



Knob Noster State Park Annexation

Frequently Asked Questions

The City of Knob Noster has been in discussions with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources about the possibility of annexing Knob Noster State Park for several years now. During that time the City has received a number of questions about the possible annexation and its impact on the residents and businesses of Knob Noster. Now that the City of Knob Noster and Missouri Department of Natural Resources have initially agreed to complete the annexation, we have compiled this list of Frequently Asked Questions that we have received to provide further information and clarification on the annexation. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us at City Hall at (660) 563-2595. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

1. Q: Why is Knob Noster annexing the Knob Noster State Park?

A: The City of Knob Noster sees several benefits to annexing the State Park. The primary benefit to the annexation is it will open up potential funding opportunities for expansion and maintenance of Knob Noster water and sewer systems. By annexing into the City limits the State Park may be applicable to grant opportunities that would benefit the City of Knob Noster, and vice versa. The ultimate goal of these funding opportunities would be to enhance the quality of service for water and sewer to Knob Noster's existing residents and businesses.

Another benefit to annexation is it provides the City of Knob Noster with a bigger stake in upcoming regional projects, such as the Spirit Trail. Projects that directly impact or run through Knob Noster State Park will by necessity bring Knob Noster in on planning efforts, benefiting both the City and the park.

Another possible future opportunity provided by annexation would be westward expansion by the City of Knob Noster. The City has **no current plans** to expand west of the State Park, but annexation provides that possibility in the future.

2. Q: What property is being annexed by the City of Knob Noster?

A: All of the territorial boundaries of Knob Noster State Park, as owned by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. No other property, private or public, is being annexed other than that owned by the State Park. A map of the territory being annexed is included with this FAQ as "Exhibit A".

3. Q: Is my property being annexed by the City of Knob Noster?

A: No. The City of Knob Noster annexes property into the city limits **by voluntary request only**. If you do not request to be annexed by the City then the City will not annex your property.



4. Q: Is Knob Noster taking over management of the State Park?

A: No. Knob Noster State Park will stay exclusively under the operation and management of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. No Knob Noster employees will work at the State Park or assist in its upkeep and maintenance. The property of the State Park itself will also still be owned by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

5. Q: Is Knob Noster taking over maintenance of the roads within the State Park?

A: No. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources and Missouri Department of Transportation will be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of all roads and highways within the territory of Knob Noster State Park.

6. Q: Are my taxes going to increase as a result of this annexation?

A: No. Again the City of Knob Noster is not taking over any operations or maintenance of Knob Noster State Park. Therefore the City is not increasing any taxes or fees as a result of this annexation.

7. Q: How much is the City paying to annex Knob Noster State Park?

A: Outside of the legal fees and costs to file the annexation paperwork the City of Knob Noster is not paying any sum of money to annex the property. Again the property will remain owned and operated by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, it is simply being annexed into the City limits.

8. Q: Will the City of Knob Noster be responsible for policing and fire protection at Knob Noster State Park?

A: The City of Knob Noster already has mutual aid agreements to assist with police and fire protection at the Knob Noster State Park when called upon. These mutual aid agreements will remain in place. However, the primary responsibility of police and fire protection will remain as it is now, with the Missouri State Park Rangers and Johnson County Sheriff providing the police protection and Johnson County Fire Protection District providing fire protection. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources has asked the City to provide assistance with monitoring speed limits within the park's highways on occasion, but the City will not be increasing the size of its police or fire departments as a result of the annexation. The remainder of the Knob Noster service area will remain the priority of the Knob Noster Police and Fire departments.

9. Q: When will the annexation be official?

A: A public hearing has been set for the December 6th Board of Aldermen meeting at 6:00 pm. Should the Board of Aldermen vote to approve the annexation, then the annexation would be expected to be officially recorded by the end of January 2023. At that point the Knob Noster State Park would be officially inside the Knob Noster city limits, but all services and park operations would remain functionally the same as they are now.