



Office of
Jason Crowell State
Senator

The Crowell Connection



Senator Jason Crowell – Serving Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Madison, Mississippi, Perry, and Scott Counties.

Website | Contact Me | Biography | Newsroom

Vacationing in Southeast Missouri

This summer, many families will choose to pack up the car for a vacation or get away. Whether the destination is educational, historical, or just for fun, you don't have to go as far as you might think. Here in the 27th District, there are plenty of great vacation destinations full of fun and adventure.

Our area is full of historic landmarks that are both interesting and educational. In Leopold, one can visit St. John's Church, which is home to one of the oldest pipe organs west of the Mississippi. While in Bollinger County, stop in Marble Hill and check out the [Bollinger County Museum of Natural History](#), which specializes in the area's history. The museum is now showcasing "The Missouri Dinosaur" and Native American artifacts. There are also opportunities to tour the Massey Log House and the Alma Fisher One-Room School in order to get an idea of the experiences of early

Missourians.



The Red House Interpretive Center in Cape Girardeau.

The largest city in the region is Cape Girardeau which is full of opportunities. Tours and stops in the city include the [Great Murals Tour](#), the Cape River Heritage Museum, the Glenn House, Fort D and the Capaha Park Rose Garden. Art lovers can enjoy unique offerings in the galleries located throughout Cape Girardeau. Another stop to consider

is the Red House Interpretive Center, which commemorates Lewis and Clark's visit to the city in 1803. Before Cape Girardeau became one of the most picturesque river towns along the Mississippi River it was a single trading post. Cape Rock Park commemorates that site.

Jackson boasts the 3,415-acre [Trail of Tears State Park](#), which serves as a memorial to the Cherokee Indians who passed through the land in 1838. One can walk through the solitude of the dark green forest, camp atop limestone bluffs, or picnic as you embrace the majesty of the Mississippi. The park is also a great place to fish for bass, blue gill, and catfish.

In Burfordville, visitors have the opportunity to visit the [Bollinger Mill State Historic Site](#), a 19th century gristmill and covered bridge, the oldest of four remaining covered bridges in Missouri. In the City of Charleston, visitors can enjoy a view of splendid homes. The city also contains an interpretive Lewis and Clark Memorial located at the Henry S. Whipple Park. Just south of East Prairie, visitors can enjoy [Big Oak Tree State Park](#) which contains



Bollinger Mill State Historic Site in Burfordville.

1,029 acres of preserved original landscape, a stark contrast to the surrounding farmland. Other destinations in the area also include the [Towosahgy State Historic Site](#) and Ten Mile Pond Conservation Area. The [Dorena-Hickman Toll Ferry](#) gives visitors the chance to cross the Mississippi River.

The area from Fredericktown north to Bonne Terre was once the world's largest lead-mining district. At Bonne Terre, you can walk the wide passageways of the world's largest man-made caverns or scuba dive in its billion-gallon underground lake. Near Fredericktown, visit Castor River Shut-Ins and [Millstream Gardens Conservation Area](#). These sites are the location for the Missouri Whitewater Championships each March, which are open to the public.



The [Sikeston Jaycee's Bootheel Rodeo](#) is the fifth largest rodeo in the nation and is going to be held this year on August 8-11. The rodeo features the usual events as well as an array of musical entertainment. In Sikeston, you will find a blend of "Gingerbread" mansions, cotton gins, and other reminders of the Old South.

Lambert's Café in Sikeston is the home of the famous "thrown rolls," and is at the top of the

list for best meals in Missouri. There is also plenty of shopping to be had at the Sikeston Factory Outlet Stores.

For more information on planning a vacation in Missouri, visit these Web sites:

Missouri State Parks <http://www.mostateparks.com>

Missouri Department of Tourism <http://www.missouritourism.org>

Missouri Scenic Rivers <http://www.missouriscenicrivers.com>

Contact Me

As always, I appreciate hearing your comments, opinions and concerns. Please feel free to contact me in Jefferson City at (573) 751-2459. You may write to me at Jason Crowell; Missouri Senate; State Capitol; Jefferson City, MO 65101, or email me at: jcrowell@senate.mo.gov or visit me on the web at <http://www.jasoncrowell.com>.

Contact Information

Capitol Office
State Capitol Building
Room 323
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Website:
<http://www.senate.mo.gov/crowell>

Phone Number:
573.751.2459
Fax:
573.522.9289