

Long Branch Lake

Missouri

The Lake

Long Branch Lake covers 2,429 acres at normal pool level. Long Branch controls a drainage area of more than 109 square miles and provides flood protection along the East fork of the Little Chariton River. Working in conjunction with Rathbun Lake in Iowa, Long Branch also contributes to flood protection in the Missouri River basin.

In addition to providing flood protection Long Branch Lake supplies water to the City of Macon and other surrounding communities. Benefits of the lake as water supply source are estimated in excess of \$1 million each year. Recreational activities and the fish and wildlife associated with the lake are other benefits that the project provides.



Welcome to Macon County: one of the most history rich places in Missouri. Macon and the surrounding communities are proud to introduce you to Macon County. There is something for everyone in Macon County from shopping to lodging, entertainment to history.

Lodging & Restaurants

Macon County is proud to offer some of the finest dining and lodging experiences in the area. Take your choice from one of our several motels with a banquet facility for up to 250 people or stay at one of our many bed and breakfasts. Also, be sure and stay for a meal. Macon is proud to offer several cuisines sure to please anyone.



Entertainment & Shopping

We are excited to provide you with several entertainment opportunities here in Macon County. We are home to a three screen movie theater and a municipal pool. Macon also offers golf, racquetball, tennis courts, a driving range, miniature golf, roller-skating, parks, a YMCA, and community theater. If there is a shopper in your bunch you're in luck! Macon is home to over 20 craft, antique, and collectable shops.



History

Macon County's past is just as rich as its present. Macon County is home to several historic sites. We feature one of the last-standing round in-ground swimming pools. Even Macon's nickname, "The City of Maples," is historic. The name was adopted in 1872 when John Beaumont donated 10,000 maple trees to the city as a payment of back taxes. Macon also boasts the Brees Still-Hildreth Museum which may be viewed by appointment. Contact 660-385-3570 for details.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

The Kansas City District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers welcomes you to Long Branch Lake. Displays in the Visitor Center near the east end of the dam provide information about the lake and surrounding area. Corps personnel there will answer your questions about the lake.

Long Branch Lake was authorized by Congress in 1965 as a multi-purpose project for water supply, flood control, recreation and downstream water quality. Support for the project by local citizens resulted in Congress appropriating funds for construction in 1968. The Corps of Engineers began construction of the project in 1973. The dam was placed in operation in September 1980.

The Corps of Engineers manages natural resources on 1,190 acres on the western and eastern shores of the lake. Corps natural resource management objectives for Long Branch are designed to improve habitat diversity for migratory and native wildlife species and provide opportunities for outdoor recreational activities such as hunting, hiking and nature study.

Long Branch Lake's land and waters are for everyone. Please observe all posted regulations to insure that all visitors have the same opportunity for a safe and enjoyable experience. Copies of the Code of Federal Regulations (Title 36) governing use of Federal lands are available at the Visitor Center. Additional regulations are enforced by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in the State Park areas and the Missouri Department of Conservation in the Atlanta/Long Branch Conservation Area, and the Missouri Water Patrol on the lake waters.



The Dam

Long Branch Dam is a 3,800 foot long rolled earth structure. The dam was constructed around an almost watertight compacted clay core. Sand lenses on the downstream side of this clay core serve as drains to carry away the small amount of water that seeps through. A grass cover is maintained on the earthen slopes to prevent erosion. Riprap placed on the upstream slope of the dam prevents erosion by waves. Water is released from the lake through the control tower. During periods of dry weather these releases significantly improve downstream water quality by sustaining stream flow. The emergency spillway, located on the west side of the dam acts as a safety valve to prevent overtopping of the dam by floodwaters.

For more information visit us at: www.nwk.usace.army.mil/longbranch/longbranch_home.htm

Long Branch State Park

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Division of State Parks, manages Long Branch State Park through a lease agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The 1,828-acre park consists of three areas, Bloomington, Bee Trace and Macon.

The Bloomington Area, located on the western shore, offers camping, boating, swimming and hiking. Eighty-three shaded campsites are offered. Several sites are accessible to persons with disabilities. The marina has covered slips, boat rentals and a convenience store that supplies visitors with bait, snacks and motor fuel. A two-lane boat launch provides the public access to the lake.



A large sand beach with a change house, located near the campground and marina, is the perfect place to enjoy the water and sunshine. Two open shelters with grills can be reserved for large gatherings. Picnic sites located among shade trees are located near scenic views of the lake and beach. A 1.1-mile hiking trail located near the west end of the dam and South Shelter follows the shoreline of the lake.

The Bee Trace Area draws its name from the road or "trace" early settlers used to harvest honey before the advent of sorghum cane and refined sugar. The area boasts a 640 acre natural area with a 9 mile hiking and backpacking trail that winds through savannas, upland prairie and timber. The Special Use Area for primitive camping can be reserved by non-profit organizations. A single lane boat ramp allows visitors access to the northern end of the lake.



The Macon Area is located on the eastern side of the lake just off Long Branch Road. This area has a single lane boat launch and several shady picnic sites for use by boaters.

All areas have paved parking and concrete boat ramps. These areas close at 10 p.m. except for use by anglers. For information regarding reservations and marina operations:

Long Branch State Park Office
660-773-5229
Long Branch Marina
660-773-5558





Missouri Department of Conservation

In 1978 the Missouri Department of Conservation entered into a license agreement with the Corps to manage 2,454 acres for wildlife on the north end of the project. The area is combined with the adjacent Atlanta Conservation area to form the 4,500-acre Atlanta/Long Branch Conservation Area, which is managed by the Department of Conservation as one unit

The area is gently rolling, except for the bottom lands. The forest is predominately oak/hickory in the uplands and mixed hardwoods in the lowlands and contains a variety of woodland edge and grassland wildlife. The area also contains three wetlands, totaling approximately 90 acres, and several natural oxbow lakes.



Bald eagles nest here and can be viewed most winters. The area also has a resident population of Giant Canada geese.

The Conservation Department manages the resources of this area to provide public recreation and to protect soil and water quality. Management practices include farming, timber harvest and prescribed fire. Most area ponds and Long Branch Lake contain a variety of sport fish.

Long Branch Lake is the site of a special walleye management project aimed at learning which sizes of stocked fingerlings survive best. The lake provides an excellent fishery for channel, blue, and flathead catfish and a bass fishery with low to moderate numbers of large fish. Crappie are generally numerous.



Outdoor activities allowed in the area include hunting, fishing, frogging, hiking, nature study, and outdoor photography. The Atlanta Area offers a target shooting range and primitive camping in designated areas.

Please consult the Missouri Wildlife Code for specific information on seasons, limits, and other regulations.

For more information visit us at:
www.mdc.state.mo.us



Many people, after visiting Long Branch Lake and the Macon County area, have come back to make this their home. If you and your family want to relax and enjoy the great outdoors, then Long Branch Lake and the surrounding area is a must see for you.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and Macon County Economic Development Inc. invite you to visit Long Branch Lake and Macon County.



Missouri State Parks:
1-800-334-6946
www.mostateparks.com

Macon County Economic Development Inc.
(660)385-5627, www.maconcounty.org

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Long Branch State Park (660)773-5229

Missouri Department of Conservation (660)385-4920

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Long Branch Lake,
30174 Visitor Center Road
Macon, Missouri 63552, (660)385-2108.



Macon County
Economic Development Inc.



Missouri Dept. of
Natural Resources



**US Army Corps
of Engineers.**



*For more information about Macon
or surrounding communities visit
www.maconmochamber.com*