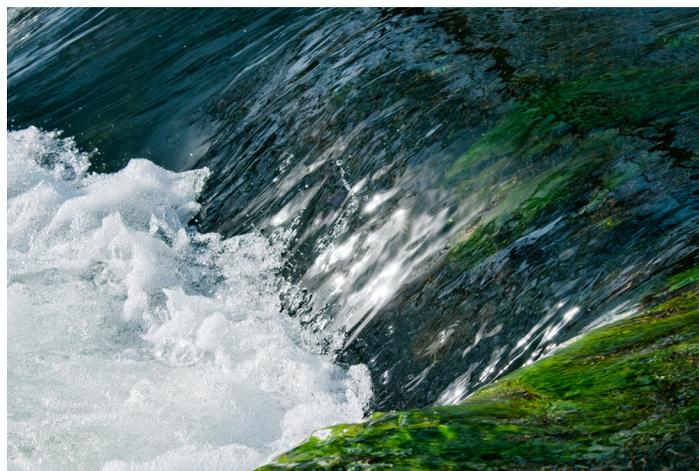
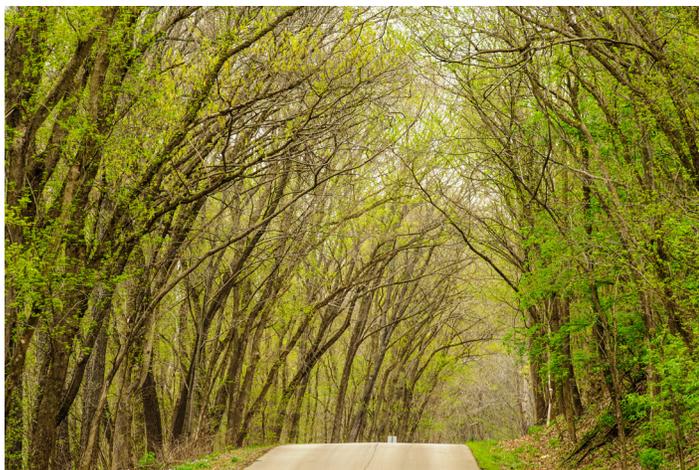




# Enhancing Missouri ~ *it's in our nature*



Spring 2016

*Director Sara Parker Pauley*  
Director's Update on the  
Missouri Department of Natural Resources



The mission of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources is to protect our air, land and water; to preserve our unique natural and historic places; and to provide recreational and learning opportunities for everyone.

Learn more about the department at [dnr.mo.gov/aboutus.htm](http://dnr.mo.gov/aboutus.htm)

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## Director's Update

The redbuds and dogwoods are blooming, the wildflowers are flourishing and spring brings more opportunities to commune with nature.

The health of Missouri's soil and water quality benefits our quality of life and the time we spend outdoors. All life depends on healthy, productive soil and clean, abundant water. Wildlife depends on both in order to grow and thrive in their habitats. We depend on high quality water for drinking. We depend on an abundance of water and healthy land for agricultural and industrial purposes, as well as for our recreational enjoyment.

The Department of Natural Resources uses the Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax to conserve Missouri's soil and water resources and operate its 88 state parks and historic sites. The Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax is up for renewal by voters in 2016. Learn more inside this issue.

*Enhancing Missouri - it's in our nature!*

*Sara Parker Pauley*

Director, Missouri Department of Natural Resources



## Spring Issue Now Available Online

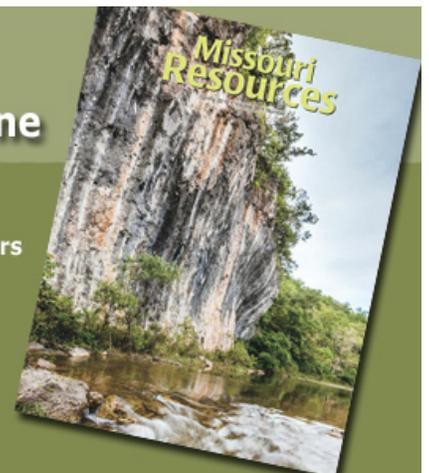
The department's *Missouri Resources* quarterly magazine informs readers about important natural and cultural resource issues. Read the latest issue online or Missouri residents may subscribe for free by visiting [dnr.mo.gov/magazine](http://dnr.mo.gov/magazine).

