



CHAPTER 1
MISSOURI ALMANAC



The 19th Amendment in Missouri

FIGHTING FOR THE FRANCHISE:

The 19th Amendment in Missouri



Maryville Band marching in the 1913 Woman Suffrage Procession. Courtesy of Library of Congress (#11404u)

On March 3, 1913, one day before the inauguration of President Woodrow Wilson, thousands of suffragists from across the nation gathered in Washington, D.C., to participate in the Woman Suffrage Procession. The Missouri Ladies Military Band from Maryville helped lead the way as they marched down Pennsylvania Avenue, much as Missouri itself had been at the forefront of the United States' long march towards women's enfranchisement.¹ For more than half a century the state's suffragists from all backgrounds

organized, protested and petitioned to secure women's right to vote.

In 1867, Virginia Minor co-founded the Woman Suffrage Association in St. Louis, the nation's first women's suffrage organization. She would continue to influence the movement for decades to come. Minor believed expanding suffrage to women was "simply an act of justice," as stated in an 1867 petition to the Missouri General Assembly.² In protest, Minor tried registering to vote in the 1872

¹ Elyssa Ford. "We Sure Led the Parade: Alma Nash, the Missouri Ladies Military Band, and the Push for Women's Suffrage from Rural Missouri to the Nation's Capital." *Missouri Historical Review*. Vol. 113, No. 3. April 2019. 145–161.

² Journal of the House, 24th General Assembly, Regular Session, Appendix and Index, 1867, page 121, General Assembly, Record Group 550, Missouri State Archives. <http://cdm16795.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/housej/id/9645>



Rose O'Neill Suffrage Kewpies. Courtesy of the Library of Congress (#40504u).

presidential election and was refused. Along with her husband, Francis Minor, she filed suit against the St. Louis election official, arguing that her status as a citizen gave her the right to vote under the 14th Amendment. After numerous appeals, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled against her in 1875, upholding that citizenship did not confer

this right and thus allowing states to restrict voting.

From Holt County to St. Louis to Carthage, women across Missouri organized in support of women's suffrage. Clubs and other groups hosted meetings, built alliances and held protests. As in much of the country in the late-19th and early-20th century, these organizations were racially segregated. While African-American women's clubs generally supported women's suffrage, the memberships of most others not specifically dedicated to the movement remained neutral until much later. The General Federation of Women's Clubs did not take an official supportive stance until 1914. With their membership of over one million women, this backing was vital.

In the 1890s alone, pro-women's suffrage conferences and conventions



Suffragists of the St. Louis Equal Suffrage League on their way to travel across Missouri to promote women's suffrage. 1916. Courtesy of the Missouri Historical Society.



Golden Lane Photograph, 1916. Source unknown.

(inset) "Golden Lane" demonstration for women's suffrage on the steps of the old City Art Museum at Nineteenth and Locust Streets. 1916-06-14. Courtesy of the Missouri Historical Society.

occurred in 22 Missouri counties across the state.³ Like the women's clubs, these were mostly segregated, but when the 1895 Mississippi Valley Conference in St. Louis was organized, African-American representatives participated from the Women's Christian Temperance Union. Present at the same conference in 1913, again in St. Louis, was Victoria Clay Haley, president of the St. Louis Association of Colored Women's Clubs, who attended "as the personal representative of Booker T. Washington."⁴ Despite her standing, hotel management asked her to leave. She refused and with the support of conference leadership continued to participate.

The 1913 Woman Suffrage Procession was not the first time Missouri activists protested using a political event as a backdrop. In 1896, suffragists met during the Republican National Convention in St. Louis to lobby the party's support. Then, 20 years later came Missouri's best-known women's suffrage demonstration, the Golden Lane. Thousands of women dressed in white, wearing yellow sashes emblazoned with the demand, "Votes for Women," lined Locust Street outside the 1916 Democratic National Convention in St. Louis. The hope was that a "walkless, talkless parade" would garner more support for American suffragists than the militant activity of

³ Susan B. Anthony, Ida H. Harper. *History of Women's Suffrage Trilogy, Part 2: The Trailblazing Documentation on Women's Enfranchisement in United States, Great Britain & Other Parts of the World*. 2017. Location 16229

⁴ "Suffragettes Particular." *Lead Daily Call* (Lead, South Dakota), April 4, 1913. https://www.newspapers.com/clip/8920359/mississippi_valley_suffrage_conference/

No. 3772

United States of America



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

All to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

Know all men that the copy hereto attached is a true copy of a resolution of Congress, and a Joint Resolution Proposing an amendment to the Constitution extending the right of suffrage to women." the original of which is on file in this Department.

