BUFFALO RANCH

Located in the scenic, rolling Chautauqua Hills Region, the Berentz-Dick Wildlife Area, more commonly known as the Buffalo Ranch, is comprised of 1360 acres of native grass, oak timber and ponds. The ranch is located in Montgomery County and grazed buffalo in the 1950’s and thus was locally known as the Buffalo Ranch. Located 5.5 miles north of Havana, the Buffalo Ranch is in the Cross-Timbers region of southeast Kansas and contains a diversity of plant and animal life.

The property was purchased and donated to the Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks by the estate of Lynn Berentz, a longtime resident of Montgomery County. Mr. Berentz passed away in 1991, and designated a portion of his estate be utilized to establish a wildlife area in southeast Kansas. The property was selected and purchased from Max Dick in 1993. Funding for the operation and development of the property, is provided by the Lynn Berentz Wildtrust Fund.

Visitors are encouraged to participate in hunting, trapping, fishing, hiking, photography and bird watching. Certain restrictions are in place for some activities, and a NO TRASH policy is in effect, so please take all trash with you.

HUNTING & TRAPPING

The wildlife area consists of three separate tracts totaling 1360 acres. Vegetation on the rolling hills, is primarily native grassland, interspersed with a cross-timbers oak complex on the hilltops. The hunter will find populations of quail, deer, turkey, squirrel and rabbit.

Management activities include prescribed burning, food plot and legume plantings as well as light grazing on a portion of the area.

Hunting is restricted to Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday only. Hunters are required to use legal archery equipment or shotguns with slugs or pellets only. No muzzleloaders, centerfire rifles or .22’s are allowed for hunting.

Trapping is allowed on the area and .22’s are allowed only in conjunction with trapping activity.

FISHING

The wildlife area has several small stockwater ponds and one larger pond. These ponds provide the angler with an opportunity to fish for largemouth bass, bluegill and channel catfish. The larger pond is stocked bi-annually with channel catfish. Access is limited to foot traffic only. Length and creel limits apply and are also posted on area information signs. The area is open to fishing daily.

CAMPING AND HIKING

Campsites are restricted to the two parking areas only. Due to the large expanses of grasslands in the area, open fires are not allowed and are restricted to contained gas grills and stoves. Hikers are not restricted to any trails and are encouraged to explore the rolling hills, woodlands and ponds.

These areas are wonderful places for game and non-game species alike.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

Motor vehicles are restricted to parking areas only. Primitive camping is allowed with no open fires. Please take all trash with you. Hunting is allowed on designated days only, with special restrictions. No parking in field entrances or blocking of gates is allowed (vehicles may be towed). Further information may be available by posted notice at area information boards.

Cattle are grazed on a portion of the area in the summer months. Please leave all gates as found. Horseback riding is allowed by special permit only.