# Missouri Resources magazine

## Inside the Spring 2016 Issue

- Missouri State Parks Celebrates 100 Years
- Jumpstarting a City's Heart
- Minerals in Everyday Life
- Explore Missouri's Wildflowers
- Top Spots to Dine and Hike
- Operator Certification and More

Visit [dnr.mo.gov/magazine](http://dnr.mo.gov/magazine)





## Youth Education

The department's Strategic Plan includes five goals and objectives to fulfill its mission. Goal III is Increasing Outreach and Communication, Youth Education and Interpretation.

The department has a responsibility to inform Missourians about the importance of our natural and cultural resources. The Youth Education and Interpretation effort seeks to provide today's youth with the knowledge and appreciation of nature that will encourage them to connect with

and care for our resources into the future. The department's Youth Education and Interpretation program has launched a new website especially designed to help fulfill this critical mission area. We continue to develop content and provide our stakeholders, youth, teachers and communities with valuable information. Please visit and share our new website: [dnr.mo.gov/education](http://dnr.mo.gov/education).

To learn more about the department's Strategic Plan, visit [dnr.mo.gov/pubs](http://dnr.mo.gov/pubs).



## Budget



The department's Truly Agreed and Finally Passed operating budget totals approximately \$582 million and 1,702 FTE, including several new decision items such as:

- \$8.8 million for the additional cost-share practices through the Soil and Water Conservation Program
- Approximately \$115,000 and two FTE for Missouri Geological Survey activities related to oil and gas resources

Overall, the operating budget request is comprised of approximately \$12.3 million General Revenue (2 percent), \$50.5 million Federal Funds (9 percent) and \$519 million Other Funds (89 percent).

Of the total budget request, 82 percent will be used to distribute funds to communities, organizations, and individuals as grants, loans and contracts offered through various programs.

The operating budget bills have made their way through the legislature's budget process and were recently delivered to the Governor for signature. They will take effect July 1, 2016.



## Executive Staff Updates

### New Program Directors

Steve Sturgess, previously chief of the department's Public Drinking Water Branch, has been named director of the Hazardous Waste Program.

David Lamb, previously Hazardous Waste Program director, has become the chief of the Public Drinking Water Branch.

Both expressed interests in taking on new challenges, so this is

an excellent opportunity for both of them to broaden their horizons. The changes took effect April 1.

The department has also promoted Brian Allen to director of the Environmental Services Program. As such, he oversees the department's environmental laboratory and environmental emergency responders.



## Legislation

Staff are working hard with the General Assembly and tracking bills that affect the department. Session will end May 13. The department is tracking, among others, the below important bills.

### Departmentwide

- **SB669** (Sen. Brown) Transfers money from certain funds administered by the department to general revenue.
- **SB774** (Sen. Schmitt) Appointed members of boards and commissions may only serve for up to 60 days after the expiration of their terms. If no replacement is named by the Governor during that 60 day period, then the office shall be vacant.

### Division of Environmental Quality

- **HB1375** (Rep. Miller) Specifies the department shall conduct an evaluation as part of an implementation of any changes to the water quality standards.
- **HB1823** (Rep. Houghton) Exempts certain structures used for

agricultural purposes from county health orders, ordinances, rules or regulations.

- **HB2405** (Rep. Ross) Changes laws regarding water rights and prohibits the department from implementing EPA's Clean Water Rule.
- **HB1713** (Rep. Remole) Requires the department to provide information regarding the latest technology for wastewater treatment facilities.
- **HB1414** (Rep. Houghton) Exempts certain agricultural data from disclosure under Missouri's sunshine law.
- **SB858** (Sen. Romine) Requires the department to submit an initial state plan under the Clean Power Plan to the General Assembly. This bill also requires the department to obtain a two-year extension from EPA for its state plan.

