile. Also, the drive to the parking area is a little rough.



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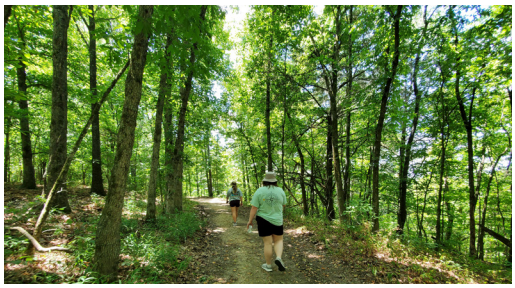

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55 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 south toward Thayer. At Thayer, turn left at the stoplight onto Highway 142. In approximately 23 miles, the entrance to The Narrows is on the left, just before crossing the Eleven Point River.

POINTS OF INTEREST

73 TWIN BRIDGES

- Built in the 1930s spanning the North Fork River and Spring Creek



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18 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north. In 2 miles, turn left on Highway 14 and go 15.5 miles.

74 VANDERHOEF MEMORIAL STATE FOREST

- Trail and a creek overlook

https://nature.mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/archie-and-gracie-vanderhoef-memorial-state-forest



Courtney Hughes

12 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
From West Plains, take Highway 160 west for 3 miles to State Route JJ. Turn left on JJ and go 8 miles then turn left on County Road 9620. Continue on County Road 9620 for 0.5 mile, then bear right onto County Road 8110. Continue on 8110 for 0.5 mile to the parking area on the left.

75 VIANDEL VINEYARD

Relax on the back porch, on the covered patio, and inside by the fire. The Viandel Vineyard farmstead is situated on Route 60, in Missouri's pristine Ozark mountain woodlands.

The vineyard was established in 2006 and the tasting room opened in 2011.

https://www.viandelvineyard.com/



Viandel Vineyard



Viandel Vineyard



Viandel Vineyard

25 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. In 12 miles, Viandel Vineyard will be on the left.

76 WEST PLAINS COURTHOUSE SQUARE HISTORIC DISTRICT

- 46 contributing buildings

The Courthouse Square Historic District in West Plains is on the National Register of Historic Places. The district encompasses 46 contributing buildings dating from 1881 to 1950 and includes examples of Italianate, Queen Anne, Romanesque Revival, Late Gothic Revival, and Art Deco style architecture.



Terry Hampton

DOWNTOWN WEST PLAINS
Set your GPS for 1 Court Square, West Plains.

77 WILD HORSES OF SHANNON COUNTY

- 5 herds roam the hills around Eminence

The wild horses of Shannon County have been roaming freely for almost 100 years when seven fillies and an Appaloosa stallion were turned out by farmers in a drought during the Depression. Today, there are five herds of about 50 horses total and they can be elusive with over 80,000 acres to roam around the Current and Jacks Fork rivers. The best places for viewing the horses are the Broadfoot Fields (north of Eminence), the Shawnee Fields (east of Eminence), or the fields above the two Rivers on Highway V.



Bob Anderson

61 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Stay on Highway 60 for 36 miles. Turn left on Highway 19 toward Winona. Go through Winona and travel 11 miles to Eminence.



OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

EXPERIENCE OZARKS ADVENTURE

on the water by canoe, kayak or boat or on land by foot, bike, horseback or vehicle, these are some of the options for your Ozarks outdoor adventure.

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OUTDOOR ADVENTURES
Rivers

RIVER ACCESS & SWIMMING HOLES

On hot summer days locals and visitors alike flock to the miles and miles of crystal-clear, spring-fed rivers of the Ozarks. Nothing is better than a dip or a float to get away from it all. Multiple outfitters are close by to rent canoes, kayaks, rafts or tubes and also offer shuttle service.

Summer in the Ozarks also means bugs and snakes. Water shoes are a must, as well as a cooler with drinks and snacks. Lawnchairs and a canopy for shade can make an afternoon at a swimming hole more enjoyable.

Accesses are listed below with mileage from initial access. Usually where there's river access, there's also a good place to swim. If floating, check local conditions and visit *https://missouricanoe.org/ or mdc.mo.gov* for more information.

BIG PINEY RIVER

The Big Piney River is the largest tributary of the Gasconade River and is rated one of the best fishing streams. Numerous good-sized and beautiful springs feed the river so that it is floatable throughout the summer. *(85.7 total miles of river, accesses listed for Texas County only. Visit website for full listing.)*

0.0 Baptist Camp Access. Low-water bridge. No ramp.
3.5 Tone Hogan Ford on county road. Access.
8.7 Dog's Bluff Access on left, on Hwy 17.
12.4 Brushy Creek on right.


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13.2 Blankenship Cave in end of bluff on right is merely a rock shelter. This is the Horseshoe Bend area.
14.6 Mineral Springs Access on right, off Hwy 63 at Houston. Mineral Spring 0.5 mile up branch.
14.8 Mineral Springs Ford. Access in dry weather.
15.3 Cathcart Hollow on right.
16.9 Burton Branch on left.
18.7 Bell Bluff on left.
19.3 Sandy Shoals Ford. Sand Shoals Road connects Hwy. E on the east to Hwy AA on the west.
21.5 Arthur Creek on right.
24.8 Steam Mill Hollow Creek on left.
25.8 Boiling Spring Access on right. Spring is at river level on left and has a flow of about 10 million gallons a day. Private campground. A good road crosses the river here on a concrete lowwater "bridge." This is a local swimming hole. River quite slow from here to Hwy. 32.
27.7 Narrow Gap Bluff on left.
29.0 Burnett Spring on left.
29.8 Boone Creek on right.
31.8 Mason Bridge Access on right on Mason Bridge Road. Gravel ramp.
34.9 Falling Springs up right bank.
36.1 Hazelton Spring, off river to left, is not open to public. Site of old grist mill. Private access on right.
38.8 Paddy Creek on left. U.S. Forest Service campground one mile up creek.
39.8 Forest Service Slabtown access and camp.
40.8 Slabtown Spring branch enters on right but is posted.
44.7 Blooming Rose Camp.

BRYANT CREEK

Bryant Creek is a relatively wild stream and is highly fishable.

0.0 Vera Cruz Access on Hwy. AB. Moderately difficult access for canoes/kayaks.
2.5 Hwy. 14. Access.
4.0 Rippee Conservation Area on left.
6.3 Monastery Bridge, off Hwy. OO.
11.6 Bertha Ford low-water bridge access, on County Road N-345.
11.9 Fox Creek on left.
14.4 Spring Creek on right. Three miles up the creek, there is a small community known as Rockbridge which has a spring, fish hatchery, mill and store.
16.3 Hwy. 95 low-water bridge and Bell School. Access.
17.5 Brush Creek on left. A fair road on the left bank parallels the creek for about 1.3 miles below here.
24.0 Private campground on right.



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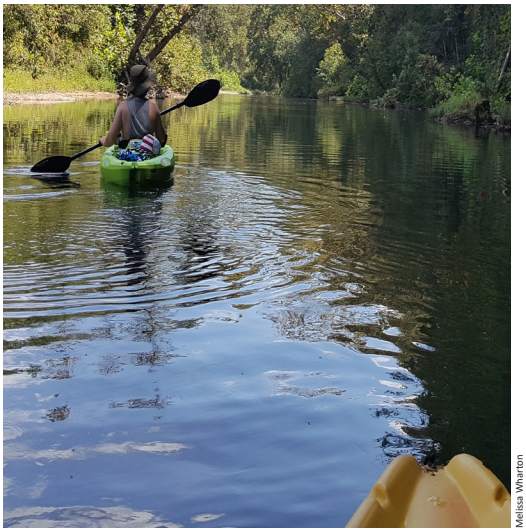
25.9 Hwy. 181 low-water bridge at Aid-Hodgson Mill. Sycamore Access on right below bridge. Gravel ramp. The spring, which furnished water power for the mill, has an average daily flow of 24 million gallons and has been ranked as 15th in size in the state. The eight-mile section of the creek above here is excellent fly-fishing water.
29.4 North side of The Narrows. It is two miles around Muleshoe Bend from this point, but only 0.2 mile as the crow flies. The next bend in the river is wider and is known as Horseshoe Bend.
32.3 Brixey Spring on left. The spring is often obscured by willows, but its branch is easily seen where it enters the creek.
33.3 Warren Bridge low-water access. Road connects Hwys. FF and H. Excellent swimming hole below the bridge.
37.5 Caney Creek on right.
40.0 Florence C. Cook Access on right, on County Road 308, off Hwy. 160. Dirt ramp.
42.6 Junction with North Fork.

CURRENT RIVER

The headwaters of the Current River are nearly 900 feet (270 m) above sea level, while the mouth of the river lies around 280 feet (85 m) above sea level. The basin drains a rural area that is dominated by karst topography, underlain by limestone bedrock with a small area of igneous rock southeast of Eminence, Missouri.
0.0 Baptist Camp Access on county road off Hwy. YY.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3.3 Ashley Creek on right.
6.5 Parker Hollow on left, fed by Schafer Spring, .2 miles upstream.
8.0 Cedargrove Access. Low-water bridge and campground.
8.9 Big Creek on right.
11.6 Medlock Spring on right.
12.4 Welch Landing Access.
12.7 Welch Spring, sixth largest in state, on left.
15.7 Akers Ferry Access on Hwy. K. Campground and store.
17.8 Lewis Hollow on right at ford.
20.9 Cave Spring on left.
23.2 Rock House Cave on right. It is now more like a natural bridge than a cave and makes a good shelter.
25.2 Pulltite Access. Campground and store.
26.0 Pulltite Spring and branch on right.
27.0 Boyds Creek on right.
30.2 Jerry J. Presley Conservation Education Center on left. No access or camping.
32.7 Sinkin Creek enters on left. By putting in at The Sinks, where the creek takes a short-cut through a hill via a cave, 6.5 miles of the creek can be floated in good water.
34.2 Round Spring access, campground, spring and cavern.
42.5 Big Creek enters on left.
44.7 Bee Bluff on left.
46.6 Jerktail Landing on right, on county road off Hwy. 19. Access and campsite.
51.1 Ebb and Flow Spring, reached by walking 0.25 mile up creek on left.
51.5 Jacks Fork River enters on right. Two Rivers Access (Ozark National Scenic Riverways).
52.3 Old ferry site, access and campground.
56.2 Blair Creek on left.
58.4 Hwy. 106 Bridge.
58.7 Powder Mill, an old ferry site, with access and campground.
60.0 Blue Spring, ninth largest in the state, has deepest blue color. Reached by a 0.25 mile walk up its branch on the left.
63.8 Roberts Field access and campground. Rocky Creek enters on right.

ELEVEN POINT RIVER

The Eleven Point holds the scenic designation within the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system, meaning that it is free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads. Only about half of the land in the designated area is public, owned by the National Forest Service. The government holds a scenic easement on other land within the area that preserves its character for the future, but which does not allow public access to privately-held land.

0.0 Thomasville. Put-in at State Hwy. 99 Bridge. Section from here to State Hwy 19 not recommended in low-water.
0.5 Middle Fork enters and increases flow.
1.5 Mill Creek and Barren Fork add more water.
3.1 Posy Spring on left is a beautiful small spring issuing from a small cave in a woodland setting.
6.1 Blowing Spring on left.
6.5 Denny Hollow float camp on left. Roaring Spring on right.
7.3 Graham Spring branch on right. Spring 0.25 mile up branch.
9.3 Cane Bluff. Access and picnic area.
12.3 Spring Creek enters on left.
14.8 McCormack Hollow on left. Lake, fishing, spring and picnic area about one mile up Hollow, administrated by U.S. Forest Service.
16.0 Greer Spring Branch.
16.6 State Hwy. 19 Bridge. Campsites and put-in. Trail to Greer Spring 0.75 mile up hill.
19.5 Little Hurricane Creek on right.
20.0 Mary Decker Shoals. Rapids.
20.5 Hurricane Creek enters on left.
21.5 Turner's Mill and spring. Location is also known as Surprise. Access on both sides of river. Camping on south side only.
22.0 Stinking Pond float camp on left.
26.5 Horseshoe Bend float camp on left.
27.0 Barn Hollow float camp on left. Bliss Spring just downstream.
28.5 White Creek float camp on left.
31.0 Greenbriar float camp on left.
33.4 Boze Mill Spring on left. River valley begins to widen here. Camping. No access.
33.7 River divides. Right channel usually best and provides a fast run over a ledge.
35.7 Riverton and Hwy. 160 Bridge. Access east side, picnic on west side beneath bridge only. No camping either side.
43.0 Thomasson Mill Spring Branch-Frederick Creek on right.
44.0 Morgan Creek float camp and Blue Spring Branch. Spring is approximately the eighth largest in state.
44.3 State Hwy. 142 Bridge. Take-out. Limited camping.
48.0 MDC Myrtle Access at site of old Stubblefield Ferry on west side. Limited camping.
49.0 Missouri-Arkansas state line.