In testimony whereof, I, **FRANK L. POLK**,
Acting Secretary of State, have hereunto caused the Seal of the
Department of State to be affixed and my name subscribed by
the Chief Clerk of the said Department, at the City of
Washington, this twelfth day of
June, 1919.

Frank L. Polk
Acting Secretary of State.

By *Benjamin Davis*
Chief Clerk.

Concurrent Resolution Ratifying the Amendment to the Constitution of the United States — Extending the Right of Suffrage to Women.

Concurrent Resolution of the Legislature of the State of Missouri ratifying and approving the proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of Suffrage to women.

Whereas, the sixty-sixth Congress of the United States of America at the first Session begun and held in the city of Washington on Monday, the nineteenth day of May, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen, proposed an Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, in words and figures as follows:

"Joint Resolution"

"Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution extending the right of suffrage to women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), that the following article be proposed as an Amendment to the Constitution, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the several States:

"Article"

"The right of Citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation." Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature of the State of Missouri does hereby approve and ratify the foregoing proposed Amendment and hereby gives its assent thereto, to the end that the same may become valid to all intents and purposes as a part of the Constitution of the United States; and be it further

Resolved, that a duly attested copy of this resolution together with the proper evidence of its adoption, be transmitted by the Secretary of State of the State of Missouri, to the President of the United States, to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to the Secretary of State of the United States at Washington, D.C.

M. G. Kitchin

Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives

R. T. Morris

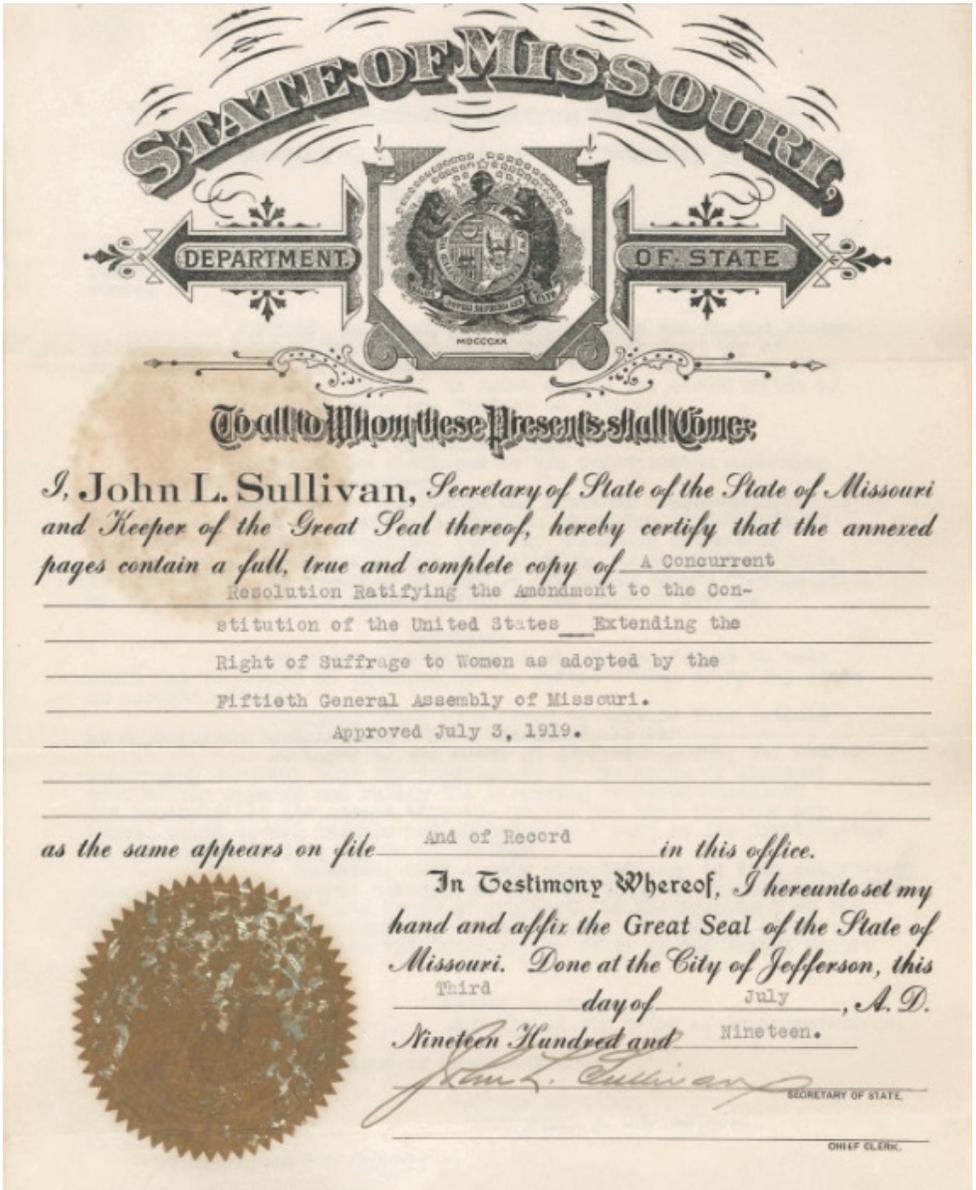
Secretary of the Senate

Samuel J. Halloran
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Harmon Coney
President of the Senate

Approved
July 3-1919.