### Missouri Geological Survey

- **HB1738** (Rep. Brattin) Changes the laws regarding drilling of private wells.

- **HB1120** Changes the law related to the Mo Water Resources multi-purpose water fund.

### Missouri State Parks

- **SB683** (Sen. Cunningham) Removes a property tax exemption for State Parks.
- **HB2187** (Rep. Ross) Requires the department to sell certain lands acquired through environmental settlement funds.
- **SB682** (Sen. Cunningham) Relates to land purchases made on behalf of departments of the state.
- **HB2047** (Rep. Houghton) Allows certain individuals to use all-terrain vehicles and golf carts on the Katy Trail.
- **HJR101** (Rep. Ross) Proposes a constitutional amendment to require State Parks to pay property tax.

If you have questions about any of these or other bills that may affect the department please contact Mary Mulhearn, Director, Legislative Affairs at 573-751-4732 or by email to [mary.mulhearn@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:mary.mulhearn@dnr.mo.gov).



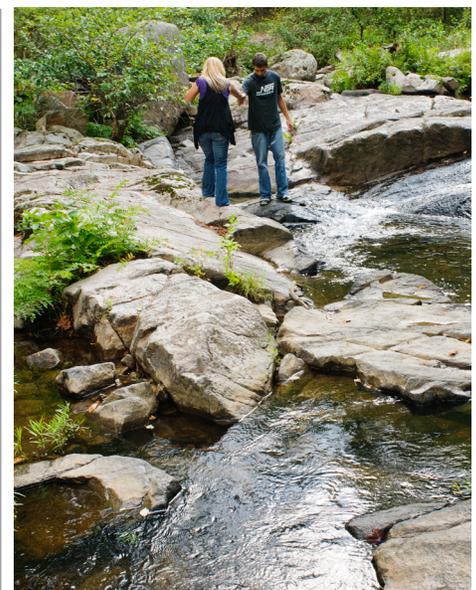
Engaging with and empowering local watershed citizens to ensure clean and abundant water within their watershed for generations to come.

The watersheds included in the department's Group 1 of Our Missouri Waters will be wrapping up the first series of meetings with their Watershed Advisory Committees within

the next couple of months. The committees will draft their Healthy Watershed Plans, which will document their shared priorities and next steps. These plans will be available on the department's Our Missouri Waters website when completed.

The department's OMW Regional Coordinators are preparing State-of-Our-Waters watershed summary reports for Group 2 watersheds in preparation of meetings which will begin in the fall of 2016.

To learn more about Our Missouri Waters or to contact your local watershed coordinator visit the department's website at [dnr.mo.gov/omw](http://dnr.mo.gov/omw).





## E3 - Enhancing Effectiveness and Efficiency

### Implementing a Lean in Government approach to enhance effectiveness and efficiency

In 2015 the department began implementing Lean, a set of principles and tools to make processes more effective and efficient while increasing customer service.

#### Outgoing Financial Assistance

Using the Value Stream Mapping tool, this event looked at high level steps to identify areas for further focus. The team looked at 26 different types of outgoing financial assistance, and identified a number of areas for improvement, including layers of reviews. Follow-up sessions are planned where each program will examine their review processes and eliminate non-value added steps. The grants process was one area identified by participants at the 2015 All Kitchen Cabinet meeting as needing attention and this is one step in addressing that concern.



*The E3 team mapped out the department's financial assistance process, which included 26 different types of outgoing financial assistance.*

#### Surface Water Quality Monitoring Data

This event included partners from US Geological Survey, US Environ-

mental Protection Agency Region 7, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Stream Team Watershed Coalition. Several programs and divisions within the department's collect data on surface water quality and quantity, as do many other agencies and organizations. The ultimate goal is to coordinate data collection within the department as well as with partners, to minimize overlap and to help target priority watersheds. Many follow-up activities are planned including a future Kaizen event.