GASCONADE RIVER

The Gasconade River is reputed to be one of the most crooked rivers in the world. Entirely in Missouri, the river winds nearly 300 miles from its source near Hartville to the Missouri River, which is only a distance of about 120 miles as the crow flies. *(Accesses in Wright County is listed.)*

0.0 Hwy. 38 Bridge on the Woods Fork of the Gasconade. Just above this point, there is a mill pond dam on the Woods Fork.



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0.7 Lick Fork of Gasconade on right. Hwy. 38 Bridge 0.2 mile up this fork is also a possible put-in.
2.5 Camp Branch Access. Gravel ramp.
11.8 Low-water bridge on Hwy. E. Spring in bluff on left, just upstream from bridge.
12.3 Whetstone Creek on right.
12.9 Grimes Mill.
14.3 Buzzard Bluff Access, off Hwy. E. Gravel ramp.
19.4 Hwy. H Bridge. 21.5 Wilbur Allen Access, off Hwy. 95 on Radford Drive. Gravel ramp.
24.7 Burney Ford.
27.1 Ford access on Kincheloe Drive.
27.7 Beaver Creek on right adds a considerable amount of water to river.
28.1 Spring branch on left.
29.9 Elk Creek on left.
31.4 Watch for log jams and for stumps in riffles between this point and Hwy. O Bridge.
32.4 Hwy. O Bridge. No access.

JACKS FORK RIVER

This tributary of the Current River is one of the wildest and most scenic of the Missouri Ozark streams. Its deep valley is nearly a canyon, with no bottomland fields for the first 25 floatable miles. It is therefore advisable to camp well above river level if there is any chance of sudden rain. Trips with loaded canoes above Alley Spring are recommended only in spring or after good summer rains. The few miles immediately above Alley Spring are especially wide and shallow and may have to be walked in low water. Upper sections of the river provide fine fly fishing water.

0.0 MDC South Prong Access at Hwy. Y Bridge.
6.8 State Hwy. 17 Bridge at "Buck Hollow." Usual put-in for upper section of river. Park Service campground.
9.2 Salvation Army camp on left. Access, camp.
9.6 Blue Spring comes from cave on left nearly hidden from river by boulders. Narrow run just below spring may be difficult.
12.6 Jam Up Bluff and Cave. River entrance of cave is one of the most spectacular cave entrances in state.
15.9 Ebb and Flow Spring on left.
16.2 Rymers Access and campground on right.
17.1 Bunker Hill Resort on left. No access.
22.2 Leatherwood Creek on left.
25.2 Bay Creek on left. Access, camp.
31.0 Alley Spring, 10th largest spring in state. Old mill, camping, access.
32.3 Horse Hollow on left.
35.3 Mahan's Creek on right.
37.3 Eminence. Stores, cafes, lodging. Take-out at Lions Ball Park on right side, one-quarter mile below Hwy. 19 Bridge.
41.9 Shawnee Creek on right. Access, camp.
42.3 Little Shawnee Creek on right.
44.6 Confluence with Current River. Best take-out 0.75 mile downstream at ferry landing.

NORTH FORK RIVER

The North Fork of the White River combines a relatively constant flow of clear water from large springs with some of the best whitewater in the Missouri Ozarks. Since its upper reaches are in Mark Twain National Forest, it retains some wilderness character and has good watershed protection. The section from Hwy. 14 to Hwy. H is near-wilderness and includes some fine stands of short-leaf pine as well as several large springs. Old mills and a number of National Forest recreation areas enhance the attractiveness of the area for vacationers. Indeed, this river has high-quality recreation value equal to any in the Ozarks.

0.0 Hwy. 76 Bridge. Access.
0.5 Low-water bridge on connecting road between Hwys. 76 and E. Access.
6.6 Low-water bridge and spring at Topaz. An old mill remains standing. Access.
11.1 Slab ford. Access.
11.4 Indian Creek enters on left.
12.2 Osborn Ford low-water bridge in Round Valley, on County Road AH-260.
14.8 Hale Ford Bridge access on County Road 275.
16.1 Fiddle Springs Hollow on left.
18.7 Bridge on connecting road between Hwys. AA and 14. Hebron Access on left, on County Road 279 off Hwy. 14. Gravel ramp.
24.1 Hwy. 14 Bridge at Twin Bridges. Other bridge is over Spring Creek. Access and camping at resort. Store between bridges.
25.9 Spring Creek enters on left.
26.0 Hicks Spring on right just below the mouth of Spring Creek.
28.2 Mary's Hollow and creek on right. Spring up hillside on opposite side of river.
29.2 Hammond Camp Access just off Hwy. CC. North Fork Recreation Area and campground on left.
29.9 Blue Spring on left, at river level. The flow is seldom less than 7 million gallons per day.
33.3 North Fork spring issues from rock ledge on left.
33.5 Upper branch of Rainbow (Double) Spring on right. Lower branch enters river 1500 feet downstream from source. Private use only.
35.0 McKee Bridge. Private use only.
36.0 The Falls is merely a rock ledge about 2-3 feet high.
39.2 Blair Bridge, concrete low-water bridge, on extension of Hwy. KK to Hwy. H. Access. It is necessary to pull boats over this bridge.
39.4 Blair Bridge Access on left, on County Road H-354 off Hwy. KK.
39.9 Private campground on right.
40.9 Spring Creek on left.
42.1 Hwy. H low-water bridge. Patrick Bridge Access at northeast side of bridge. Gravel ramp. Althea Spring, rated as Missouri's 23rd largest, is just downstream on the left.
42.3 Althea Spring Branch enters the river at a fast riffle.
43.6 Private campground on right.
45.3 Hwy. PP Bridge. This is a high bridge, but the old road goes down to the water for easy access.
47.1 Dam Bridge. Going under this bridge in high water is dangerous. Dawt Mill Resort on the left. Private access.
48.8 Repeating Riffle. This is the last drop when the lake is high.
49.1 Junction with Bryant Creek.
49.5 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Tecumseh Access and campground on right.


Melissa Wharton

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES
Trails

HIKING

If you like to cover ground at your own pace, whether you're a casual stroller, serious hiker or somewhere in between, we've got pathways and trails for you! From short, easy jaunts to more challenging treks on sections of the Ozark Trail and more, there are lots of local excursion opportunities. Here's a rundown of some of them. They are listed in order of distance from West Plains. *(If you're wanting to get your steps in during inclement weather, walking inside at the West Plains Civic Center is available on most days, depending on event schedule.)*

BUTLER CHILDREN'S PARK

Corner of Broadway & Halstead, West Plains

Recent renovations at this park owned by the city include a paved walking path around the perimeter.

DON WARDEN PARK

Corner of Lincoln Ave. & Olden St., West Plains

City-owned, this small park is home to the West Plains Community Garden and includes mostly shaded, short walking paths which wind through and around the perimeter.

GALLOWAY CREEK NATURE PARK

2804 County Road 1770, West Plains

This 40-acre tract owned by the city includes mostly gentle-incline and paved walking trails which wind and loop through the park often alongside Galloway Creek. A covered bridge is an additional feature of the trail. Restroom on site.



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GEORGIA WHITE WALKING PARK

Thornburgh Street, between Minnesota St. & Missouri Ave., West Plains

Owned by the city, this park is suitable for all. It features a .4-mile, blacktopped walking track and greenspace with mild inclines. Well-lit with LED lights, and in a residential neighborhood, it is a good option for any time, including early morning and evening use.

JMB PARK

BB Highway, West Plains

While the park's main attraction is a disc golf course, this city-owned property also features opportunities for walking, with paths that wind through the hilly terrain. A 3.7-mile mountain bike trail is designated as mixed use, offering a nice hiking opportunity near town. *(From Highway 160 East take BB Highway/St. Louis St. north for 1.3 miles. Entrance to park is on the right.)*

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION REGIONAL OFFICE

551 Joe Jones Blvd., West Plains

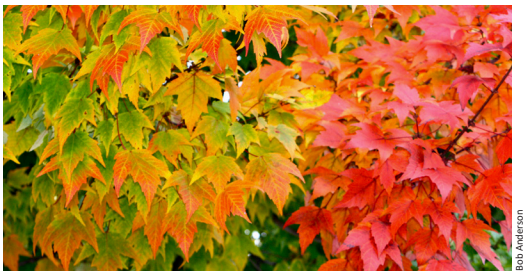
Within this 20-acre park, there are short hiking trails that wind through with different configurations possible. The trails feature a variety of grades and inclines and are mostly dirt and gravel. Narrow in some spots, they are not suitable for most wheelchair users or those who have unsure footing. There is an overlook deck that is accessible to all.

TINGLER PRAIRIE CONSERVATION AREA

This 240-acre nature area is managed by the Missouri Department of Conservation. There are three maintained looping trails which provide good access to the natural area: the Prairie Trail (1 mile); the Sinkhole Pond Trail (.5 mile); the Woodland Trail (1 mile). Map and directions available at Tingler Prairie Conservation Area on the *mdc.gov* website.

9 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

From the junction of Highway 17 and Highway 63 in West Plains drive south on Highway 17 for about 6 miles. Turn right onto County Road 9100. Continue for 0.7 mile and turn left on County Road 8100. Drive 1.4 miles to the parking lot on the left.



Bob Anderson

DEAN DAVIS CONSERVATION AREA

The Missouri Department of Conservation maintains this 172-acre wildlife area which offers hunting opportunities in-season, but also includes a one-mile hiking trail which loops through forested and open areas and around a small fishing pond.

10 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north for 10 miles to County Road 2420. Turn right onto 2420 and continue 0.5 mile to the parking area on the left.

VANDERHOEF MEMORIAL STATE FOREST

An approximately mile-long, maintained hiking trail loops through the hardwood forest of this 140-acre state forest. The terrain and inclines vary. Accessible restroom facilities available in parking area. Map and directions: Archie and Gracie Vanderhoef Memorial State Forest, *mdc.gov*.



Courtney Hughes

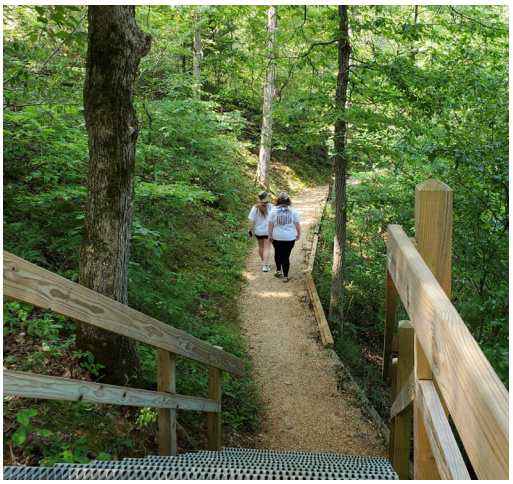
12 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

From West Plains, take Highway 160 west for 3 miles to State Route JJ. Turn left on JJ and go 8 miles then turn left on County Road 9620. Continue on County Road 9620 for 0.5 mile, then bear right onto County Road 8110. Continue on 8110 for 0.5 mile to the parking area on the left.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES
Trails

GRAND GULF STATE PARK

The 322-acre park, sometimes called Missouri's "Little Grand Canyon," has short trails, boardwalks and overlooks where visitors can get a view from the edge of the cliffs. There also are maintained hiking trails around the perimeter of the canyon, one of which is a mile long.
mostateparks.com


Melissa Wharton

25 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 south toward Thayer. At Koshkonong, turn right on F Highway. After crossing the railroad tracks, turn left on County Road 377. Stay on CR 377 for 3.75 miles. This will be a dirt road. At W Highway, turn right. The entrance to Grand Gulf will be on the right in less than a half mile.

