



Missouri Fly-Fishing School

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Overview:

The Orvis Missouri Fly-Fishing School is held at the 10,000-acre Dogwood Canyon Nature Park near Lampe, Missouri. Located in the beautiful Ozark Mountains, Dogwood Canyon Nature Park is just 45 minutes from the live entertainment capital of the world—Branson, Missouri—and 1 hour and 15 minutes from the airport in Springfield, Missouri.

Other activities at Dogwood Canyon Nature Park include tram and private Jeep tours, biking (bike rentals available), walking, and horseback riding. At Big Cedar Lodge (417-335-2777), students can take advantage of a wide range of activities including, boating on Table Rock Lake (boat rentals available), golf, and tennis.

Seasonal Weather/Fishing Conditions:

April—Expect high temperatures in the mid sixties to mid seventies, lows in the forties.

May—Expect high temperatures in the mid seventies, lows in the low fifties.

June—Expect high temperatures in the mid eighties, lows in the sixties.

July—Expect high temperatures in the high eighties, lows in the mid sixties.

August—Expect high temperatures in the high eighties, lows in the mid sixties.

September—Expect high temperatures in the low eighties, lows in the low sixties.

October—Expect high temperatures in the low seventies, lows in the mid forties.

Expect consistent stream conditions on the Dogwood and throughout the season with occasional rain-related higher water levels. Lake Taneycomo is a tailwater and part of the White River system, where water flows/levels are regulated by dam releases.

Weather conditions can change quickly. We recommend that you dress in layers, wear or bring a pair of rubber-bottom boots (as the grounds around the casting areas can become damp), and **please remember to bring raingear, polarized sunglasses, hat, and sunblock.**

General School Information:

We look forward to meeting you at Dogwood Canyon Nature Park for registration at 8:00 a.m. on the first day. If you have any questions about this reservation, please feel free to contact school reservations at 1-866-531-6213 Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. You may contact Dogwood Canyon Nature Park directly by calling 417-779-5983.

Equipment: The school staff will issue graphite rods, 8½-foot for 5-weight line. An 8- and/or 9-weight rod will be available at the casting area for students who want to cast a heavier-weight rod. We use all weight-forward floating lines and Battenkill reels in the program.

Capacities & Student/Instructor Ratio: The typical school capacity is 8 students, with the student to instructor ratio never exceeding 4:1.

Program: Instruction is geared toward beginners, but students of all levels are welcome and encouraged to progress at their own rate. Our teaching methods allow us to handle even experienced fly casters. Indoor and outdoor sessions are evenly divided, with the main emphasis placed on developing proper fly-casting skills. Our goal is to have students exit the program with the ability to handle 30-plus-foot casts efficiently, have a thorough understanding of fly selection, leaders, knot-tying, reading water, etiquette, and the applications and use of related gear and equipment in both moving and still water. We also encourage an appreciation for fine tackle and emphasize the importance of the catch-and-release ethic, a clean and healthy outdoor environment, and the continued pursuit of quality fly-fishing experiences through the promotion of our Orvis-Endorsed Lodge and Guide services.

Cancellation Policy:

Should you need to cancel the school within 30 days prior to the starting date, we will issue a gift certificate in the amount of the cancelled school. That gift certificate may be used toward another school date of your choice.

Two-Day Class Program:

Day One

- 8:15 a.m. Students meet at Dogwood Canyon Orvis Pro Shop; transport to Trapper's Cabin.
- 9:00 a.m. Introduction and discussion of school program.
- 9:15 a.m. Classroom presentation—Lines, rods and reels.
- 10:30 a.m. *The Orvis Progressive Fly Casting Method*, part one: video on the basic casting stroke.
- 10:45 a.m. The casting pool—Demonstration of basic casting stroke, followed by students casting.
- Noon Lunch at Trappers Cabin.
- 12:45 p.m. Classroom Presentation— *The Orvis Progressive Fly Casting Method*, part two— video on shooting line, false casting, and roll casting.
- 1:00 p.m. The casting pool—Demonstration of shooting line, false casting and roll casting, followed by student's practice and videotaping of students casting.
- 2:30 p.m. Classroom presentation – Fly vests, chest packs and accessories. Wading equipment and wading safety.
- 3:15 p.m. Classroom presentation—Leader, tippet, weights, strike indicators and knot tying, followed by students knot tying.
- 4:30 p.m. End of first day.

