



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

Frank A. Barnitz
16th Senate District

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 425
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

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**Contact: Shelly St. Clair
(573) 751-2108**

Sen. Frank Barnitz Announces His District Has Been Issued a Drought Alert

JEFFERSON CITY – State Senator Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring, announced today that the Missouri Drought Assessment Committee has issued a Phase 2 Drought Alert for each county in his district. The committee, a division of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, has issued alerts for Crawford, Dent, Gasconade, Maries, Montgomery, Osage, Phelps and Pulaski counties.

“Clearly this has been a devastatingly dry summer,” Barnitz said. “However, with these drought alert designations, we can begin to move forward as a state to ease the damage Missouri farmers have felt from the hot, dry conditions.”

Phase 2 alerts have been issued for 52 Missouri counties, and Phase 1 Drought Advisories have been announced for 54 counties. Missouri’s Drought Response Plan defines four phases of drought. Phase 2 alerts are characterized by plants beginning to show stress, stream and pond levels dropping, and below-level rainfall over the course of several months.

The Missouri Drought Assessment Committee is responsible for studying state drought conditions and recommending actions to counter the effects of drought. Committee members represent the Missouri Departments of Natural Resources, Agriculture, Public Safety, Health and Senior Services, Conservation and Economic Development; the U.S. Departments of Commerce, Agriculture and Interior; the U.S. Army; the University of Missouri-Columbia; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

For more information, contact Sen. Barnitz at (573) 751-2108, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources at (800) 361-4827 or the department’s Water Resources Program at (573) 751-2867.

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