Robert S. Gardner



Certification of Missouri's resolution ratifying the suffrage amendment, sent to the U.S. Secretary of State July 3, 1919. Courtesy of the National Archives.



Governor Gardner Signing SB 1 ratifying the Suffrage Amendment, 7-10-1919. Photo by Carl Deeg. Courtesy of Library of Congress (#2003668342)

suffragists abroad.⁵ It worked. Response to the protest was positive and it increased the Democratic Party's support. Women were attempting to "charm" men into "granting" them the ballot, but they also knew more direct action was needed.⁶

After the ultimately unsuccessful activity in the 1890s, the women of Kansas City "earnestly" petitioned the Missouri General Assembly in 1901 to support a constitutional amendment supporting women's suffrage, again to no avail.⁷ Then, in 1910, Missouri adopted the use of initiative petitions to

place items on the ballot. Suffragists seized on this new opportunity and gathered enough "Yellow Petition" signatures to put women's suffrage to a vote in 1914. The electorate rejected the measure, however, partially due to its sharing the ballot with a Prohibition referendum, which ensured a high turnout of anti-prohibitionists who also tended to be against the enfranchisement of women.

After the Missouri General Assembly failed to pass two women's suffrage bills in 1917, Gov. Frederick D. Gardner called on them to extend women the

⁵ Margot McMillen. *The Golden Lane: How Missouri Women Gained the Vote and Changed History*. 2011. 14.

⁶"Music to Win Votes: Women's Band Will Campaign Missouri for Suffrage." *The Topeka State Journal*. (Topeka, Kansas), Aug. 22, 1913. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Library of Congress. <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn82016014/1913-08-22/ed-1/seq-6/>

⁷Petition for Women's Suffrage from the Women of Kansas City, 1901; Cabinet B1; Folder 5A; 41st Missouri General Assembly; Record Group 550; Missouri State Archives.

Number and Names of Voters.			
No.	NAMES	No.	NAMES
1	Marie Byrum	26	E. L. Love
2	Leppa M. Owens	27	H. Heiser
3	Frank Owens	28	B. L. Berry
4	L. M. Byrum	29	Elmer Rupert
5	Geo. Schaub	30	J. Harris
6	M. C. Bullock	31	L. W. McDonald
7	J. H. Richardson	32	M. Flood
8	A. F. Smith	33	J. Bird
9	F. W. Woods	34	E. Webster
10	Francis W. Smith	35	J. H. Brown
11	J. H. Nicely	36	Chester Sharp
12	F. W. Waller	37	Franklin Harris
13	F. Johnson	38	G. Stolty
14	J. C. Helm	39	W. B. Stout
15	Mrs J. C. Helm	40	Virgil Dudley
16	Florence Helm	41	H. Bowen
17	Katharine Helm	42	W. T. Blackler
18	W. O. Howell	43	B. F. Smiley
19	Max Ewing	44	B. Gluck
20	Mrs H. O'Han	45	E. Moss
21	Emett Jackson	46	W. H. Brown
22	J. H. Jones	47	W. Letcher
23	Gertrude Smith	48	J. Dillon
24	Matt Foley	49	F. Exter
25	E. T. Cameron	50	H. Culler

Number and Names of Voters.

No.	NAMES	No.	NAMES
101	Rudolph Eichenberger	126	G. Hunning
102	Harriet Hampton	127	M. Jackson
103	B. E. S. Woods	128	J. A. Becker
104	^{Sam} P. Woods	129	M. H. Byrum
105	J. A. Johnson	130	J. T. Brunty
106	Am Fitzerold	131	G. W. Munson
107	Virgel Helton	132	G. Roberts
108	Wm L. Bird	133	J. H. Leach
109	T. F. Mullrinn	134	Tom Cave
110	L. W. Helu	135	Egra Dennis
111	Wm Bertier	136	C. S. Davis
112	O. L. Barry	137	L. Schaub
113	H. T. Foster	138	M. Richardson
114	C. J. Tucker	139	Pat Moore
115	Clark Rice	140	H. M. Heegman
116	T. T. Kinney	141	A. J. Hagan
117	H. B. Neal	142	C. M. McCullogh
118	J. S. Jayne	143	W. R. Harding
119	Ella Lether	144	Sarah C. Warren
120	G. B. Owens	145	T. Kanady
121	Rosanna Nagel	146	Sid Brown
122	A. W. Nagel	147	Mary E. Byrum
123	Milda Garner	148	Bess Blackler
124	Glessina Worthey	149	Wellington Brown
125	Zona Dooley	150	Mary Ambrose

