

# SIMPSON PARK

We make to you a suggestion that when on a mission of exploration into the Meramec Greenway that you check St. Louis County's Simpson Park. We believe you will be surprisingly pleased with your discovery, as many of your neighbors previously have.

This park is located on Marshall Road east of the City of Valley Park. It can be reached from the City of Kirkwood by following Marshall Road into the river valley from Big Bend, or by driving east from Missouri Highway 141 on St. Louis Avenue through Valley Park.

Once found you will discover picnic grounds complete with tables, a pavilion, restrooms and playground. A 72 acre lake is popular for fishing, canoeing and kayaking. There are open fields for ball games and romping, plus a soccer field. Nearly two miles of asphalt trails are available in the park. All of this is situated in a pleasant setting that features spectacular sunset vistas.

Prior to becoming a park the land was mined for sand and gravel, and in this process the lake was created. It is fed by Grand Glaize Creek, entering the lake in the northwest corner and exiting at a low dam on the south side. The Missouri Department of Conservation manages the lake fishery, and their efforts include setting fish beds for crappie and periodic stocking of such species as channel catfish. There are reliable stories of trophy sized largemouth bass lurking about. To accommodate fishermen a boat ramp is provided. While the lake is too small to permit the use of outboard motors, fishing boats with trolling motors are permitted, whether working the shoreline for bass on seeking crappie. Fishing from the shore and the fishing dock is popular.



**MERAMEC GREENWAY**  
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Meramec River at Simpson Park

In addition to the lake, Simpson Park has a River Access for fishing in the Meramec River. It is located on a gravel beach where the Grand Glaize Creek empties into the river, and there is a parking lot nearby.

Following the shoreline around the lake is the Blue Heron Trail. Asphalt surfaced, it is popular for bikers, skaters, walkers and joggers. It offers impressive vistas of the lake as well as access to some fishing spots. This trail passes through an impressive forest along the lake's south boundary. A surviving remnant of earlier times, it gives you a glimpse of what this land looked like centuries ago.

It is the Meramec Greenway Trail that follows along the river, and is accessible either from a clearly marked trailhead along Marshall Road or from within the main part of Simpson Park. Currently this trail can be followed to the east for one mile into the City of Kirkwood's Greentree Park. Plans are currently underway to extend the trail to the west for approximately two miles into Valley Park's Meramec Landing Park. This trail is also asphalt surfaced.

For more information about Simpson Park visit the St. Louis County Parks website [www.stlouisco.com/parks](http://www.stlouisco.com/parks).









Blue Heron Trail





Prior to developing this park major cleanup left from a previous land use was necessary. Such restorations have been completed at several sites along the river in the ongoing renaissance of this outstanding natural resource.

# SIMPSON PARK



-  Boat Ramp
-  Pavilion
-  Picnic Sites
-  Playground
-  Restroom
-  Soccer Field

-  Meramec Greenway Trail
-  Blue Heron Trail



 SIMPSON PARK TRAILHEAD & RIVER ACCESS