

Teachers Can Connect With Conservation Through FREE MDC Teacher Portal

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) encourages teachers to get connected with conservation-education by using its new Discover Nature Schools (DNS) teacher portal. MDC created the website portal to provide teachers a technology tool to connect with both teachers and MDC staff on conservation-education ideas, interactive learning activities, and easy access to classroom materials and grant opportunities.

The new portal is available to Missouri teachers who participate or have an interest in MDC's Discover Nature Schools program. The DNS program began in 2007 and provides instructional materials for teachers and students from pre-K through high school about Missouri's native plants, animals, and habitats and connects them with nature. It also provides grant funding for classroom supplies and field trips in nature. There are more than 1,600 Missouri schools that take part in the program. Learn more about the DNS program at mdc.mo.gov/education.

"The teacher portal enhances our ability to provide relevant nature-based education materials to teachers in an efficient and convenient manner," MDC Education Coordinator Steven Juhlin said. "Additionally, we are also looking forward to using the portal to streamline the grant process for participating schools and teachers. "

MDC's new DNS teacher portal provides teachers opportunities to:

- Download free instructional materials,
- Access grant applications,
- Request class sets of student books and science notebooks,
- Order education posters and MDC publications,
- Register for free teacher workshops, and
- Post questions and ideas to the educational bulletin board for teacher collaboration.

Teachers can learn more about, access, and use the DNS teacher portal at mdc.mo.gov/teachers.