vote. In his Jan. 10, 1919, Message to the 50th General Assembly, he reminded them of women's "glorious inspiration and patriotic work" during World War I.⁸ Missouri legislators were at last receptive to this message and on April 5, 1919, Gardner signed Senate Bill 1, guaranteeing women the right to vote in presidential elections. Full suffrage would come only after another year of fighting at the federal level.

On June 4, 1919, the U.S. Congress finally passed the 19th Amendment, 42 years after the introduction of the first act to prevent the disenfranchisement of women. Missouri became the 11th state to ratify it five weeks later on July 3, and the amendment was officially adopted on Aug. 26, 1920, making gender-based voting restrictions unconstitutional. The *St. Louis Argus*, an African-American newspaper, celebrated the achievement and predicted that restrictions preventing African-Americans from voting would soon also become illegal.⁹ Unfortunately, this would not happen until the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, in part because of the Supreme Court's ruling in the Virginia Minor case. The decades-long fight by Missouri suffragists was finally rewarded five days after adoption, on Aug. 31, 1920, when Hannibal held a special election to fill a vacant seat on the city council. When she cast her early morning ballot, Marie Ruoff Byrum became

the first woman to vote in Missouri.¹⁰ In every election since, women in Missouri and nationwide have used the franchise to affect change, continuing to build upon a rich and storied past.



National Business Women's Week: A mannequin and window display advertising the Business and Professional Women's Club: "American Heritage Guards Your Right to Vote." Oct. 10–16, 1948. Image comes from our MS199 Jefferson City Business and Professional Women's Club Collection.

⁸ Message to the 50th General Assembly, Frederick Gardner, 1919; Box 13; Folder 7; Messages to the General Assembly; Office of the Governor State Documents, Record Group 000.003; Missouri State Archives.

⁹ "The Women Will Vote." *The St. Louis Argus*, April 9, 1920. <https://archive.org/details/April9/page/n5>

¹⁰ "Missouri Women Cast Ballot." *The Current Local* (Van Buren, Missouri), Sept. 2, 1920. <https://newscomwc.newspapers.com/image/113201908>

State Symbols of Missouri



THE GREAT SEAL OF MISSOURI

The Great Seal was designed by Judge Robert William Wells and adopted by the Missouri General Assembly on Jan. 11, 1822. The center of the state seal is composed of two parts. On the right is the United States coat-of-arms containing the bald eagle. In its claws are arrows and olive branches, signifying that the power of war and peace lies with the U.S. federal government. On the left side of the shield, the state side, are a grizzly bear and a silver crescent moon. The crescent symbolizes Missouri at the time of the state seal's creation, a state of small population and wealth which would increase like the new or crescent moon; it also symbolizes the "second son," meaning Missouri was the second state formed out of the Louisiana Territory.

This shield is encircled by a belt inscribed with the motto, "United we stand, divided we fall," which indicates Missouri's advantage as a member of the United States. The two grizzlies on either side of the shield symbolize the state's strength and its citizens' bravery. The bears stand atop a scroll bearing the state motto, "*Salus Populi Suprema Lex Esto*," which means, "The welfare of the people shall be the supreme law." Below this scroll are the Roman numerals for 1820, the year Missouri began its functions as a state.

The helmet above the shield represents state sovereignty, and the large star atop the helmet surrounded by 23 smaller stars signifies Missouri's status as the 24th state. The cloud around the large star indicates the problems Missouri had in becoming a state. The whole state seal is enclosed by a scroll bearing the words, "The Great Seal of the State of Missouri." (RSMo 10.060)



THE STATE FLAG

Nearly 100 years after achieving statehood, Missouri adopted an official flag on March 22, 1913. The flag was designed by the late Mrs. Marie Elizabeth Watkins Oliver, wife of former State Senator R.B. Oliver. The Oliver flag embraced national pride, and at the same time represented the characteristics of Missouri and its people.

