

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 427 JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

Frank A. Barnitz 16<sup>th</sup> Senate District

For Immediate Release: May 8, 2007 Contact: Tony Benz (573) 751-2108

## Sen. Barnitz Announces Outdoor Classroom Grants for Area Schools

JEFFERSON CITY- Sen. Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring, announced today that the Department of Conservation will award Freedom Elementary School in St. Robert and Mark Twain Elementary School in Rolla grants to develop an outdoor classroom program.

"Protecting and conserving Missouri's wildlife and fishing resources is an important lesson for anyone in the state," said Sen. Barnitz. "I am pleased that the schools in Rolla and St. Robert are promoting this type of learning."

The grant is a joint initiative of the Missouri Department of Conservation and the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation. The program works to promote conservation education in the outdoors by taking a hands-on and interdisciplinary approach.

Freedom Elementary School will receive \$1,000 and Mark Twain Elementary will receive \$600. Forty-four schools in Missouri applied for the grants and thirty seven were awarded.

"There are so many core subjects that can be addressed while studying the outdoors, whether they are literature, history, math, or science," said Sen. Barnitz. "Teaching in these creative ways promotes learning, and that is an exciting part of this program."

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