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SWOPE PARK

Swope Parkway and Meyer Boulevard
Kansas City, Missouri

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Photo Credits: Paul McMillian and KCMO Parks & Recreation Marketing and Special Events



Swope Park was donated to the people of Kansas City by real estate tycoon Thomas H. Swope in 1896. Swope Park is one of the largest municipal parks in the United States, containing 1,769 acres of natural beauty. Today Swope Park is home to the Kansas City Zoo, Starlight Theatre, Swope Memorial Golf Course, Heart of America Golf Course, Lakeside Nature Center, campgrounds, 7 shelter houses, numerous picnic areas and athletic fields. For more information about Swope Park or one of the other 220 parks in Kansas City, Missouri, call (816) 513-7500 or visit our website at kcparks.org

Intersection: Meyer Blvd. & Swope Parkway



Athletic Fields

Swope Park has fields for baseball, T-ball, and soccer. For information about field reservations, sports leagues, and other activities call (816) 513-7500.



Battle of Westport Museum

The Battle of Westport Visitor's Center and Museum in Swope Park. Here the stories, the letters, and the journals of the casualties, the survivors, and those who bore witness will engage and inspire the 21st century visitor. Connections with the past will shed new light on modern-day conflicts and challenges.



Camp Lake of the Woods

Rocky Point Day Camp offers activities during the summer months. Arts and crafts, nature walks, swimming and horseback riding are just a few of the activities at the 360-acre camp. For additional information call (816) 513-8960.



Kansas City Community Gardens

The Kansas City Community Gardens is a not-for-profit organization that provides self-help and educational assistance to low-income people, children and community groups in the metropolitan area to grow their own nutritious fruits and vegetables. For more information, call (816) 931-3877.



Disc Golf

Swope Park boasts one of the nations top-rated 18-hole disc golf courses. This course is located at the corner of Gregory Blvd. & Elmwood. Open to the public and free; just bring your own flying disc.



ERT Trail

The first phase (1.4 miles) of trail the planned 16 mile trail features many rock outcroppings, spectacular views of the surrounding parkland and two small waterfall sections.



Golf

There's plenty of golf in Swope Park! Swope Memorial Golf Course, an 18-hole course, features wooded hills and challenging greens. It is considered the premier municipal course in the Kansas City area. For general information, please call (816) 513-8910.



The Heart of America Golf Course is ideal for beginners, offers a 9-hole 35 par course and a 3-hole course.



Lakeside Nature Center

Discover a world of nature in the heart of Kansas City. Lakeside Nature Center exhibits native wildlife, including snakes, birds of prey, mammals and amphibians. Interactive displays and beautiful graphics fascinate the visitors. Staff naturalists teach a wide range of programs about our natural world using live animals and the trails that meander through 350 acres of upland forest.

Lakeside Nature Center is the only wildlife rehabilitation center in western Missouri. Knowledgeable staff and volunteers care for injured and orphaned Missouri wildlife and every effort is made to nurse each animal back to good health and release it back into the wild.

Nestled in the nearby woodland are sites available for organized groups to spend the night and hike the trails. A facility that easily seats 100 people is available for family reunions, receptions, and corporate retreats.

Lakeside Nature Center visiting hours:

Tuesday thru Saturday - 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday - Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Monday and some Holidays Closed

Call (816) 513-8960 for information about the center, programs and facility.



Lake of the Woods

Explore the beauty and relax at the Lake of the Woods. Sit back and enjoy watching the variety of birds living around the lake. If you're lucky, you may see a parade of water turtles sunning themselves on a log. Picnic facilities are nearby.



Master Gardeners Demonstration Garden

The 6000 sq. ft. demonstration garden at the Southeast Community Center features a split walking path meandering through its nearly 200-foot length. The pathways allow visitors a close-up view of the many species of trees, shrubs, perennials, and annuals as well as providing working space for gardeners. Plants of Merit, which grow well in the area, along with All American Selections are a focus of this demonstration garden. While serving as a visual tool, the garden is also a catalyst for classes, demonstrations and events.



Picnicking

You can picnic just about anywhere in Swope Park. Tables and cooking ovens are available throughout the park. Many are close to comfort stations, water fountains and playgrounds. Our shelter #9 is on a first come first serve basis, all other picnic shelters may be reserved for a fee. Please call (816) 513-8931 for shelter reservation.



Southeast Community Center in Swope Park

Bringing families and friends together is the goal of the new Southeast Community Center in Swope Park. The 46,755-square-foot center has a full-sized basketball court, meeting rooms, game room, tot drop-off, craft room, therapy pool, recreation pool with play features and fitness area with weights and cardiovascular equipment. A variety of aerobics classes are offered, and a track is installed above the gym so members can walk or run. For more information, call (816) 513-0632.



Swope Pool

Take the plunge and cool off in the Swope Park Pool. The pool is Olympic-sized and features a diving area and children's spray ground. Swope Park Pool is open Memorial Day through Labor Day. For more information about swimming lessons and other pool activities call (816) 513-7500.



Starlight Theatre

Home to the second largest professional outdoor theatre in the United States and it is Kansas City's theatre for summer entertainment. Since 1951, Starlight Theatre has entertained over 12 million people at its majestic 8,000 seat outdoor amphitheater. Starlight annually features Broadway musicals with star entertainers, and numerous concerts by top national performers. Starlight Theater is Kansas City's largest and oldest performing arts organization. Starlight's 14-acre complex includes a restaurant for season ticket holders, a beverage deck and seven concession stands, and the Shirley Bush Helzburg Garden of the Stars. For tickets or other information, call (816) 363-7827 or call toll free at 1-800-776-1730. The TDD number is (816) 361-3479.



Tennis

Tennis anyone? Swope Park has two hard-surfaced tennis courts located north of Starlight Theatre near Shelter #2.



Swope Memorial

The Colonel Thomas H. Swope mausoleum has recently been refurbished and overlooks the park from atop a wooded hill. The mausoleum features a carved frieze supported by 12-fluted granite columns guarded by a pair of sculpted lions.



Swope Soccer Village

Swope Soccer Village features six full-sized synthetic **soccer** fields and a natural grass Championship Field with seating for 1500.



Sporting KC Training Facility

Four training fields equipped with different types of grass to handle all seasons are fronted by a 7,000 square-foot main structure that contains many features including offices, a locker room, a players' lounge, a treatment room and a training room with weights and cardio equipment.



Kansas City Zoo

The Kansas City Zoo is located in Swope Park at 6800 Zoo Drive. With more than 202 acres nestled inside valleys and rolling hills, the zoo hosts more than 1,000 animals.
Zoo Visiting Hours: 9:30 am to 4:00 pm
Closed Christmas and New Years Day
Call (816) 513-5800 for information and special events.