The three large stripes are symbolic of the people of the state—the blue stripe represented vigilance, permanency and justice, the red represented valor, and the white stripe symbolized purity. The Missouri coat-of-arms appears in the center of the flag, signifying both Missouri's independence as a state, and its place as a part of the whole United States. Having the coat-of-arms in the center of the national colors represents Missouri, as it is—the geographical center of the nation. By mingling the state coat-of-arms with the national colors of red, white and blue, the flag signified the harmony existing between the two. Twenty-four stars surrounded the coat-of-arms, representative of Missouri's position as the 24th state admitted to the Union. (RSMo 10.020)

MISSOURI DAY

On March 22, 1915, the 48th General Assembly set aside the first Monday in October each year as "Missouri Day," due to the efforts of Mrs. Anna Brosius Korn, a native Missourian. In 1969, the 75th General Assembly changed the date to the third Wednesday in October. Missouri Day is a time for schools to honor the state and for the people of the state to celebrate the achievements of all Missourians. (RSMo 9.040)

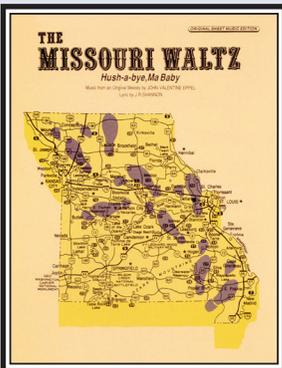


THE STATE FLORAL EMBLEM

On March 16, 1923, a bill was signed naming the **white hawthorn blossom** the official state floral emblem of Missouri. Known as the “red haw” or “white haw,” the hawthorn (*Crataegus*) is a member of the great rose family. The hawthorn blossoms have greenish-yellow centers and form in white clusters. More than 75 species of the hawthorn grow in Missouri, particularly in the Ozarks. (RSMo 10.030)

THE STATE BIRD

On March 30, 1927, the native **bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) became the official state bird of Missouri. The bluebird, considered a symbol of happiness, is usually 6½ to 7 inches long. While its upper parts are covered with light blue plumage, its breast is cinnamon red, turning rust-colored in the fall. The bluebird is common in Missouri from early spring until late November. (RSMo 10.010)



THE STATE SONG

The “**Missouri Waltz**” became the state song under an act adopted by the General Assembly on June 30, 1949. The song came from a melody by John V. Eppel and was arranged by Frederic Knight Logan, using lyrics written by J.R. Shannon. First published in 1914, the song did not sell well and was considered a failure. By 1939, the song had gained popularity and six million copies had been sold. Sales increased substantially after Missourian Harry S Truman became president. (RSMo 10.050)

THE STATE TREE

On June 20, 1955, the **flowering dogwood** (*Cornus florida L.*) became Missouri's official tree. The tree is small in size, rarely growing over 40 feet in height or 18 inches in diameter. The dogwood sprouts tiny greenish-yellow flowers in clusters, with each flower surrounded by four white petals. The paired, oval leaves are olive green above and covered with silvery hairs underneath. In the fall, the upper part of the leaves turn scarlet or orange and bright red fruits grow on the tree. (RSMo 10.040)



THE STATE MINERAL

On July 21, 1967, the mineral **galena** was adopted as the official mineral of Missouri. Galena is the most important ore of lead and is also a major source of silver. The recognition of this mineral by the state legislature was to emphasize Missouri's status as the nation's top producer of lead. Galena is dark gray in color and breaks into small cubes. Mining of galena has flourished in the Joplin-Granby area of southwest Missouri, and rich deposits have been located

in such places as Crawford, Washington, Iron and Reynolds counties. (RSMo 10.047)

THE STATE ROCK

Mozarkite was adopted as the official state rock on July 21, 1967, by the 74th General Assembly. An attractive rock, mozarkite appears in a variety of colors, most predominantly green, red or purple. The rock's beauty is enhanced by cutting and polishing into ornamental shapes for jewelry. Mozarkite is most commonly found in Benton County. (RSMo 10.045)

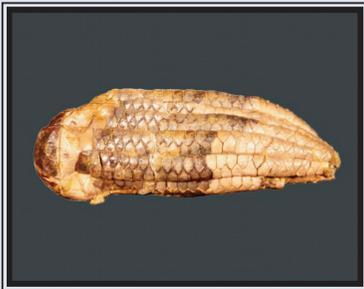


THE STATE INSECT

On July 3, 1985, the **honeybee** was designated as Missouri's state insect. The honeybee, (*Apis mellifera*) yellow or orange and black in color, is a social insect which collects nectar and pollen from flower blossoms in order to produce honey. The honeybee is common to Missouri and is cultivated by beekeepers for honey production. (RSMo 10.070)

