



# Bryophyte Identification and Ecology Workshop

Missouri S&T Ozark Research Field Station  
Newburg, MO

May 11-15, 2026

Bryophytes play important roles in the environment that can add to a broader understanding of the quality and health of natural communities. Yet, these diverse organisms are often overlooked.

This 5-day workshop will teach you the fundamentals of bryophyte biology, taxonomy, ecology, and identification during classroom and field-based sessions. Identification will be taught using technical keys and microscopes, however, many of the bryophyte genera and species are identifiable in the field and will be explored during the field outings. You will be able to observe bryophytes in several terrestrial communities such as glades and woodlands, along with aquatic habitats such as fens, springs, and streams. This field time will be used to advance your observational skills through notetaking, sketching bryophyte plots, and addressing ecological questions.

At the end of this workshop, you will be able to identify several common and unique bryophytes, have a better understanding of what roles they play, and learn what they can tell you about the landscape.



The Missouri University Science and Technology's Ozark Research Field Station is situated in the midst of over 6,000 acres of public land containing a diversity of ecosystems including upland forests, fens, glades, and wetlands. Located approximately 100 miles southwest of St. Louis, Missouri, the field station is the perfect site to experience the Ozark's rich flora for yourself.

## Equipment provided:

Compound microscopes and accessories  
Workbook

## What you will need to bring:

10-20X Hand Lens (a built in LED light is handy)  
Pens/pencils  
Knee high water boots

## Textbook:

*Mosses of Missouri Through a Hand Lens* (will be available for sale at the workshop)



Tuition for the 5-day workshop: \$600

Lodging & meals: \$350

Off-site discount available

Extra arrival or departure day available

For more information or to reserve a spot, please email [ozarkresearch@mst.edu](mailto:ozarkresearch@mst.edu)

Course deposits are due by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026

The course is limited to 15 spots!

About the Instructor: Lorie Hetrick-Volenberg is a Natural Resource Specialist for the Missouri State Park's Northeastern District Ecologist. She recently published the book, *Mosses of Missouri Through a Hand Lens*. She is passionate about bryophyte ecology and is active in outreach programs that engage the public in learning more about the amazing bryophyte world.