CANEY MOUNTAIN CONSERVATION AREA

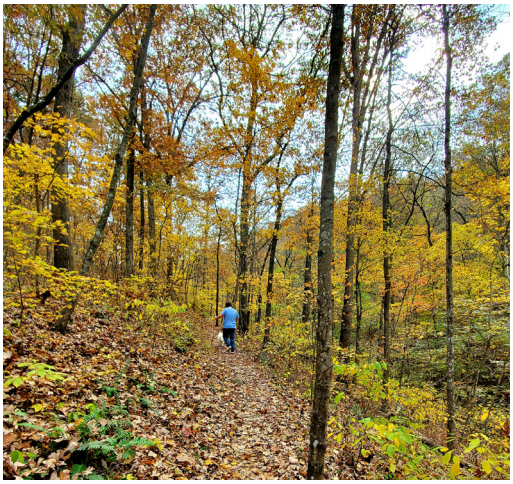
Caney Mountain is a nearly 8,000-acre Missouri Department of Conservation-maintained area which includes opportunities for outdoor recreation and rugged terrain in a range of hills that can be viewed from a series of looping access roads. The Spout Spring Nature Trail offers hikers a 2.3-mile out-and-back opportunity to see Caney Creek up-close. It has an elevation gain of 147 feet and takes an average of just under an hour to complete. Other hikes (shorter and longer) are also possible in the area along various access and multi-use trails.
https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/caney-mountain-conservation-area

40 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take CC Highway for 22 miles to Highway 181 at Dora. Turn left on 181 and continue for 18 miles. Turn right on Caney Mountain Headquarters Road and travel approximately 1 miles. Continue past the parking area to Main Forest Road #1 for 1.5 miles to Spout Spring Trailhead.

GREER SPRING TRAIL

This .9-mile trail provides access to Greer Spring – the second largest in Missouri – and travels through a mixture of hardwoods and pines providing year-round forest beauty. It descends about 250 feet in elevation along a gentle gradient from the trailhead on Missouri Highway 19. The trail is maintained and relatively smooth, however there is a moderately steep incline down to the spring.
https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/mtnf/recarea/?recid=21722


Melissa Wharton

41 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 160 east toward Alton. In Alton, turn left on Highway 19 north. Go 8 miles and the parking area for Greer Spring and Trail will be on your left.

GIST RANCH CONSERVATION AREA

Within this 11,000-acre area in Texas County, there are 12 miles of hiking/biking/equestrian trails divided into loops of various distances, most of which are relatively easy to navigate. Small springs and wetland habitats within the heavily forested area are host to abundant flora and fauna species.

42 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Stay left on 63 North and 60 west at junction. At Willow Springs, take exit ramp for Highway 137 north. Continue right on 137 for 16.5 miles to Church Road (Road 4278). Turn right on Church Road for 0.3 mile to Nagle Road (Road 4450). On Nagle Road, turn left and continue for 0.2 mile to Ranch Road (Road 4552). Turn right on Ranch and continue for 3.5 miles to Gist Conservation on your left.

THE NARROWS (MORGAN SPRING FLOAT CAMP)

Also known as Morgan Spring Float Camp is part of the Mark Twain National Forest. Named for its razor back ridge between the Eleven Point River and Frederick Creek, this area boasts four large springs, including Blue Spring, Missouri's 8th largest; much natural beauty; and a rich history. When you arrive, you will come to a parking lot and a gated road. After you park, the rest of the way is on foot (.7 miles, steep downhill). At the parking area, take the path downhill to the campground. After hiking about 0.2 of a mile the Blue Springs Overlook will be on your right. From Blue Springs Overlook you continue a half mile over a rise, uphill for a short way before descending again to Morgan Spring. Once you get to Morgan Spring there is a short, more level, 0.2 of a mile, loop trail that will take you down to the campsites and river access. *usda.gov*


Melissa Wharton

55 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 south toward Thayer. At Thayer, turn left at the stoplight onto Highway 142. In approximately 23 miles, the entrance to The Narrows is on the left, just before crossing the Eleven Point River.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES
Trails

BRYANT CREEK STATE PARK

This recently developed, 2,900-acre state park features a host of natural attributes, including 2 miles of Bryant Creek frontage. Forests, sandstone outcrops and tributary hollows provide a scenic backdrop for the two developed hiking trails. For a short, easy hike try the Pinewoods Trail, a natural-surface, half-mile looping trail. The Pike Hollow Trail is more challenging. It offers a 4.5-mile loop which is rugged in places with some steep grades and inclines more than 10%. For trail maps and detailed information: *https://mostateparks.com/page/95491/bryant-creek-state-park-trails*

49 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Pomona. Turn left onto Highway 14. Stay on 14 for 41 miles, then turn left onto Highway 95 at Gentryville. Travel just shy of 9 miles to Highway N and turn right toward Rockbridge. Continue on Highway N for 5.5 miles through Rockbridge to destination on your right. A suggested return route is the same distance back to West Plains but offers different, beautiful scenery and sites. From the park, turn left onto Highway N and continue south for 13 miles to Highway 181. Turn left onto 181 toward Dora and continue for 14 miles. At Dora, turn right onto CC Highway. Stay on CC for 22 miles back to West Plains.

ALLEY SPRING OVERLOOK TRAIL

This 1.7-mile loop trail is generally considered moderately challenging and has a gravel base. It starts at Alley Mill and includes a steep rocky ascent to an overlook which offers a birds-eye view of the famed Alley Spring and Mill. The trail continues along the ridge top through an upland pine-oak forest. This long segment of trail is level and easy walking. Following the ridge southward the trail dips down a series of switchbacks into the floodplain where Alley Spring Branch flows towards the Jacks Fork River. Descend to circle the beautiful, blue spring and see gorgeous, up-close views of the surrounding landscape, including the spring branch creek which feeds the Jacks Fork River. A separate, short trail around the mill pond is also available.

https://www.nps.gov/thingstodo/alley-overlook-trail.htm



Bob Anderson

50 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Stay on Highway 60 for 15 miles then turn left on Highway 17 north. In 13.5 miles, turn right onto Highway 106. In approximately 14 miles, the entrance to Alley Spring and Mill will be on your left.

PINEY RIVER NARROWS NATURAL AREA

Known to locals as "the Narrows," this 258-acre forested area near Houston, Missouri, includes a quick, 0.6-mile out-and-back trail. Generally considered an easy route, it winds through the woods next to the Big Piney River on Missouri Department of Conservation land.

https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/piney-river-narrows-natural-area

53 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Cabool for 32 miles. At the first Cabool exit, turn right to stay on 63 toward Houston. In 18 miles turn left on Hwy 17 north. Stay on Hwy 17 for 2.5 miles to Highway Z. Turn left onto Highway Z. The entrance to the parking lot will be almost immediately to your right.

TWIN PINES EDUCATION CENTER

This Missouri Department of Conservation area offers many opportunities for discovering more about nature and the history of the area. The education center's main facility is closed during the winter, but several looping, inter-connected trails in the middle of the 442-acre property are available for hiking year-round.

https://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places/twin-pines-conservation-education-center

54 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Stay on Highway 60 for 36 miles. Turn right on to County Road 60-C to Twin Pines area.

ROCKY FALLS & KLEPZIG MILL TRAIL

Klepzig Mill Trail is a 6-mile out-and-back trail near Winona. It begins at Rocky Falls and travels north on a portion of the Ozark trail passing through Buzzard Mountain ending at Klepzig Mill and Rocky Creek. It does include some water crossings which are at least ankle-deep and can be knee-deep during certain times of the year, so be prepared. Generally considered a moderately challenging route, it takes an average of just over 2 hours to complete. This trail is great for bird watching, camping, and hiking. It is open year-round and is beautiful to visit anytime. Dogs are welcome but must be on a leash.



Melissa Wharton

61 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS

Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Stay on Highway 60 for 36 miles. Turn left on Highway 19 toward Winona. Go through Winona then turn right on H Highway. Stay on Highway H for 8.5 miles then turn right on NN Highway. In 2 miles, turn right on County Road 526. The trailhead begins by the parking area.

LICK LOG HOLLOW TRAIL

Located in the Angeline Conservation Area, this 1.2-mile loop trail is near Eminence, Missouri. Generally considered an easy route, it takes about a half-hour to com-

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES
Trails

plete unless you stop to take in the natural features which abound in the area.

67 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. Stay on Highway 60 for 34 miles. Turn left on Highway 19 at Winona toward Eminence. Stay on Highway 19 for 14.5 miles. Turn right onto County Road 19-205. Stay on 19-205 for 0.5 mile. Entrance to trail will be on your right.

CEDAR GAP CONSERVATION AREA

The Cedar Gap Plateau is recognized as the second-highest point in Missouri. Headwaters of the Bryant Creek can be viewed at this conservation area along with limestone glades and oak/hickory forest. A gravel-surfaced trail leads from the parking lot to a valley overlook. This 0.5-mile trail can accommodate most hikers with some effort. For a more rugged hike, visitors can continue beyond the overlook and hike the 1.6-mile loop trail.

67 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Stay left on 63 North and 60 west at junction. Continue on Highway 60 west at Cabool. Past Mansfield take exit ramp for O Highway. At the top of the ramp, turn left and cross the overpass. Stay on O Highway/Pantherholler for 1 mile. Cedar Gap Conservation Area entrance is on the right.

BIG PINEY TRAIL

This 16.4-mile loop trail near Roby, Missouri in the Paddy Creek Wilderness area is generally considered a moderately challenging route. It takes an average of 6 and a half hours to complete. This is a popular trail for backpacking and hiking. It is open year-round and is beautiful to visit anytime.

74 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Cabool for 32 miles. At the first Cabool exit, turn right to stay on 63 toward Houston. In 18 miles turn left on Hwy 17 north. Stay on Hwy 17 for 24 miles. Turn right (east) on gravel Forest Road 274, and go about .6 miles to Big Piney Trail parking on your left.

CAVE SPRING TRAIL

Devil's Well is an unusual "karst window" that was formed when the roof of a huge cavern, containing an underground lake, collapsed. The result was a large sinkhole, with an opening in the bottom through which you can view the lake. A 4.6-mile foot trail leads from Devil's Well to Cave Spring on the Current River. By walking the trail, you can see where the water in Devil's Well goes. It's a moderately strenuous hike.


Melissa Wharton

79 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north toward Willow Springs. Just before Willow Springs, take Highway 60 east toward Mountain View. After Mountain View, turn left on Highway 17. Stay on Highway 17 for 13 miles to Summersville. At Summersville, turn right on Highway 106. In 7 miles, stay straight to continue on D Highway. In 9 miles, turn left on Highway 19. In 17.5 miles, turn left on KK Highway. In 2 miles, turn left on Devil's Well Road. Devil's Well will be ahead in 2 miles.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES
Scenic Byways

BLUE BUCK KNOB NAT'L FOREST SCENIC BYWAY

The Blue Buck Knob dissects 24 miles of the Mark Twain National Forest. The byway travels through farmland, open pastures, and densely wooded hillsides. Several overlooks treat adventurers to scenic panoramas. Points of interest include Indian Creek Overlook, Blue Buck Overlook, Noblett Recreation Area, and the Children's Forest/Blue Hole Trailhead where you can access the Ridge Runner and Ozark Trails.

https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/mtnf/recarea/?recid=21768

11.5 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take Highway 63 north. In 2 miles, turn left on Highway 14 and go 9.5 miles then turn right on AP Highway where the scenic byway begins. Stay on AP Highway for 11 miles then turn right onto Highway 181. At the stop sign, turn left on Highway 181/Highway 76. In 3.5 miles, turn right to continue on Highway 181. In 10.5 miles, take the ramp to the right for Highway 60 East. At Willow Springs, take Highway 63 South to return to West Plains.

GLADE TOP TRAIL NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY

The Glade Top is a two-lane, all-weather gravel road which cuts through the Mark Twain National Forest. It follows narrow ridge tops which offer scenic views including 7 overlook "pull-outs" which are especially beautiful in the fall. Along the way are opportunities for short walks. Picnicking and tent camping available (see website for more information).

https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/mtnf/recarea/?recid=21772cid=21772

68 MILES FROM WEST PLAINS
Take US Highway 160 west toward Gainesville. Continue on 160 for 56 miles through Gainesville to Lutie. At Lutie, turn right onto Highway 95 and continue for 12 miles to the Glade Top east entrance which will be on your left. Travel 23 miles on the trail to Highway 125. Turn left (south) on 125 and continue for 4.5 miles to Rueter. Turn left at Rueter onto Highway 160 east to return to West Plains.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES
Ozark Trail

THE OZARK TRAIL

- 390 miles of trail
- Primitive camping 100' from trail
- Hiking, mountain biking & horseback

The Ozark Trail, a combined effort of government agencies, a landowner, and environmental groups, created a council in 1977. Under their guidance, some 170+ miles of trail were constructed in 10 years. By joining existing trails, the Ozark Trail system had more than 200 miles of trail by 1991. In 2002, the Ozark Trail Association was founded. Continuing to maintain and expand the trail system, the association has received state and national recognition.