THE STATE MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

The **fiddle** became the state's official musical instrument on July 17, 1987. Brought to Missouri in the late 1700s by fur traders and settlers, the fiddle quickly became popular. The instrument was adaptable to many forms of music, could be played without extensive formal training and was light and easy to carry. For generations, the local fiddle player was the sole source of entertainment in many communities and held a position of great respect in the region. (RSMo 10.080)



THE STATE FOSSIL

The **crinoid** became the state's official fossil on June 16, 1989, after a group of Lee's Summit school students worked through the legislative process to promote it as a state symbol. The crinoid (*Delocrinus missouriensis*) is a mineralization of an animal which, because of its plant-like appearance, was called the "sea lily." Related to the starfish, the crinoid lived in the ocean which covered Missouri more than 250 million years ago. (RSMo 10.090)

THE STATE TREE NUT

The nut produced by the black walnut tree (*Juglans nigra*), known as the **eastern black walnut**, became the state tree nut on July 9, 1990. The nut has a variety of uses. The meat is used in ice cream, baked goods and candies. The shell provides the soft grit abrasive used in metal cleaning and polishing, and oil well drilling. It is also used in paint products and as a filler in dynamite. (RSMo 10.100)



THE STATE ANIMAL

On May 31, 1995, the **Missouri mule** was designated as the official state animal. The mule is a hybrid, the offspring of a mare (female horse) and a jack (male donkey). After its introduction to the state in the 1820s, the mule quickly became popular with farmers and settlers because of its hardy nature. Missouri mules pulled pioneer wagons to the Wild West during the 19th century and played a crucial role in moving troops and supplies in World Wars I and II. For decades, Missouri was the

nation's premier mule producer. (RSMo 10.110)

THE STATE AMERICAN FOLK DANCE

The **square dance** was adopted as Missouri's official American folk dance on May 31, 1995. Square dances are derived from folk and courtship dances brought to the United States by European immigrants. Lively music and callers are hallmarks of square dancing. The caller directs the dancers by singing the names of figures and steps to be performed. (RSMo 10.120)



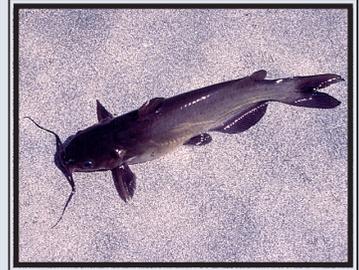
THE STATE AQUATIC ANIMAL

The **paddlefish** (*Polyodon spathula*) became Missouri's official aquatic animal on May 23, 1997. Only three rivers in Missouri support substantial populations of the paddlefish: the Mississippi, Missouri and the Osage. They are also present in some of the state's larger lakes. The paddlefish is primitive, with a cartilage skeleton, rather than bone. They commonly exceed

five feet in length and weights of 60 pounds; 20-year-olds are common, and some live 30 years or more. (RSMo 10.130)

THE STATE FISH

On May 23, 1997, the **channel catfish** became the official fish of Missouri. The channel catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*) is slender, with a deeply forked tail. Young have spots that disappear with age. The catfish does not rely on sight to find its food; instead, it uses cat-like whiskers to assist in the hunt. The channel cat is the most abundant large catfish in Missouri streams. Its diet includes animal and plant material. Adults are normally 12 to 32 inches long and weigh from a half-pound to 15 pounds. (RSMo 10.135)



THE STATE HORSE

On June 4, 2002, the **Missouri Fox Trotter** became Missouri's official state horse. Missouri fox trotters were developed in the rugged Ozark hills of Missouri during the early 19th century. Bloodlines can be traced from early settlers to Missouri from the neighboring states of Kentucky, Illinois, Tennessee and Arkansas. The distinguishing characteristic of the fox trotter is its rhythmic gait, in which the horse walks with the front feet

and trots with the hind feet. This gait gives the rider a smooth, gentle ride. (RSMo 10.140)



THE STATE GRAPE

On July 11, 2003, the **Norton/Cynthiana grape** (*Vitis aestivalis* 'Norton') was adopted as the official state grape. This adaptable, self-pollinating variety has been cultivated since the 1830s and is likely North America's oldest grape variety still commercially grown. Norton/Cynthiana has long been prized by Missouri vintners for its hardy growth habit and intense flavor characteristics, which produce lush, dry premium red wines of world-class quality and distinction. (RSMo 10.160)

THE PURPLE MARTIN CAPITAL

The **City of Adrian**, located in Bates County, was declared the purple martin capital of the state of Missouri on Aug. 28, 2003. Purple martins are largely dependent on humans to build and maintain their housing and are happy in large bird houses or in gourds. These creatures are partial to living near water, in open parts of a yard, or along rural roadsides. Purple martins are popular among bird lovers because of their melodic singing and aerial feats. (RSMo 10.141)