#### Open Burn Permits Kaizen Event

This event included representatives from two fire protection districts – Kearny and Lone Jack – and from the Associated General Contractors of Missouri. This event looked in detail at the steps involved in issuing open burn permits in each of the department's five out-state regions. The team designed a streamlined process that will be consistent across all regions, and is in the process of designing a new permit to be used statewide. Under the new process the number of steps was reduced by 29 percent and permits will be issued at least 35 percent faster. Staff time will decrease by

about 300 hours per year, allowing staff to spend time on other critical activities. These changes should be in place by early summer 2016.

The department will continue to provide updates and outcomes from the process improvements.

## Oil and Gas Rulemaking

### State Oil and Gas Council

The State Oil and Gas Council governs the oil and gas industry in Missouri, establishes standards for well drilling or operation, underground storage of hydrocarbons, and the production of oil and/or gas, and establishes fees to administer the law.

A collaborative effort to incorporate the needs of industry and the state resulted in a modernized set of revised rules, 10 CSR 50-1 through 10 CSR50-5, which will be easier to understand and use, both for industry, as well as staff. The new rules include a new fee structure for oil and gas activities as well as other significant changes.

The rules became effective March 30, 2016, and the fees will be effective January 2017. For more information visit the department's website at [dnr.mo.gov/geology/geosrv/ogc/](http://dnr.mo.gov/geology/geosrv/ogc/).



### Director Newsletter Archives

Older versions of the Director's Newsletters are available on the Web at [dnr.mo.gov/kitchen-cabinet/](http://dnr.mo.gov/kitchen-cabinet/)



## Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax

The citizens of Missouri demand good stewardship of this tax

The Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax is a statewide one-tenth-of-one percent sales tax that provides funding for Missouri state parks and historic sites and soil and water conservation efforts. The tax is divided equally between the two efforts and is up for renewal in 2016 for voter approval.

The Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax was first approved by voters in 1984 and has since been reapproved by voters in 1988, 1996 and 2006. The tax was renewed by more

than two-thirds majority of Missouri voters.

The tax funds the Soil and Water Conservation Program and approximately 75 percent of the Missouri State Parks' budget to operate and improve parks and historic sites. The tax in total averages about \$14 a year per Missourian.

A Citizens Committee for Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax effort has been established. If you are interested in finding out more information go to [soilwaterparks.com](http://soilwaterparks.com).

## Concessionaire hired at Echo Bluff State Park

Progress on Missouri's 88th state park is continuing with the park set to open during summer of 2016.

Just as with similar state parks, operation of the concession facilities is being contracted with a private company. After a competitive sealed bid process, Guest Services Management was hired as the concessionaire to manage the park's lodging and restaurant. Guest Management Services is a national management companies that counts multiple state and national parks among their clients. Information will soon be available so that you can book your visit to Echo Bluff State Park.

## 100 Years of State Parks

Missouri State Parks is gearing up for a celebration of centennial proportions as the park system approaches its 100th birthday. The park system kicked off 18 months of celebrations on April 9, 2016 with the opening of a new exhibition at the Missouri State Museum and the launch of a new statewide passport program.

The park system was officially established on April 9, 1917 with the creation of the state park fund. The first property, the historic Arrow Rock Tavern, was acquired in 1923. The first park properties were added to the system in 1924 and by the end of 1925, the state park system had grown to eight with more than 23,000 acres.

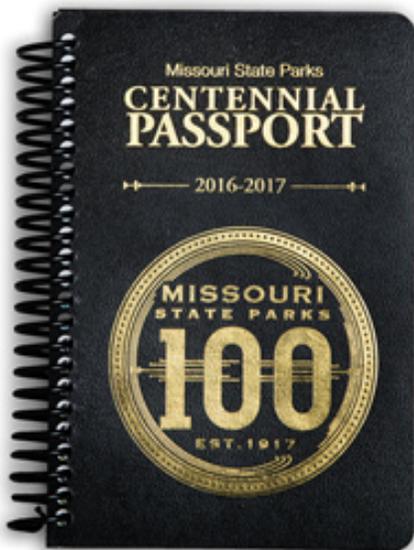
The Centennial Passport is a program challenging guests to visit all 88 state parks and historic sites between April 9, 2016 and Oct. 31, 2017. A printed passport is available for purchase at park and historic site gift shops and online. The first 1,000 individuals who complete the printed passport will receive a centennial backpack, made possible thanks to a sponsorship by Bass Pro Shops. A digital passport is also available and can be completed free of charge. For more information, visit [mostateparks.com/passport](http://mostateparks.com/passport).

