Welcome to Melvern Wildlife Area. Located on the eastern fringe of the Flint Hills, the wildlife area consists of 10,100 acres surrounding Melvern Lake. This unique area provides for a diversity of plant and animal life.

FISHING AND BOATING
Fishing is good from shore or boat. Melvern Lake is known for its quality crappie fishing. The lake also has good populations of walleye, sauger, white bass and channel cat. Both largemouth and smallmouth bass are present in the lake.

Melvern Lake offers 6,930 surface acres of water for boating. One concrete boat ramp located on the Melvern Wildlife Area provides access to the lake's upper end and the Marais des Cygnes River. Two multi-lane boat ramps with ample parking are available at the state park. Additional concrete boat ramps operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are located in Coeur D'Alene, Arrow Rock, Turkey Point, and Sundance park areas.

WILDLIFE
Wildlife management goals are to provide quality public hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities through habitat development and management. Habitat includes grassland, riparian timber, wetlands, and croplands. Habitat improvement efforts include controlled burns of native grass areas, grass and legume plantings and management of crop fields to provide winter food and cover.

Wildlife species common to the Melvern Wildlife Area include bobwhite quail, white-tail deer, turkey, squirrel, and cottontail rabbit. Furbearers such as raccoon, beaver, and coyote. Trappers should use caution because of the many dogs on the area during the upland bird season.

HUNTING
Public hunting is allowed on the wildlife area except for the 1,100-acre waterfowl refuge. The refuge area is closed to all activities during the waterfowl season to provide waterfowl an area to feed, rest, and roost without disturbance. Several marshes have been constructed on the area to attract waterfowl and early-season hunting can be good.

Waterfowl hunters must use steel shot and only temporary blinds made of natural materials are allowed. No permanent blinds or stands are allowed. Mourning dove management consists of several food plots managed specifically to attract doves in September. Doves can be abundant in these fields and offer good opportunities for all ages.

Melvern Wildlife Area offers good turkey hunting on the upper end of the lake. Turkey numbers are increasing on the area.

Hunting is also allowed on land controlled by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Trapping is allowed on the area. Common furbearers include raccoon, beaver, and coyote. Trappers should use caution because of the many dogs on the area during the upland bird season.

iSPORTSMAN PERMIT REQUIRED
iSportsman electronic daily hunt permits have replaced paper daily hunt permits used on the area. Hunters will need to complete a one-time registration with iSportsman either online at https://kdwpt.isportsman.net or by contacting your nearest KDWPT office. Once registered, we ask that hunters “check-in” and “check-out” each time they utilize the area for hunting or trapping. This process allows us to manage the area better. “Checking-in” and “Checking-out” can be done over the phone by calling 1-844-500-0825 or online by using the link above.

.equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs described herein is available to all individuals without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, political affiliation, and military or veteran status. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to Office of the Secretary, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, 1000 S Kansas Ave. Topeka, KS 66612-1327. 05/17

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(Area Office)
(620) 699-3372
(Regional Office)
(620) 431-0380
www.ksoutdoors.com

The public facilities and natural resources are here for your enjoyment, but remember you are just one of many visitors so please be considerate of other people and the natural resources. Vehicles and horses are permitted only on maintained roads and parking areas. There are no trash barrels so please take your trash with you. Camping is prohibited on the wildlife area. Consult area information signs for additional rules and regulations on the area.

Melvern Reservoir & Wildlife Area
General Area Map