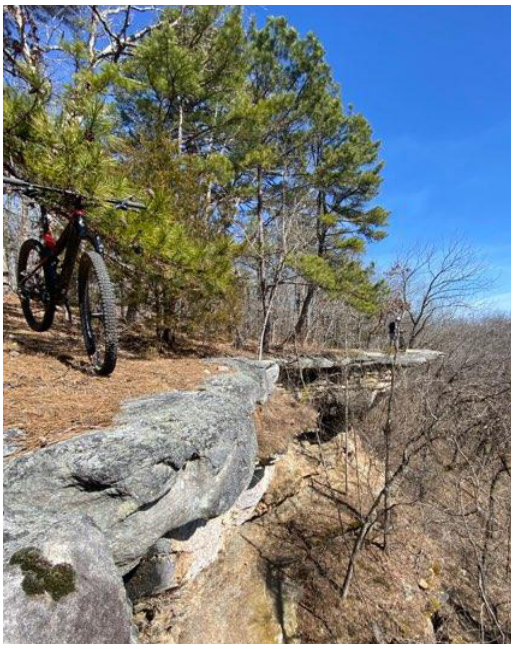
The North Fork Section of the Ozark Trail has a trailhead at Pomona, just 8 miles from West Plains. This trail combines the Ridge Runner trail and the Devil's Backbone Wilderness area.

Other trails close by include the Current River section, the Upper Current River section, the Eleven Point section, and the Between the Rivers section.

Be sure to visit the Ozark Trail website for trail updates, maps, safety tips, guidelines, and much more.

https://ozarktrail.com


Melissa Wharton


Michael Hullinger



Melissa Wharton


Michael Hullinger


Justine Quinn

TRAILHEAD (TH) DISTANCE FROM WEST PLAINS

North Fork section:
- 13 miles to Blue Hole TH
- 8 miles to Pomona TH
- 21 miles to Ridge Runner TH at Noblett Lake
- 16 miles to CC TH
- 20 miles to McGarr Ridge TH
- 20 miles to Collins Ridge TH

Current River section:
- 68 miles to Powder Mill TH
- 60 miles to Peck Ranch TH
- 57 miles to Hwy 60 TH

Eleven Point section:
- 45 miles to McCormack Lake TH
- 50 miles to 3152 TH
- 35 miles to Western TH

Upper Current River section:
- 68 miles to Current River State Park TH
- 66 miles to Echo Bluff State Park TH
- 63 miles to Round Spring TH
- 85 miles to Himont TH

Between the Rivers section:
- 69 miles to Sinking Creek Lookout Tower TH

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES
Bike Routes

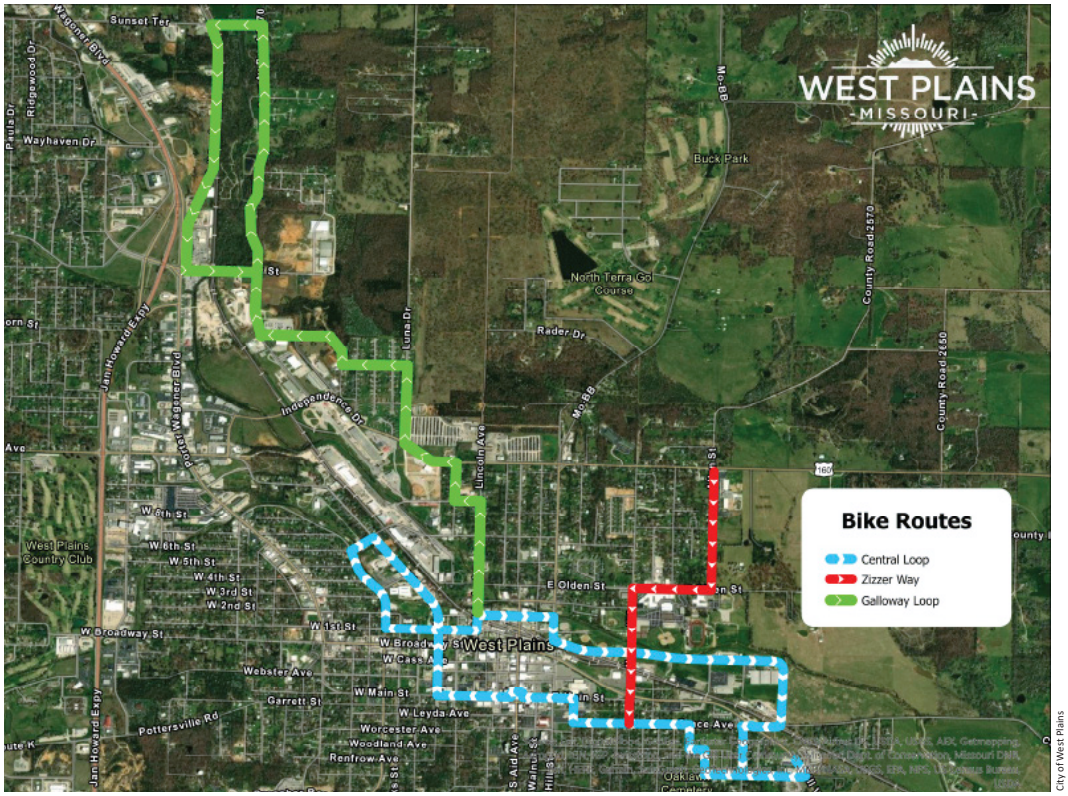

Michael Hullinger


Stephanie Hullinger

WEST PLAINS BIKE ROUTE

West Plains offers three relatively level bicycle routes inside the city limits, with the 5-mile Central Loop beginning and ending at the intersection of Lambert Lane and Bill Virdon Boulevard. The Zizzer Way is a spur off the 5-mile loop, beginning at Grace Avenue, extending past the three public schools, with a turn-around just past the West Plains Elementary School on Allen Street, and returning back to Grace Avenue. The Galloway Loop has parking at Galloway Park and ties into the Central Loop at Lincoln Avenue. Parking for the Central Loop is available across the street at East Towne Village.

The routes are marked with bicycle symbols and arrows on the streets, as well as green BIKE ROUTE signs with sponsor tabs along the routes.



City of West Plains

WITTE'S END TRAIL

Area mountain biking enthusiasts have built a 3.7-mile single track mountain bike/ mixed use trail at West Plains JMB Park. For more information about JMB Park, see page 18.

WEST PLAINS BIKE SHOP

BICYCLE SALES & REPAIR

313 Washington Avenue
West Plains, Missouri

417-420-9216

westplainsbikeshop@gmail.com

www.westplainsbikeshop.com



OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

OUTFITTERS/RESORTS/CAMPGROUNDS

If enjoying the amenities of a hotel is not for you, venture out for a more rustic stay on the river or in a park. Whether in a tent, cabin, or the comfort of your own RV, there are lots of choices. If canoeing, kayaking, or tube floating is on your agenda, we've got you covered, too!

Bayou Glade RV Park
3256 State Route 101
Bakersfield | (417) 274-3247

Big Rock Bend Campground & RV Park
40702 US Hwy 160
Caulfield| (417) 257-9672

Classic RV Park
83 RV Oasis Circle
Hardenville | (417) 679-2328

Cloud 9 Ranch
County Road 350
Caulfield | (417) 284-7321

Dawt Mill Resort
8 Dawt Mill Dr.
Tecumseh | (417) 284-3540

Destination Outdoors RV
4985 State Route CC
West Plains | (417) 853-2251

Lost Cabins Resort
2809 County Road 382
Dora | (417) 261-1409

Mountain View RV Park
2103 State Route O
Mountain View | (417) 934-2156

North Fork River Ranch
HC 64 Box 6015
West Plains | (417) 293-3364

Ozarks Mountain Springs RV Park & Cabins
5475 US 60 | Mountain View
(417) 469-3351

Pettit's Canoe Rental, LLC
9000 CR 354
Caulfield | (417) 284-3290

River of Life Farm
1746 River of Life Dr.
Dora | (417) 261-7777

Rockbridge Rainbow Trout & Game Ranch
4297 County Road 142
Rockbridge | (417) 679-3619

Rockin Bell River Resort
891 Highway 17
Mountain View | (417) 362-0815

Rocky Top Campgrounds & Cabins
90 Easterday Loop
Tecumseh | (417) 679-0149

Silver Springs RV Park
4598 County Road 4620
West Plains | (417) 257-5658

Spot on Top Campgrounds
83 County Road 313A
Tecumseh | (417) 712-3592

Sunburst Ranch
776 CR 352
Caulfield | (417) 284-3443

The Campground at Willow Springs RV Park
500 S. Harris Street
Willow Springs | 417-349-5257

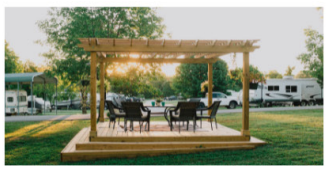
Twisted H Ranch Cabins & RV
12246 County Road 437
Mountain View | 417-252-7875


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton



4598 Co Rd 4620, West Plains, MO 65775 | 417-257-5658 | silversprings.llc






OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

RIDE THE OZARKS

ON ROAD

Several highways close to West Plains are favorites for motorcycle riding. Curvy, hilly, and exhilarating, riders are in awe as the scenery flies by.

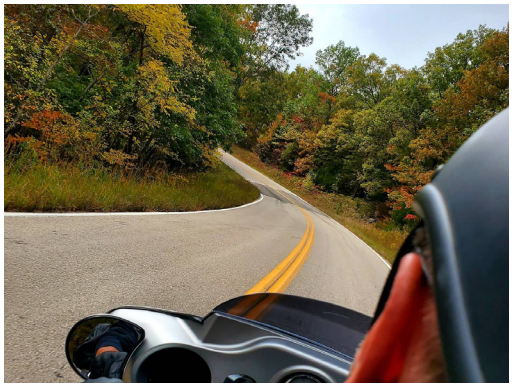
Popular highways and state roads for motorcycles include:

- Highway 160 West out of West Plains
- Highway 160 East out of West Plains
- Highway 14 West just north of West Plains
- CC Highway West out of West Plains
- Highway 17 North just east of West Plains
- P Highway to AP Highway North from Pomona
- Highway 19 North from Alton
- Highway 181 North or South from Twin Bridges
- Highway 137 from Willow Springs
- Highway 106 East from Summersville

Plan a day trip by using the information on pages 20-70 of this guidebook. Please note that a few of the destinations are on dirt or gravel roads. If “County Road” is in the directions, that will usually indicate a dirt or gravel road.



Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton


Melissa Wharton

RIDE THE OZARKS

OFF ROAD

To learn more about where to ride ATVs on public land, visit
http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/mtnf/map/mvum
or stop by the Ozark Heritage Welcome Center to pick up a copy.

There are several private properties with memberships or day fees available, too.
https://www.cloud9ranch.com/
https://www.facebook.com/flatnastyoffroadpark/
https://www.smorr.net/
http://soggybottom-motorsports.com/
https://hooterholler.com/
https://www.facebook.com/riverridgemx/


Mega Motorsports


RIDE THE OZARKS
ON ROAD
MEGA MOTOR SPORTS
XP
1000
POLARIS
(888) 998-9323 | MEGAMOTORSPORTS.COM
3874 N. US HWY 63 | WEST PLAINS
OFF ROAD

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

GAZE AT THE STARS IN OUR DARK SKIES

As population centers continue to grow, 'light pollution' (the problem of excessive artificial light at night) is becoming more and more of an issue, especially for those who enjoy stargazing. According to Dark Sky Missouri, an organization devoted to the pursuit and promotion of the dark skies required for the best astronomical experiences, 'skyglow' fouls the night sky for more than 80% of all people, worldwide, and more than 99% of the U.S. and European populations. To escape bright city nights, dark skies are what stargazers seek, and we've got dark skies in the Ozarks!