Additional events and promotions will be announced throughout the 18-month celebration at mo-



Stone veneer being installed on the grand fireplace in the main lodge.

[stateparks.com](http://stateparks.com). Park guests can share their experiences and memories of the park system on Twitter and Facebook using #ShowMeYourStatePark.





## Partnerships for Watershed Studies

The department began a Feasibility Study in partnership with the Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District and numerous federal, state, local and non-governmental partners.



The Meramec basin lies south of St. Louis and represents both challenges and opportunities. While the Meramec is recognized for having a rich ecological diversity, it is seriously threatened by excess sediments moving down the watershed. One of the major threats originates from the contaminated sediments coming out of the Big River, one of its major tributaries and the site of many historic lead mining impacts. The study will help identify how best to address these threats and prioritize how and where we can be most successful. The study will also offer the opportunity to secure future federal funding to implement the recommendations of the study.

Additional water studies are being considered as part of Our Missouri Waters. Visit [dnr.mo.gov/omw](http://dnr.mo.gov/omw) for more information.

## Procedures for Assistance, Compliance, and Enforcement

As a result of suggestions provided by external stakeholders, the department is wrapping up efforts that have occurred over the past year to modify its assistance, compliance and enforcement processes across environmental programs. These process changes are being incorporated into a user-friendly electronic manual, "Procedures for Assistance, Compliance, and Enforcement" (PACE). In addition to guiding staff performance, PACE will provide practical tools such as flowcharts, checklists, and forms to regulated entities and the public. The manual will be posted on the department's website this summer and enable our staff actions to be more consistent, transparent and easier to understand. Examples of these tools can be found at:

- [dnr.mo.gov/forms/780-1602.pdf](http://dnr.mo.gov/forms/780-1602.pdf)
- [dnr.mo.gov/forms/780-1525.pdf](http://dnr.mo.gov/forms/780-1525.pdf)

## Community Services

Dedicated to helping local governments address their community's environmental needs



The department continues to work with 30 small Missouri towns as part of a pilot effort to help these communities assess and plan to address their drinking water and wastewater infrastructure needs, and access financial and technical assistance. We work hand in hand with many partner organizations to get each town the best help available, including USDA's Rural Development, Missouri Rural Water Association, Missouri Public Utility Alliance, Missouri Municipal League, Missouri Department of Economic Development and Regional Planning Commissions. For more information on the department's Community Services program, visit [dnr.mo.gov/assistance](http://dnr.mo.gov/assistance).

## Water Quality Trading

The department is working on a draft policy that would guide the development of a voluntary water quality trading program in Missouri.

Working with stakeholders, the department has defined the 13 elements required to be included in a water quality trading prospectus. The department has committed to creating a clearinghouse with the needed capabilities that could help implement local trading programs.

Point source to point source and point source to nonpoint source trading are both promoted as a potential way to meet permit conditions under the proposed policy.

The final draft policy is expected to be released in June for public comment before being brought before the Clean Water Commission for final approval in October.

For more information visit: [dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/cwforum/nutrient-trading.htm](http://dnr.mo.gov/env/wpp/cwforum/nutrient-trading.htm) for more details.



## Clean Power Plan

On Feb. 9 the U.S. Supreme Court, in a 5-4 vote, issued an order staying the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan.