THE STATE DINOSAUR

Hypsibema missouriense is a type of dinosaur called a Hadrosaur or "duck billed" dinosaur. It was an herbivore with jaws that contained more than 1,000 teeth. Hypsibema had evolved specialized teeth to handle the tough, fibrous vegetation of the time. Hypsibema lived in Missouri during the Late Cretaceous Period. Hypsibema was first discovered in 1942 by Dan Stewart, near

the town of Glen Allen, Missouri, and became the state's official dinosaur on July 9, 2004. (RSMo 10.095)

THE STATE AMPHIBIAN

On June 5, 2005, the **American Bullfrog** (*Rana catesbeiana*) became the official state amphibian. The bullfrog is the largest frog native to Missouri and is found in every county. Most Missourians are familiar with the deep, resonant “jug-of-rum” call, which is typically heard on warm, rainy nights between mid-May and early July. The idea for the bullfrog designation came from a fourth grade class at Chinn Elementary School in Kansas City. (RSMo 10.170)



THE STATE GAME BIRD

The **bobwhite quail** (*Colinus virginianus*), also known as the northern bobwhite, became the official state game bird on July 13, 2007. The northern bobwhite is found throughout Missouri in a variety of habitats. In the fall and winter, northern bobwhites form loose social groups better known as a covey. A covey will generally contain 10 to 12 quail, but can have as many as 20 or 30 birds. The familiar two- or three-note “bobwhite” whistle

is made by males in the spring and summer to attract females. (RSMo 10.012).

THE STATE INVERTEBRATE

On June 21, 2007, the **crayfish** (also known as crawfish and crawdad) became the official state invertebrate. Crayfish are an important food source for Missouri fishes. Missouri supports more than 30 species of crayfish (including seven species that occur nowhere else in the world). Crayfish are found in every county of the state and contribute to our unique biodiversity and conservation heritage. The nomination of crayfish for state invertebrate came from Mrs. Janna Elfrink’s elementary school class in Reeds Spring, Missouri. (RSMo 10.125)



THE STATE REPTILE

On June 21, 2007, the **three-toed box turtle** (*Terrapene carolina triunguis*) became the official state reptile. Most Missourians are familiar with this land-dwelling turtle. Three-toed box turtles, as their name implies, typically have three hind toes. The hinged bottom shell allows the turtle to retreat inside as if enclosed in a box. Males have red eyes and females have brown eyes. (RSMo 10.175).

THE STATE GRASS

Big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*) was designated as Missouri's stategrass on June 11, 2007, as a result of efforts by the fourth-grade class at Truman Elementary School in Rolla. Big bluestem is native to Missouri and occurs throughout the state, with the exception of a few southeastern-most counties. It is a major component of Missouri's tallgrass prairies where it impressed the first explorers by sometimes growing tall enough to hide a person on horseback. The name bluestem comes from the bluish-green color of the leaves and stems that turn an attractive reddish-copper color in autumn. (RSMo 10.150).



THE STATE DESSERT

The **ice cream cone** became the state of Missouri's official dessert on Aug. 28, 2008. The 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis was the birthplace of the treat and has become a staple at many community events across the state, such as the State Fair. The University of Missouri–Columbia has played a large role in the development of ice cream products for over a century. Missouri ranks among the top five states in ice cream production. (RSMo 10.180).

Louise and Omar Putman Collection, photograph by Louise Putman
Missouri State Archives

THE STATE SYMBOL FOR CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION

The **blue ribbon** became the state of Missouri's official symbol for child abuse prevention on Aug. 28, 2012. It is a symbol of efforts to increase awareness of the prevalence and warning signs of child abuse and the prevention methods and measures available to reduce the incidence of child abuse in Missouri. (RSMo 10.185).



THE STATE EXERCISE

The **jumping jack** exercise was invented by Missouri-born Army General John J. "Black Jack" Pershing as a training drill for cadets when he taught at West Point in the late 1800s. The idea for the jumping jack designation came from students at Pershing Elementary School in St. Joseph. (RSMo 10.115)

THE HISTORICAL DOG

On Aug. 28, 2017, **Old Drum** was designated the historical dog of Missouri. Old Drum was a black and tan hunting hound whose shooting death became the subject of an 1870 Missouri Supreme Court case. The closing arguments for the plaintiff, delivered by attorney George Graham Vest, brought tears to the eyes of jurors and became famously-known as the *Eulogy of the Dog*. Although the words of the speech were not written down until sometime after the trial, it became renowned for its appeal to dog lovers in its praise of the dog as a man's "best friend." Both Old Drum and the *Eulogy of the Dog* are memorialized with a statue and plaque at the Johnson County courthouse in Warrensburg, Missouri. (RSMo 10.112)