Gary Sanders

While there are not currently any officially designated dark sky parks in our immediate area, some of the darkest skies in the country are nearby. For those seeking beauty in the night sky, various maps can be found online to point you our way. Whether you're looking to catch a glance at meteors as they streak the sky, wanting to see the Milky Way and maybe capture an image of it with your camera, or just enjoy gazing up at the heavens as a way to relax, we invite you to stay in West Plains and take a short journey of a few miles to our rural parks, natural areas, and national forests to recharge with our dark sky viewing opportunities.

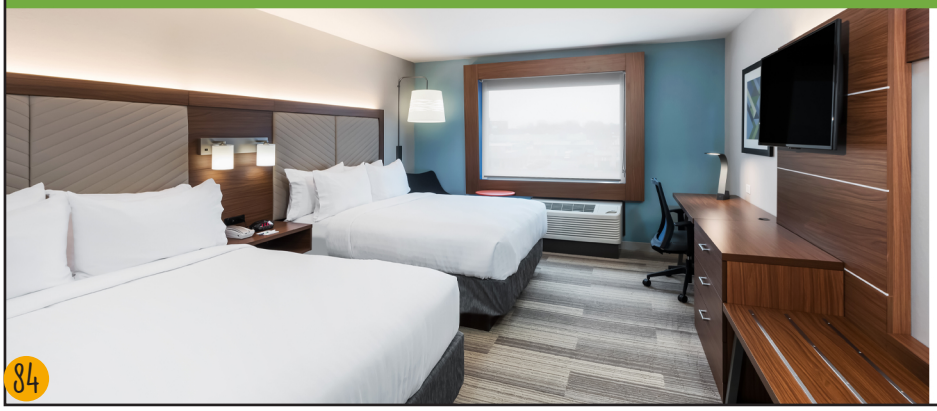
PHOTO CAPTION: As local photographer Gary Sanders was packing up his gear after a wedding shoot, he looked up to the sky and captured one final image for the evening. Dark skies await you as you Explore West Plains!



Holiday Inn Express & Suites

Indoor Pool | Fitness Center
Meeting Rooms | 100% Non-Smoking
Full Express Start HOT Breakfast
King or Double Queen Rooms
2-Room Family Suites

Voted #1 in the WORLD for Guest Satisfaction 7 years in a row!



PET FRIENDLY

1301 Preacher Roe Blvd.
West Plains
417-257-3000
hiexpresswestplains@gmail.com

EVENT VENUES

Plan your reunion, event or other gathering in West Plains! We have multiple event venues and meeting rooms available with affordable rates and a nice variety of amenities.

West Plains Civic Center
110 St. Louis Street | 877-256-6034
The Civic Center is the crown jewel of our event space. It can accommodate groups as small as you want up to concerts that seat 3,500 people and each year hosts a wide range of events. With a dozen meeting room options (ranging from 800 to 3,000-square-feet); a theater; an arena; and a 10,000-square-foot exhibit hall there are many options for your needs.
https://westplains.gov/departments/community-services/civic-center/

Historic Post Office (HPO)
204 E. Main Street | 417-372-0937
This venue is in the heart of historic Downtown West Plains. HPO is located on the site of the spring on which the town was founded, in the facility built to be the West Plains Post Office in 1931. It has been beautifully renovated and hosts a variety of meetings and events, offering a menu of services.
https://www.facebook.com/HistoricPostOfficeLLC/about

Rubydoo's Vintage Events
9240 County Road 9190 | 417-293-1331
A full-service event center in a lovely country setting located just six miles outside of town. Explore their website for complete information and a gallery of photos.
https://www.rubydoosvintageevents.com/

North Depot Event Center
1717 N. Terra | 417-631-5929
The historic West Plains train depot was moved to the municipal golf course several years ago and is now home to the North Depot Event Center. An inviting space just 5 minutes from downtown.
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100087380346640

Grace's Place | 417-257-0179
Grace's Place has 1,500 sq. ft. of heated and cooled indoor space with a maximum capacity of 92. There is an additional 900-square-foot covered patio space with electric outlets. It has a kitchen equipped with refrigerator, sink, microwave and coffee pot and other nice features. Located on Fletcher Terrace on the campus of Pleasant Valley Village. For information, email gracesplace@westvueinc.org.
https://www.westvueinc.org/grace-s-place

Heart of the Ozarks Bluegrass Association (HOBA) Park
1138 Bluegrass Lane | 417-204-3400
HOBA is located five minutes from downtown and is situated in a quiet, rural setting. It can be rented throughout the year for reunions and other events. It features a large campground with RV hookups, bathroom and shower facilities, and a kitchen with an open-air, covered serving area. It also has a small, covered stage within a natural amphitheater setting.

Meeting room space also available at:
American Legion Post 23
1401 Bill Virdon Blvd. | 417-274-2413

Amyx Place
1018 West First Street

Hampton Inn
1064 London Lane | 417-255-0442

Holiday Inn Express & Suites
1301 Preacher Roe Blvd. | 417-257-3000

Pizza Inn
1805 Bruce Smith Pkwy | 417-596-9800

The Yellow House
209 W. Trish Knight St. | Message on FB

West Plains Public Library
750 W. Broadway | 417-256-4775

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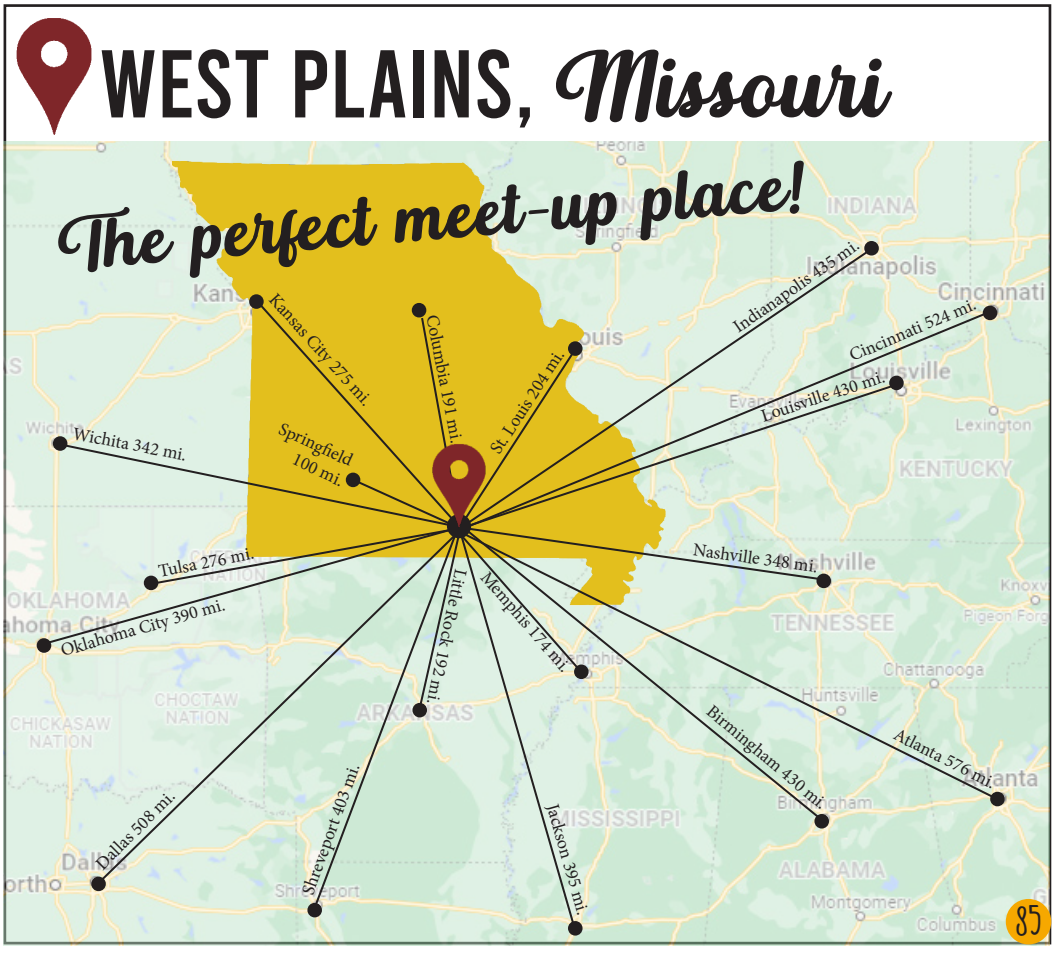

















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Captain D's Seafood
1402 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 257-2090

Colton's Steak House & Grill
1421 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 255-9090

Craft Cafe
311 St. Louis St.
(417) 204-1502

Dev's Steakhouse Piano Bar & Grill
37 Court Square
(417) 204-4406

Grill 59
1100 Kentucky Ave.
(Located inside Ozarks Healthcare Medical Office Building)
(417) 256-9111

Hibby's Sports Grille
1729 W. US 160
(417) 257-0199

Hometown Diner
3816 US Highway 63
(417) 256-2240

Jimmie's Walleye & Catfish
805 Porter Wagoner (417) 256-1538

KC's Sports Bistro
409 Washington Ave.
(417) 204-4370

KFC
1301 Southern Hills
(417) 256-8500

McAlister's Deli
703 N. Kentucky Ave.
(417) 596-9151

Ozark Café
662 Missouri Ave.
(417) 255-0623

Ruby Tuesday
1008 Worley Drive
(417) 255-1510

Skillets
1613 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-7500

Sniders Family Restaurant & BBQ
1027 Porter Wagoner
(417) 372-8909

Steak 'n Shake
989 Worley Drive
(417) 372-8919

Sugar Lily Bakery & Floral
210 Jan Howard Expy.
(417) 256-5459

The Grizzly Bite
665 Missouri Ave.
(417) 255-7235

West Plains Senior Center
416 East Main
(417) 256-4055

Wildflower Cafe
207 Aid Avenue
(417) 257-0038

ASIAN/CHINESE

Chen's Garden
1705 Gibson St.
(417) 256-8999

Diamond Head Restaurant
1214 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-4888

Icon Asian Grill & Bubble Tea
312 Porter Wagoner
(417) 274-4804

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Domino's Pizza
1152 Ransom Road
(417) 257-0055

Little Caesars Pizza
316 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-3500

Ostermeier Brewing Company
1872 S. US Hwy 63
(417) 942-6306

Ozark Pizza Company
111 Washington Ave.
(417) 204-4808

The Pizza Shack
1836 Porter Wagoner
(417) 257-7700

Pizza Inn
1805 Bruce Smith Pkwy.
(417) 596-9800

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Kentzio Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi Lounge
1633 Bruce Smith Pkwy.
(417) 505-8570

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El Charro Mexican Restaurant
1409 Mitchell Road
(417) 255-0992

Los Amigos Mexican Restaurant
1449 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 256-1694

Primos Grill Mexican Restaurant
1603 Gibson Ave.
(417) 372-8078

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310 Kentucky Ave. Suite 2
(417) 855-9421

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216 West Main
(417) 505-8848

Taco Bell
1345 Southern Hills
(417) 256-1131

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1464 Gibson Street
(417) 372-8669

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Sapz Thai Kitchen
929 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 255-3400

FAST FOOD

Arby's
1342 Southern Hills
(417) 256-0433

Burger King
1317 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 255-1669

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1402 Preacher Roe Blvd.
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Dairy Queen
1665 S. US Hwy 63
(417) 256-2008

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905 Porter Wagoner
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1301 Southern Hills
(417) 256-8500

McDonald's
1315 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 256-8175

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1320 Porter Wagoner
(417) 257-2218

Sonic Drive-In
1710 Gibson St.
(417) 256-9771

Steak 'n Shake
989 Worley Drive
(417) 372-8919

Subway
1403 Southern Hills
(417) 256-3610

Subway
1220 Missouri Ave.
(417) 256-4929

Taco Bell
1345 Southern Hills
(417) 256-1131

Taco Bell
1464 Gibson Street
(417) 372-8669

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117 West Broadway
(417) 372-8960

Wendy's
1467 Gibson St.
(417) 256-0613

SPORTS BAR & GRILL

Hibby's Sports Grille
1729 W. US 160
(417) 257-0199

KC's Sports Bistro
409 Washington Ave.
(417) 204-4370

BREWERY/BARS

Little Hut Tavern
201 Trish Knight St.
(417) 293-6891

Mugs Tavern
1101 E. Main St.
417-293-8973

Ostermeier Brewing Company
1872 S. US Hwy 63
(417) 942-6306

Wages Brewing Company
509 Washington Ave.
Unit 101
(417) 293-3119

STEAKHOUSE

Colton's Steak House & Grill
1421 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 255-9090

Dev's Steakhouse Piano Bar & Grill
37 Court Square
(417) 204-4406

Ruby Tuesday
1008 Worley Drive
(417) 255-1510

BAR-B-QUE

Sniders Family Restaurant & BBQ
1027 Porter Wagoner
(417) 372-8909

FISH

Captain D's Seafood
1402 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 257-2090

Jimmie's Walleye & Catfish
805 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-1538

Ozark Café
662 Missouri Ave.
(417) 255-0623

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10/40 Coffee
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(417) 204-5470

Burger King
1317 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 255-1669

Conjure House Coffee
(417) 712-6362

Dairy Queen
1665 S. US Hwy 63
(417) 256-2008

Donut Palace
914 Broadway
(417) 256-0606



BREAKFAST, BAKERIES & COFFEE, cont.

