

Center Creek

This fast, narrow creek is probably more surrounded by urbanization than any other in the Ozarks. It is recommended primarily for medium-to-high water runs, but caution should be exercised near the numerous bridges and overhanging trees.

Difficulty: II and III. Numerous tricky runs with brush or overhanging limbs.

Gradients: U.S. Alternate 71 to Oronogo — 6.1; to Smithfield — 6.7.

County: Jasper.

- 0.0 South Garrison Avenue. Bridge. Minimal parking along the right-of-way.
- 2.3 South Chapel Road. No access.
- 6.0 Bridge on County Road 175.
- 6.9 Route HH.
- 9.3 Old mill dam site produces rocky rapids. May have to portage or walk through in moderate or low water.
- 10.1 Access from County Road 193. Do not try to access from Hwy. 171.
- 10.5 Old concrete arch bridge.
- 10.7 Old 66 Blvd. No public access.

- 11.7 Shelter cave in bluff on right. Private property. No trespassing.
- 12.0 Sharp, narrow drop over rock ledge.
- 13.6 Route D. Bridge. Fair access. Sharp drop just below bridge.
- 15.1 County Road 230 Bridge. No access.
- 16.4 Homestead Drive/County Road 240. Dirt pull-off southwest of bridge.
- 18.1 [Stones Corner Access](#) on right below Hwy. 43 Bridge.
- 19.9 Hwy. 171 Bridge and Kansas City South R.R. Bridge.
- 20.8 Carl Junction Center Creek Park. Open from sunrise to sunset. Access.
- 21.7 Thorn Station Trail Bridge. Old St. Louis and San Francisco R.R. Bridge.
- 22.1 Joplin Street Bridge.
- 23.5 [Carl Junction Access](#) on left just before Route JJ Bridge. Boat ramp closed at time of publication. Search "Carl Junction Access" at mdc.mo.gov for updates.