Twenty-seven states and numerous industry groups challenged the CPP's legality in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia D.C. Circuit, which had denied a stay in January. Many of those petitioners sought to stay the rule until the legal proceedings are complete. The stay will remain in effect until the D.C. Circuit resolves the legal challenges to the CPP and either the Supreme Court decides not to review the D.C. Circuit's decision or the Supreme Court issues its own opinion.

The D.C. Circuit previously granted a motion to consider the chal-

lenges on an expedited basis and it will hear oral arguments on June 2, 2016. For further information visit [supremecourt.gov/orders/courtorders/020916zr\\_21p3.pdf](http://supremecourt.gov/orders/courtorders/020916zr_21p3.pdf).

The department's Air Pollution Control Program is evaluating this ruling and will continue to communicate with stakeholders and interested parties as issues develop. To subscribe to receive topic updates on this issue or read the latest information, visit the department's Clean Power Plan website at [dnr.mo.gov/env/apcp/cpp](http://dnr.mo.gov/env/apcp/cpp).

EPA issued the final Clean Power Plan on Aug. 3, 2015. The goal of the plan is to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from existing power plants. The final rule, as released in August, would require 21 power plants in Missouri to cut emissions of carbon dioxide.



## Coal Combustion Residuals (CCRs)

Commonly known as coal ash, CCRs are created when coal is burned by power plants to produce electricity.

The Environmental Protection Agency's Coal Combustion Residuals rule governs the disposal of coal combustion residuals (CCR) produced by electric utilities. This complex rule will affect new and existing coal combustion residuals landfills and surface impoundments across the state.

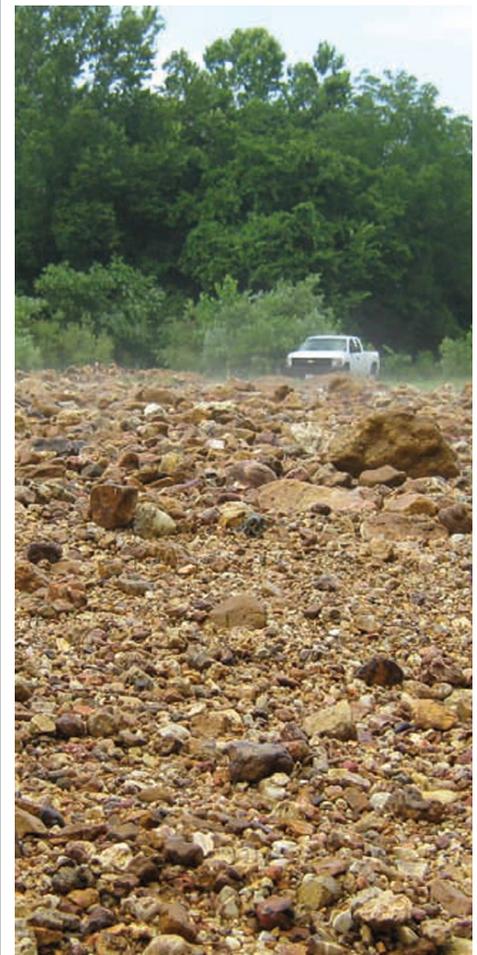
During the Feb. 23 Solid Waste Management Program's stakeholder forum meeting, the department discussed a draft document titled Coal Combustion Residuals Storage and Disposal Sites in Missouri, which lays out how the department envisions implementation of the new CCR requirements. This document is available at: [dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/forum/index.html](http://dnr.mo.gov/env/swmp/forum/index.html).

## Increasing Industrial Minerals Permit Fees

The Missouri Mining Commission approved the order of rulemaking to increase the permit fee for industrial mineral operators that mine more than 5,000 tons of sand and gravel and other open pit mining.

The rule was published in the Missouri Register on Jan. 4, 2016, and became effective February 29, 2016.

The fee changes take effect Jan. 1, 2017. It has been more than 20 years since the fee last increased. For more information visit [dnr.mo.gov/geology/lrp/rulesdevlrp.htm](http://dnr.mo.gov/geology/lrp/rulesdevlrp.htm).



Gravel bar in Madison County.