Grill 59
1100 Kentucky Ave.
(Located inside Ozarks Healthcare Medical Office Building)
(417) 256-9111

Hardee's
905 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-8870

Hometown Diner
3816 US Highway 63
(417) 256-2240

Jimmie's Walleye & Catfish
805 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-1538

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905 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 270-0035

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(417) 256-9771

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(417) 256-9111

Subway
1403 Southern Hills
(417) 256-3610

Subway
1220 Missouri Ave.
(417) 256-4929

Sugar Lily Bakery & Floral
210 Jan Howard Expy.
(417) 256-5459

The Fuel House
703 Porter Wagoner
(573) 351-8473

The Grizzly Bite
665 Missouri Ave.
(417) 255-7235

Wendy's
1467 Gibson St.
(417) 256-0613

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Burger King
1317 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 255-1669

Colton's Steak House & Grill
1421 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 255-9090

Dairy Queen
1665 S. US Hwy 63
(417) 256-2008

El Charro Mexican Restaurant
1409 Mitchell Road
(417) 255-0992

Hardee's
905 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-8870

Los Amigos Mexican Restaurant
1449 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 256-1694

McDonald's
1315 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 256-8175

McDonald's
1320 Porter Wagoner
(417) 257-2218

Ruby Tuesday
1008 Worley Drive
(417) 255-1510

Skillets
1613 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-7500

Sonic Drive-In
1710 Gibson St.
(417) 256-9771

Spring Dipper
675 Missouri Ave.
(417) 256-9999

Steak 'n Shake
989 Worley Drive
(417) 372-8919

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(417) 372-8960





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9703 County Road 8890
(417) 256-1800

Mom's Memories Antiques
2801 W. Highway 160
(417) 255-2306

Sweet Southern Treasures & More
1622 Porter Wagoner
(417) 293-1321

The Creator's Company & Vendor Market
4679 US Hwy 160
(417) 293-2663

The Outpost Flea Market
4972 W. Highway 160
(417) 204-1281

The Vintage Attic Flea Market
1729 US Highway 63
(417) 293-1321

This & That Thrift Store
306 Myrtle St.
(417) 256-4605

Tootsies & Tweetsies Antiques & Gifts
1282 County Road 8690
(417) 274-0572

BOUTIQUES/GIFT SHOPS/FLORISTS

A Moment in Tyme
806 W. Broadway
(417) 274-6903

Amyx Place
1018 W. 1st St.

B&R Western Store
1621 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-1690

Black Buffalo Boutique
1414 8th St.

Black Lagoon
103 S. Aid Ave.
(417) 505-6382

Carol Ann's Boutique & Upscale Consignment
911 Broadway
(417) 280-5417

Circle C&K Clothing & Western Store
1323 Southern Hills
(417) 256-8208

Country at Heart
2 Court Square
(417) 372-8018

Dixie Soul
101 Washington Ave.
(417) 257-4703

Drago College Store
201 Garfield
(417) 255-7227

Kloz Klozet
16 Court Square
(417) 256-3581

Life Phases Metaphysical Store
6 Court Square
(417) 505-0722

Magnolia June Boutique
1432 W. 8th Street

Main Street Boutique
907 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 372-8969

Mommas, Babies & Blessings
#1 Evans Arcade
(417) 247-6522

Ozark Heritage Welcome Center
2999 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-8835

Ozarks Healthcare Gift Shop
1100 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 257-5700

Rustic Rose Boutique
1428 W. 8th St.
(417) 260-5302

Sugar Lily Bakery & Floral
210 Jan Howard Expy.
(417) 256-5459

The Frame Shop & Art Gallery
403 Washington Ave.
(417) 257-2787

The Posey Patch
437 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-1030

Waggoner Family Floral
606 W. First St.
(417) 257-8875

CLOTHING/SHOES/ JEWELRY

Big Lots
1362 Southern Hills
(417) 257-2527

Bealls Outlet
1360 Southern Hills
(417) 256-3086

Carol Ann's Boutique & Upscale Consignment
218 W. Main Street
(417) 280-5417

Circle C&K Clothing & Western Store
1323 Southern Hills
(417) 256-8208

Davis & Sons Men's Shoes & Apparel
7 Court Square
(417) 204-4815

Dixie Soul
101 Washington Ave.
(417) 257-4703

Dollar General
921 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 372-8703

Dollar General
1231 Missouri Ave.
(417) 372-8835

Dollar General
1397 Bill Virdon Blvd.
(417) 372-8785

Dollar Tree
1405 Mitchell Road
(417) 372-6033

Drago College Store
201 Garfield
(417) 255-7227

Factory Connection
1411 Mitchell Road
(417) 255-1058

Family Dollar
1308 Porter Wagoner
(417) 372-6042

Great Scrubs & More
307 Kentucky Ave.
Suite 307A3
(417) 255-2277

HB Boot Corral
3003 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-4978

Hibbett Sporting Goods
1403 Mitchell Road
(417) 255-0565

Hirsch Feed & Farm Supply
789 Worley Dr.
(417) 256-3749

Kloz Klozet
16 Court Square
(417) 256-3581

Magnolia June Boutique
1432 W. 8th Street

Main Street Boutique
907 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 372-8969

Maurices
1410 Southern Hills
(417) 256-8650

Mommas, Babies & Blessings
#1 Evans Arcade
(417) 247-6522

Monty's Outdoors
1348 Southern Hills
(417) 256-3890

Rickie David Jewelers
27 Court Square
(417) 247-3980

Shoe Sensation
1315 Southern Hills
(417) 255-1477

Tractor Supply
1564 US Hwy 160
(417) 255-0241

Westlake Ace Hardware
1401 Mitchell Road
(417) 256-3303

CRAFTS/HOBBIES/ SPORTING GOODS

B&R Western Store
1621 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-1690

Book Nook
203 Washington Ave.
(417) 257-7962

Broken Bow Archery
1348 Southern Hills
(417) 256-2697

C7 Toys & Collectibles
3504 N. US Hwy 63
(417) 293-3889

Clear Creek Golf Cart & Utility Vehicles
3340 US Hwy 63
(417) 204-4898

Game Stash
112 Washington Avenue
(417) 255-1776

Game Stop
1407 Mitchell Road
(417) 255-1428

Gammill Sewing Center
108 Washington Ave.
(866) 256-4822

Hibbett Sporting Goods
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(417) 255-0565

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Endurance Church Parking Lot
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(417) 293-0590

West Plains Farmers & Artisan Market
222 West Main Plaza
(417) 257-8679

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705 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 256-2500

Aldi
1210 Missouri Ave.
(855) 955-2534

Big Lots
1362 Southern Hills
(417) 257-2527

Dennis' Specialty Cuts
911 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 255-1108

Dollar General
921 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 372-8703

Dollar General
1231 Missouri Ave.
(417) 372-8835

Dollar General
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(417) 372-8785

Dollar Tree
1405 Mitchell Road
(417) 372-6033

Family Dollar
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(417) 372-6042

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Jrs. Little Store
216 West Main
(417) 505-8848

Mason's Midwest Meats
1405 Southern Hills
(417) 293-6301

Meadowbrook Natural Foods
238 W. Main Plaza
(417) 256-2143

Mi Tienda Latina Mexican & Hispanic Market
1440 W. 8th St.
(417) 212-1603

Pine Ridge Grocery Amish Store
11353 St. Rt. JJ
(417) 255-0056

Ramey Supermarket
1211 Parkway Center
(417) 256-6166

Savage Supplements
40 Court Square
(417) 270-7251

The Truck Patch
402 Porter Wagoner
(417) 372-8970

Walgreen's
1010 Worley Drive
(417) 255-8880

Wal-Mart Supercenter
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(417) 257-2800

LIQUOR/SMOKE SHOPS

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(417) 256-2500

Aldi
1210 Missouri Ave.
(855) 955-2534

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(417) 255-0670

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(417) 256-4396

Casey's
1510 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 256-5472

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(417) 256-3247

Casey's
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(417) 256-0243

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502 Porter Wagoner Blvd.
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Diamond Shamrock
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Discount Cigarettes & Beer
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(417) 255-1733

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(417) 256-3511

Get & Go Safe
130 N. Howell Ave.
(417) 256-0552

Mulligans Package
808 Porter Wagoner
(417) 255-2337

Party Pantry
1460 Gibson St.
(417) 256-2625

Ramey Supermarket
1211 Parkway Center
(417) 256-6166

Snappy Mart
1818 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-0112

Snappy Mart
1671 US Hwy 63
(417) 256-5345

Tobacco King
1601 Gibson Ave.
(417) 204-5939





Vapor Maven
1641 Bruce Smith Pkwy.
(417) 372-8103

Walgreens
1010 Worley Drive
(417) 255-8880

Wal-Mart Supercenter
1310 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 257-2800

Wally's & Brothers Tobacco & Vape Shop
211 W. Broadway
(815) 908-0707

Wally's & Brothers Tobacco & Vape Shop
913 Porter Wagoner
(417) 200-2002

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(417) 256-8976

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Gather Together Event Rentals
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(417) 372-2346

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Christos House Resale
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(417) 257-7729

DR Consignments
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(417) 372-3262

Era by Era
213 W. Broadway
(417) 372-8929

Habitat ReStore
1109 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-1576

Heavens Creatures Thrift Store
1416 W. 8th St.
(417) 293-1412

Ozarks Healthcare Thrift Store
1807 Porter Wagoner
(417) 257-5915

Salutes Thrift Store
1769 S. US Hwy 63
(417) 204-4095

South 63 Pawn
9703 County Road 8890
(417) 942-6063

Washington Avenue Pawn
206 Washington Ave.
(417) 256-2252

West Plains Animal Shelter Out of Harms Way Thrift Shop
1486 State Route BB
(417) 256-8438

West Plains Pawn & Fine Jewelry
1713 W. US Hwy 160
Suite 210
(417) 256-3000

PHARMACY/ DISPENSARY

CODES Dispensary
1636 Bruce Smith Parkway

CVS Pharmacy
805 N. Kentucky Ave.
Suite 2
(417) 256-2274

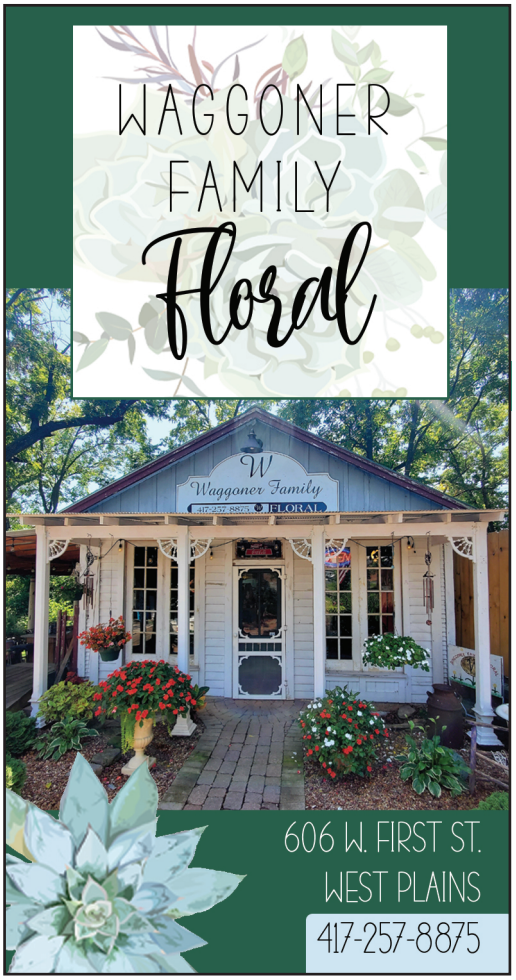
High Profile Dispensary
1391 Mitchell Road
(417) 512-9111

Ozarks Healthcare Pharmacy *(in hospital)*
1100 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 256-9111

Ozarks Healthcare Pharmacy
307 N. Kentucky Ave.
(417) 256-7533

Walgreens
1010 Worley Drive
(417) 255-8880

Wal-Mart Supercenter Pharmacy
1310 Preacher Roe Blvd.
(417) 257-2800







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MOVE HERE, LIVE HERE

West Plains prides itself on representing the best of two worlds, the slow and easy pace of the Ozarks, along with the status of being a trade center which serves over 300,000 people.