Day Two

- 8:15 a.m. Students meet at Dogwood Canyon Orvis Pro Shop; transport to Trapper's Cabin.
- 9:00 a.m. Classroom presentation—Entomology, fly selection, and how to choose flies. Tips on handling, photographing, and releasing fish.
- 10:15 a.m. Classroom presentation – Video analysis.
- 10:45 a.m. *The Orvis Progressive Fly Casting Method*, part three: video on the single haul and double haul.
- 11:00 a.m. The casting pool—Demonstration of proper hook setting, sidearm casting, and fish fighting techniques. Students practice casting, single- and double-hauling.
- Noon Lunch at Trapper's Cabin.
- 12:45 p.m. Dogwood Creek trip—Discussion on reading water. Demonstration on fishing flies in moving water. Students fishing.
- 3:45 p.m. Classroom presentation—Fly fishing opportunities around the world, Orvis-endorsed fishing vacations, lodges, and guide programs. Closing statement and issue of certificates.
- 4:30 p.m. End of school.

One-Day Class Program:

- 8:15 a.m. Students meet at Orvis Pro Shop at Dogwood Canyon; transport to Trapper's Cabin.
- 9:00 a.m. Introduction and discussion of class program.
- 9:15 a.m. *The Orvis Progressive Method to Fly Casting* part one and two: Video on the basic casting stroke, shooting line, false casting, false casting and shooting line, and roll casting.
- 9:30 a.m. Report to casting pond for demonstration of basic casting stroke. Students casting.
- 10:45 a.m. Classroom presentation – Tackle and Fly Selection.
- 12:00 Lunch.
- 12:30 p.m. Classroom presentation – Knot tying seminar. Discussion on leaders, hand-on knot tying.
- 1:00 p.m. *The Orvis Progressive Method to Fly Casting* part three: Video on the double haul.
- 1:15 p.m. Report to casting pond for demonstration on the double haul. Students casting.
- 2:15 p.m. Orvis-Endorsed fishing trips and tips on fishing with guides. Wading and wading safety.
- 2:30 p.m. Dogwood Creek trip – Talk on reading water. Demonstration on fishing flies. Students fishing.
- 4:15 p.m. Return to schoolroom for closing statements, and graduation certificates.
- 4:30 p.m. End of school.

Lodging Options:

Most students stay at Big Cedar Lodge (25 minutes from Dogwood Canyon). Students who wish to lodge at Big Cedar should call to make reservations.

Big Cedar Lodge
612 Devils Pool Rd.
Ridgedale, MO 65739
417-335-2777
www.bigcedar.com

At Dogwood Canyon (2 minutes from the Dogwood Lodge), there are three rustic log cabins (1, 2, and 3 BR) that are situated on the edge of the park. All cabins are self-contained, with HVAC, cooking facilities, and outdoor gas grills. Contact Big Cedar Lodge central reservations for availability (ask for Dogwood cabins). www.dogwoodcanyon.org

The following hotels/bed & breakfasts are also available:

Happy Hollow Resort
248 Hammock Way
Blue Eye, Mo. 65611-5615
(414) 779-4360
www.happyhollowresort.com
14 miles from Dogwood Canyon

Heritage Ranch B&B
4738 W. State Hwy. 86
Lampe, Mo. 65681
(417) 779-3599
www.heritageranch.co
4 miles from Dogwood Canyon

White River Lodge Bed and Breakfast
738 Ozark Hollow Road
Blue Eye, Mo. 65611
(800) 544-0257
www.whiteriverlodgeBB.com
10 miles from Dogwood Canyon

Suggested Dining:

Numerous restaurants are in easy driving distance, and Kimberling City has grocery stores.

Orvis-Endorsed Guides:

River Run Outfitters
2626 State Hwy. 165
Branson, MO 65616
1-877-699-3474 or 417-332-0460
Web-site: www.riverrunoutfitters.com
E-mail: shop@riverrunoutfitters.com

For an unexpected and unforgettable experience in the Ozark Mountains, Lake Taneycomo offers great fly-fishing opportunities. This section of the White River is a premier year-round tailwater fishery with an abundance of rainbow and brown trout—with trophy size, over 20 inches, always a possibility. Experienced guides provide walk/wade or Western-style drift-boat trips that will put a seasoned or beginner fly fisher into some great fishing. Located in Branson, the shop has equipment for the male or female fly fisher. Branson offers outdoor activities, shopping and entertainment for the entire family. Best of all, great fly fishing! 30 minutes from Dogwood Canyon.

Jamie Rouse Fly-Fishing Adventures
2008 Endorsed Guide of the year
2401 Lakeview Drive
Heber Springs, AR 72543
501-250-1275
www.jamierouse.net

Experience year round fly fishing for trophy trout on the famous Little Red, White, and Norfolk rivers. Ask about smallmouth and stripers in area lakes and streams. 3 hours from Dogwood Canyon.