



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Ozark National  
Scenic Riverways

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## Ozark National Scenic Riverways News Release

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### New Federal Firearms Law Takes Effect Monday Ozark National Scenic Riverways subject to Missouri firearms laws

Van Buren, MO – A change in federal law effective February 22, allows people who can legally possess firearms under federal, Missouri, and local laws to possess those firearms in Ozark National Scenic Riverways.

The new federal law makes possession of firearms in national parks also subject to the firearms laws of the state and communities where the parks are located.

“We have been working closely with local, state, and federal officials to ensure that we clearly understand the provisions of the laws that will now apply to our visitors when they are in the park,” said Ozark Riverways Superintendent Reed Detring. We encourage every visitor who may wish to bring firearms to the park to do their research ahead of time and ensure that they are aware of and abide by the laws that apply. Our goal is to provide safe, enjoyable park visits for everyone, and to preserve this very special place for people today and future generations.”

The new federal law has no effect on existing laws and regulations regarding the use of firearms in national parks or hunting. Hunting still is allowed in designated areas of Ozark National Scenic Riverways. Federal law continues to prohibit firearms in certain facilities, such as park visitor centers; these facilities are posted with appropriate notices at public entrances.

National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis said, “We will administer this law as we do all others – fairly. For nearly 100 years, the mission of the National Park Service has been to protect and preserve the parks and to help all visitors enjoy them. The parks belong to all Americans, and our commitment to the American people is to ensure the safety of our visitors and the special places that have been entrusted to our care.”

For more information about firearms laws that apply to Ozark National Scenic Riverways, please visit the “Laws and Policies” section of the park’s website, found at <http://www.nps.gov/ozar/parkmgmt/lawsandpolicies.htm>.

Ozark National Scenic Riverways preserves the free-flowing Current and Jacks Fork Rivers, the surrounding natural resources, and the unique cultural heritage of the Ozark people. For more information visit, [www.nps.gov/ozar](http://www.nps.gov/ozar)

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.