Nestled in the Ozark Heritage Region, West Plains is the largest town within 100 miles in Missouri. Quality of life for residents has steadily increased with each passing decade ever since the railroad was routed through West Plains 140 years ago, insuring our place as the hub of growth and progress for south-central Missouri. As the county seat of Howell County, the greater West Plains community is bustling with business and industry but also boasts forested areas, open rural spaces, small farming operations, and abundant clean air and water. Here you have the option of city-living, living in the middle of nowhere, or somewhere in between!

Let us entice you with some information about the area we love to promote:

CLIMATE

The climate can be described as having an abundance of sunshine, low wind velocity, and mild temperatures. We love our four distinct seasons which provide a variety of changes in the landscape and weather. You will find temperatures in the spring typically averaging from 50-70 degrees, summers from 70s to 90s, fall temperatures matching the spring, and overall mild winters with infrequent dips below 20 degrees. The growing season is approximately seven months long, ranging from around the first of April to the end of October.

HOUSING

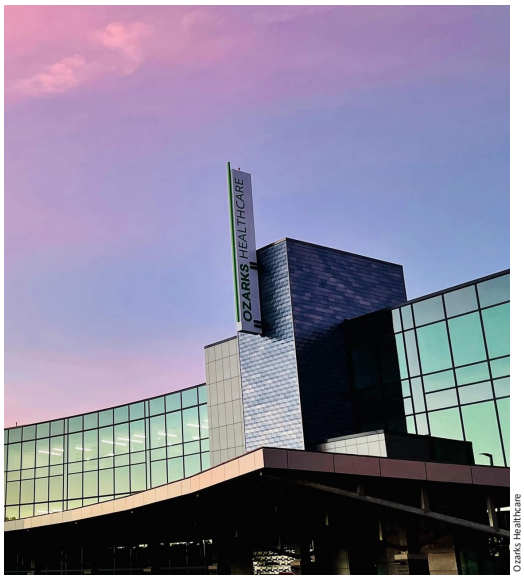
West Plains offers ample choices for housing. Our neighborhoods provide a safe, clean place to raise a family or enjoy your years of retirement. The average cost of a home ranges between $130,000-$170,000 for a three-bedroom, two bath, and a two-car garage. For renters, there is a selection of housing to choose from with rates averaging from $450-$800, including some unique opportunities for apartment living in our historic downtown and a converted mid-century motel. There are multiple housing choices and communities for seniors and retirees.



City of West Plains

HEALTHCARE

The West Plains medical community consists of more than 100 physicians, 10 dentists, and two orthodontists. Most are surprised at the vast number of specialists available in West Plains. In addition to general and family practitioners, there are specialists in anesthesiology, behavioral healthcare, cardiology, dermatology, ENT, emergency medicine, endocrinology, general surgery, hematology, infectious disease, neurology, obstetrics/gynecology, occupational therapy, medical oncology, orthopedics, pain management, pathology, pediatrics, physical therapy, podiatry, psychiatry, pulmonology, rheumatology, radiology, speech therapy, and wound care.



Ozarks Healthcare

South Howell County Ambulance District provides advanced life support service. The central dispatching system for South Howell is provided by a county-wide enhanced 9-1-1 emergency dispatch systems. AirEvac EMS, Inc. provides air/helicopter ambulance service to the area. West Plains has many options for home health services. The specialties range from skilled and psychiatric nursing to social work and therapy services, to spiritual and emotional support.

Several options also are available for nursing home care and assisted living.

TAXES

The personal property and real estate tax rates in our area are an attractive incentive for folks looking to relocate from high-tax parts of the country. For specific information, contact the Howell County Assessor's office, 417-256-8284. The sales tax rate in town is less than 9.5% and includes a special 2% capital improvement tax which has been renewed several times by vote of the people due to its well-received and successful funding of a host of projects, ranging from major infrastructure upgrades to sidewalk expansion to parks and recreation improvements. The tax is what provided initial funding for our civic center.

EDUCATION

The West Plains R-7 School District has approximately 2,700 students who attend classes in grades K-12. The district employs over 400 people, with 240 of those as classroom teachers, boasting a 17:1 student-to-teacher ratio. Our high school is consistently rated one of the best in the state and country. Additionally, there are five rural elementary schools in the immediate West Plains area which send their students to West Plains High School or to one of several other smaller high schools in the county. This situation offers families a unique opportunity to choose a high school experience which ranges from a student population of less than 100 to one which has 1,300 students, in the case of West Plains High School.

Private school options are available for K-12 students. There is a large and active homeschool community, which offers opportunities for collaboration and networking.

POST–SECONDARY & HIGHER EDUCATION

Missouri State University-West Plains (MSU-WP) is a public, two-year, open admission, separately accredited campus of the Missouri State University System. A full college experience with quality instruction in a relaxed, personal atmosphere is the hallmark of MSU-WP.



Missouri State University-West Plains

An online degree program is also available. There is a selection of university housing for students and a wide assortment of student activities, including intercollegiate athletics. There is a rigorous transfer program as well as two-year career programs. Advanced technical training is offered at the Greater Ozarks Center for Advanced Technology (GOCAT). The Terry L. (Bo) Pace Advanced Welding and Fabrication Program offers additional options for vocational training through MSU-WP. The Outreach Program at MSU's Springfield campus offers several undergraduate and graduate degrees on the West Plains Campus. Additionally, the West Plains R-7 School District's Southern Missouri Technical Institute uses industry standards and state-of-the-art technology to develop a high-quality workforce.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION RESOURCES

The Howell County office for Missouri University Extension in West Plains offers specialists and resources to further the goals of finding solutions for residents in various categories, including growing safe and healthy food; building and growing profitable businesses; improving health; increasing agricultural production; and engaging youth as valued, contributing citizens through 4-H and other programs.

The city-owned public library includes a children's section with activities and reading programs for youngsters, a genealogy area, and special programming for adults. A Library of Things has recently been added with a variety of practical items available to be loaned out. The Garnett Library on the campus of Missouri State University-West Plains is open to community members in the university's seven-county service area. It is also home of the Ozarks Heritage Research Center.

ARTS & CULTURE

Since 1975, the West Plains Council on the Arts has been the leading agency in hosting performing arts and cultural events from outside the area while also recognizing the contributions of local artists and musicians, including that it hosts the annual Ozark Heritage Festival. Established in 1994, the two-day festival is held the third weekend in October and is the signature event for West Plains. Over the years other venues have also become art-opportunity providers, including the Civic Center, the Harlin Museum, Missouri State University-West Plains, The Yellow House Community Arts Center, and several private businesses. Downtown art strolls have been gaining traction. Art shows, classes, and workshops happen at various venues in the area and are increasingly becoming a vital part of adding to our quality of life.

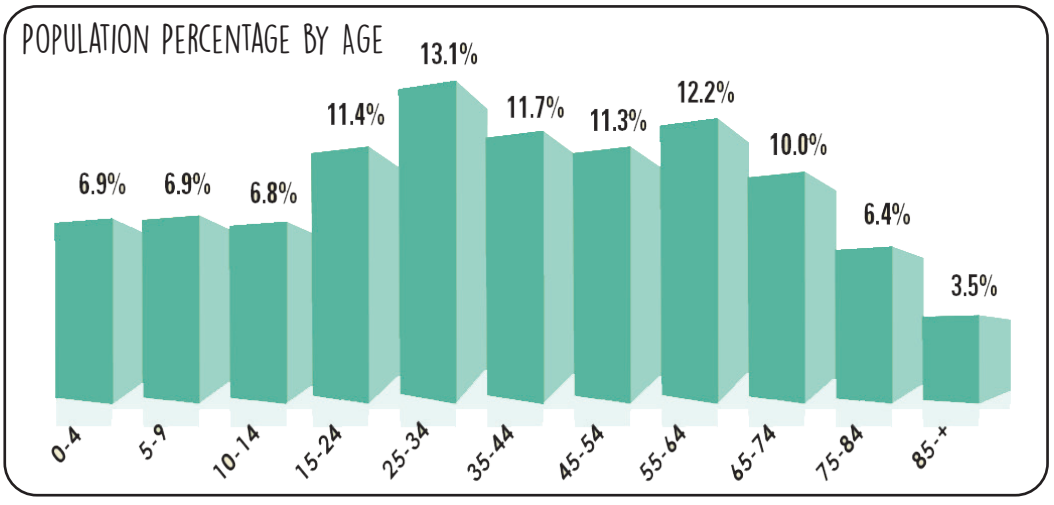


Roe Family Singers

Additionally, the Arts Alliance, a group of arts and culture organizations, has been established to collaborate on ways to help the arts have a greater presence and impact in the community and to help change how our region is viewed. The Ozarks has been the subject of literature and the film and television industry through the years, and while often entertaining, most stories told by Hollywood and outsiders do not tell the whole story of life here. The ongoing goal is to have the many talented artists, artisans, musicians, and film makers who live here help tell our own story of the Ozarks by providing more opportunities to share their work with a wider audience. If you are an artist, we invite you to move here to be inspired by the natural beauty, to get to know us, and then help more completely tell the story of a unique region of the world.

NON–PROFIT & SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

From our longstanding tradition of hosting pie suppers and auctions for our neighbors in need to organizing fundraising events for local causes, our area prides itself on its service to others. If you're looking for a way to get involved, there is an active non-profit community with dozens of charitable and service organizations to join. Rotary, Lions, Optimists, Kiwanis, Habitat for Humanity, the American Red Cross, VFW, Elks, and Amvets are some of the national organizations which have chapters here. Beyond that, we have local nonprofits and agencies involved in children's causes, serving the Disability Community, sheltering vulnerable populations, the arts, and animal welfare, to name a few. There is a United Way, a community foundation, and a Boys and Girls Club. Churches abound as well. If you want to serve others, there are organizations here to help you find and fulfill your passion and purpose.



ENTERTAINMENT

There are several area venues which regularly offer live music featuring local and regional musicians and bands which play a variety of genres. Community theater is alive and well, offering opportunities to get involved on stage, behind the scenes, or as an audience



Melissa Wharton

member in various productions throughout the year. A long-established bluegrass music community, with its own outdoor music venue, hosts a spring and fall show, annually. Craft fairs, festivals, parades, and other special events are scheduled regularly throughout the year. Roller skating, bowling, movie theaters, axe throwing, and an active cornhole community are some of the activities available. Country, rock, and Christian radio stations, along with National Public Radio and public access television round out entertainment options.

RECREATION

Aside from the endless ways to get outside and enjoy the opportunities in nature which surround West Plains, we have lots of fun stuff to do in town within our parks and recreation department which offers multiple ballfields, tennis courts, a skate park, and the Jimmie Carroll Sports Complex for indoor sports, year-round. There are recreational leagues for adults and children for both summer and winter sports, including a recently added pickle ball league. Several playgrounds offer equipment for kids, including a specially designed all-inclusive playground. There is a splash pad, an aquatic park, an indoor pool at the civic center, a municipal golf course, and a disc golf park. There are walking trails, marked routes in town for a growing bicycle-enthusiast community, and a dog park. One of the city parks is host to a community garden.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

West Plains has received designation through the Missouri Main Street program for continued development of our historic downtown. This goes hand-in-hand with an increasingly active West Plains Downtown Revitalization group which hosts free, family-friendly events throughout the year and works on other economic and community development projects. This activity is tied to the



Melissa Wharton

Courthouse Square Historic District designation achieved when we were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2003. West Plains is a Tree City USA designee, named as such by the Arbor Day Foundation since 2014.