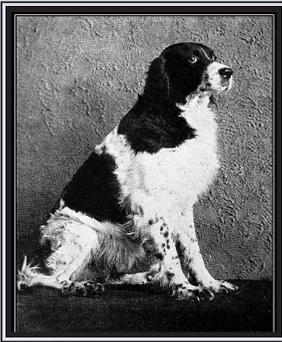


Photo courtesy of Friends of Jim

THE WONDER DOG

On Aug. 28, 2017, "**Jim the Wonder Dog**" was designated as Missouri's wonder dog. A Llewellyn Setter, born in 1925, Jim first gained notoriety for his prowess as a hunting dog. He tracked over 5,000 birds, a total no other dog had ever achieved, earning him the *Outdoor Life Magazine* designation of "The Hunting Dog of the Country." Eventually Jim began to exhibit a wide range of other talents not typically associated with dogs. He could pick a car on the street by license number, recognize unknown people in a crowd and carry out instructions, oral or written, given to him in any foreign language, Morse Code or shorthand. Jim predicted seven Kentucky Derby winners and was known for accurately determining the gender of unborn babies. He performed before the Missouri Legislature and was featured in *Field and Stream*, *The Kansas City Star*, *Missouri Ruralist* and Ripley's Believe It or Not. Jim is buried in Marshall, Missouri's Ridge Park Cemetery. His grave is the most visited spot in the cemetery. (RSMo 10.113)

THE STATE FRUIT TREE

The **Pawpaw tree** (*Asimina triloba*) was designated as Missouri's official state fruit tree on Aug. 28, 2019. The pawpaw tree is a small, deciduous tree, typically growing in forest understorey. Pawpaws can grow to a height of 11 feet, although taller ones have been measured. They have the distinction of producing the largest edible fruit that is also native to the U.S. The richly-colored maroon flowers ripen into a green, then yellow or brown fruit, 2-6 inches in length and 1-3 inches wide. The flesh of the pawpaw fruit is pale yellow, with a custard-like texture and large black seeds. The flavor is often compared to that of banana, mango or kiwi. Pawpaw fruit is also known regionally, by colloquial names such as "Missouri banana," "Ozark banana" and "hillbilly mango." (RSMo 10.105)





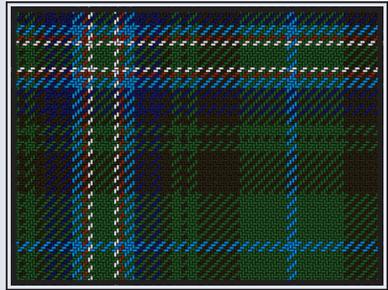
THE OFFICIAL ENDANGERED SPECIES

On Aug. 28, 2019, the **Hellbender Salamander** (*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis*) was designated as Missouri's official endangered species. It is also known as the "snot otter" or "lasagna lizard," and is an aquatic salamander. There are two subspecies, the Ozark and the Eastern. The Hellbender can live up to 30 years and grow up to two feet long. They breathe through their skin and are nocturnal foragers. Missouri is the only place to have both

subspecies of the Hellbender and both are listed as endangered. The salamander is important due to its role as an indicator of overall stream health. The Ron Goellner Center for Hellbender Conservation's successful breeding program at the St. Louis Zoo currently has released over 5,000 back into the wild. Westminster College student Cameron Gehlert submitted the suggestion. (RSMo 10.200)

THE STATE TARTAN

The "**Show-Me Tartan**" was designated as Missouri's official tartan on Aug. 28, 2019. Missouri is one of 29 states to adopt an official tartan, and the design is registered with the Scottish Tartan Authority. The design, a criss-crossing line pattern of blue, brown and silver on a field of dark blue and green, was inspired by four of Missouri's state symbols; the Eastern Bluebird, the Missouri mule, and the crescent moon and bear present on the Great Seal. The dark green and blue are symbolic of Missouri's lands, waters and the Ozark Mountains. The Eastern Bluebird is symbolized by stripes of light blue, white and red. A band of brown represents the Missouri mule. A narrow band of light blue reflects the crescent moon symbol of the Seal, and another brown band represents the grizzly bear of the Seal. The pattern is intended to reflect the concepts of "vigilance and justice, valor, purity, steadfastness, hope and strength." (RSMo 10.190)



THE OFFICIAL STATE HOCKEY TEAM

On Aug. 28, 2019, the **St. Louis Blues** was selected and shall be known as the official state hockey team of Missouri. In 2019, the Blues won the first Stanley Cup championship in the team's history. (RSMo 10.225)