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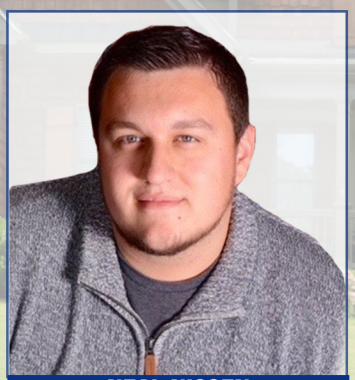

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SOLAR FARM & UTILITIES

Completed and online since April 2022, the West Plains solar farm is the largest municipal-owned solar farm in Missouri. It covers 40 acres of land just north of the city and features more than 26,000 solar panels. It can provide electricity to roughly 7 percent of the city's



City of West Plains

electricity needs, which amounts to more than 2,000 homes. It is designed to help curb future energy costs and will have a positive impact on greenhouse emissions. Utilities in the West Plains area are offered at overall affordable rates and are provided by either the City of West Plains or through Howell-Oregon Electric Cooperative which supplies electricity to locations outside city limits. Several options are available for high-speed Internet and there are rural trash pick-up companies.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

The Ozarks Small Business Incubator (OzSBI) is an award-winning rural business incubator which was established in 2012 after the renovation of the Butler Furniture Building, its home in historic downtown West Plains, was completed. It was the ninth incubator to open in Missouri, and since that time it has helped 400 businesses, had 40 tenants, helped create approximately 500 jobs, and provided nearly 4,500 hours of mentoring to clients. It offers microloans for business expansion and hosts multiple workshops each year. The Missouri State University-West Plains Small Business Development Center and the Missouri Small Business Development Center available through Missouri University Extension provide other resources for opening or expanding a business. If you have an entrepreneurial spirit, we have resources to help.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Established in 1900 as the Commercial Club, the Greater West Plains Area Chamber of Commerce is the oldest, ongoing nonprofit organization in town with a membership over 400. It hosts a monthly meeting for members and promotes economic development for the area.



Chamber of Commerce

If we've piqued your interest about moving here, contact the Chamber and they'll send you an information packet with even more details about West Plains. Call them at (417) 256-4433 or email info@wpchamber.com.

WE INVITE YOU TO MOVE HERE & LIVE HERE!

HELPFUL NUMBERS

Zip Code 65775
Emergency 911

Airport (417) 257-1530
Animal Control (417) 255-1860
Boys & Girls Club (417) 204-2582
Chamber of Commerce (417) 256-4433
City Hall (417) 256-7176
City Transportation (417) 256-1241
Civic Center (417) 256-8087
County Assessor (417) 256-8284
County Clerk (417) 256-2591
County Collector (417) 256-4001
County Commission (417) 256-3875
County Health Department (417) 256-7078
Housing Authority (417) 256-6633
Howell-Oregon Electric Co-op (417) 256-2131
Job Center (417) 256-3158
License Office (417) 256-0678
Missouri State Highway Patrol (417) 469-3121
Ozarks Healthcare (417) 256-9111
Parks & Recreation (417) 256-7304
Police (Non-emergency) (417) 256-2244
Post Office (417) 256-5775
Public Library (417) 256-4775
Senior Citizens Center (417) 256-4055
Social Security (866) 614-2741
University of Missouri Extension (417) 256-2391
Utilities (417) 256-7176
Welcome Center (417) 256-8835
West Plains R-7 Schools (417) 256-6150

LOCAL NEWS MEDIA

E-Communications | (417) 264-7211
KAMS 95.1, KHOM 100.9, KLove 107.1, The Gift 103.7

Ozark Radio News
983 E. US Hwy 160 | (417) 256-1025
KKDY 102.5, KSPQ 93.9, KUKU 100.3, KUPH 96.9, KWPM 105.1

Ozarks Public Radio | (417) 836-5878
KSMW 90.3, KSMU 91.1, K204FX 88.7

West Plains Daily Quill Newspaper
205 Washington Ave. | (417) 256-9191

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Justin M Shelby, Agent
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Emergency Department or Walk-in Clinic?

Life is full of surprises, and sometimes, unexpected health issues can pop up. When that happens, it's crucial to know where to seek medical care - emergency department, or walk-in clinic? Let's break it down:

Aches and Pains:



Walk-In

Chest Pains:



Emergency Department

Rolled Your Ankle:



Walk-In

Rolled Your Car:



Emergency Department

Emergency Department (ED):

- Life-threatening situations: Head straight to the ED for severe injuries, chest pain, difficulty breathing, major burns, or other critical emergencies.
- Immediate attention: If it can't wait and requires urgent care, ED is the place to be!
- Complex medical issues: If you have a chronic condition that suddenly worsens, the ED can handle it.

Walk-in Clinic:

- Non-life-threatening issues: For minor illnesses, small cuts, minor sprains, or ear infections, a walk-in clinic is usually sufficient.
- Shorter waiting times: Typically, walk-in clinics have shorter wait times than the ED.
- Minor illnesses: For minor health concerns or illnesses, a walk-in clinic works great.
- Remember, it's essential to make the right decision based on your symptoms and the severity of the situation

Walk-in Clinics:

500 E. 19th St.
Mountain Grove, MO 65711

Highland Park, Suite 100
181 Kentucky Ave.
West Plains, MO 65775

Emergency Department

1100 Kentucky Ave.
West Plains, MO 65775

OZARKS HEALTHCARE

SERVICES

Whether you're looking for something for yourself, your pet or your vehicles, our service-oriented businesses have got you covered! And if you're considering moving here, our realtors can help you find your perfect place, then we'll get you moved and set up with what you need to settle in.

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D&S Cycle
3283 N. Hwy 63
(417) 256-2793

EJ's RV Sales
3852 N. US Hwy 63
(417) 256-8444

Mega Motorsports
3874 US Hwy 63
(888) 998-9323

Outpost Motorsports
312 E. Main St.
(417) 256-4169

Triple C Cycle
4961 W. US Hwy 160
(417) 256-8200

West Plains Marine & Power Sports
4504 W. US Hwy 160
(417) 255-0963

AUTOMOTIVE: CAR WASH/LOCKSMITH

Aqua Power Car Wash
742 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 293-1253

Mudbusters Car Wash
1750 Porter Wagoner
(417) 293-9274

Mudbusters #2 Car Wash
1194 Preacher Roe Blvd.
417-293-9274

Ozark Quick Lube & Car Wash
1761 CR 6460
(417) 257-7488

R&T Locksmith Service
(417) 256-8657

Take 5 Car Wash
1005 Worley Dr.
(417) 815-6942

West Plains Lock & Key
1204 St. Louis St.
(417) 256-8862

AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR/TOWING/PARTS/TIRES

Andrews Automotive Repair
1844 CR 6460
(417) 255-2886

Auto Zone
817 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-8311

Bayird Dodge of West Plains
2814 Porter Wagoner
(417) 413-2946

Bracket Road Service
1630 Freedom Drive
(417) 256-2663

Brocaw Bearing & Drive
306 W. Broadway St.
(417) 257-7566

CARSTAR Gobel's Collision
1631 Old Airport Road
(417) 255-2513

Dent Co.
218 E. Main
(417) 293-9734

Don's Auto Service
1618 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-2752

Gary's Tire & Automotive
109 West Trish Knight
(417) 256-7004

Haney's Firestone Services
1601 Imperial Dr.
(417) 256-6001

Hughes Towing, LLC
114 E. Third St.
(417) 256-9312

J&J Recovery Services
713 Joe Jones Blvd.
(417) 256-7628

James Gang
3109 N. US Hwy 63
(417) 256-2383

Lincoln Avenue Exhaust
603 Lincoln Ave.
(417) 372-8009

Mayfield Auto Repair
2090 Clark Ave.
(417) 256-5930

Morlan-Shell Ford, Inc.
1824 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-3193

Mr. Dent Collision Repair
725 Missouri Ave.
(417) 257-3368

O'Reilly Automotive
1504 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-2118

O'Reilly Automotive
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(417) 256-3731

Ozark Quick Lube
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(417) 257-7488

Ozarko Tire Center
3325 US Hwy 63
(417) 256-9500

Professional Auto Repair
1620 Freedom Drive
(417) 257-2886

RNR Tire Express
1709 Porter Wagoner
(417) 255-8473

Scaggs Repair
648 Missouri Ave.
(417) 257-2007

Scans-4-U Mobile Auto Repair
(417) 837-9333

SMP/Quality Auto Glass
1653 S. US Hwy 63
(417) 256-6969

Steel City Auto Repair & Tires
1823 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-8866

Stuff for Trucks
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(417) 256-6677

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(417) 256-1212

Wal-Mart Auto Care Centers
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(417) 256-5472

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(417) 256-3247

Casey's
816 St. Louis St.
(417) 256-0243

Conoco
502 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-3589

Diamond Shamrock
1243 St. Louis St.

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412 St. Louis St.
(417) 256-2202

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3007 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-2202

Murphy USA
1309 Southern Hills
(417) 257-2999

Phillips 66
3675 US Highway 63
(417) 257-1421

Snappy Mart
1818 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-0112

Snappy Mart
1671 US Hwy 63
(417) 256-5345

West Plains Propane
2944 Porter Wagoner
(417) 256-3470

HEALTHCARE

Burton Creek Medical Clinic
805 Kentucky Ave., #1
(417) 256-2111

Hometown Clinic at West Plains
1402 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 256-3717

Mission First Medical
1702 W. US Hwy 160
(417) 204-4450

Ozarks Healthcare
1100 N. Kentucky Ave.
(417) 256-9111

Ozarks Healthcare At Home
812 N. Kentucky Ave.
(417) 256-3133

Ozarks Healthcare Behavioral Health
1211 Porter Wagoner
#23 Parkway Center
(417) 257-6762

Ozarks Healthcare Cancer Treatment Center
1100 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 257-5900

Ozarks Healthcare Dermatology
1210 N. Kentucky Ave.
(417) 505-7114

Ozarks Healthcare Ear, Nose & Throat
1100 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 505-7824

Ozarks Healthcare Endocrinology
1100 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 505-7113

Ozarks Healthcare Emergency
1100 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 257-6789

Ozarks Healthcare Family Care
1307 Porter Wagoner
(417) 255-8645

Ozarks Healthcare Family Medicine
181 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 257-5911

Ozarks Healthcare General Surgery
1100 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 256-1774

Ozarks Healthcare Heart & Lung Center
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(417) 257-5950

Ozarks Healthcare Infectious Disease
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(417) 505-7827

Ozarks Healthcare Neurology
1100 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 257-6777

Ozarks Healthcare Orthopedics & Spine
1100 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 256-1745

Ozarks Healthcare Pain Management
1100 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 256-1761

Ozarks Healthcare Pediatrics
312 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 257-7076

Ozarks Healthcare Podiatry
1100 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 505-7822

Ozarks Healthcare Rheumatology
1100 Kentucky Ave.
(417) 256-1764

Ozarks Healthcare Sleep Center
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Ozarks Healthcare Therapies
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(417) 256-5669

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(417) 256-2526

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1137 Independence Dr.
(417) 255-8464

Southern Missouri ENT & Allergy
1409 Doctors Drive
(417) 255-1373

West Plains Health Service (H.O.M.E.)
1703 W. 8th Street
(417) 256-0900

West Plains Occupational & Insurance Physicals
1519 Imperial Center
(417) 256-1460

West Plains VA Clinic
1801 E. State Route K
(417) 257-2454

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(417) 204-2808

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(417) 293-5838

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(417) 274-6427

Family Chiropractic Clinic
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(417) 256-5880

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(417) 256-4592

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(417) 293-9923

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(417) 596-9494

McFarland Spine & Sport
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(417) 256-9172

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(417) 204-1028

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232 West Main Plaza
(417) 274-4752

Ozark Wellness Chiropractic
2900 Independence Dr.
(417) 264-7610

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414 Washington Ave.
(417) 505-4402

Simply Exquisite Aesthetics
1564 Imperial Center
(417) 274-0757

Southern Missouri Chiropractic
1105 Independence Dr.
(417) 293-7485

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(417) 252-1129

DENTISTS/ ORTHODONTISTS

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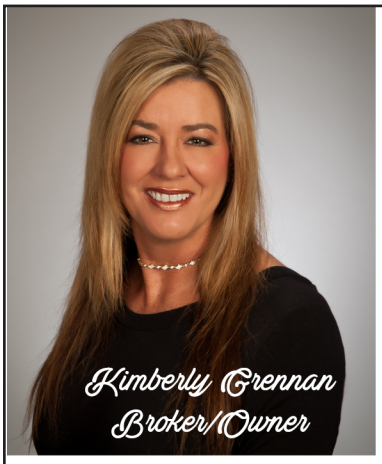

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