



PRESS RELEASE

State Senator Wes Shoemyer – 18th District

State Capitol – Room 434
201 West Capitol Avenue
Jefferson City, MO 65101-6806
Phone: (573) 751-7852

For Immediate Release: July 07, 2008

SENATOR WES SHOEMYER INVITES PUBLIC TO ATTEND SEED SUMMIT AT MARK TWAIN STATE PARK

Numerous Experts in Seed Industry on Hand to Answer Questions

JEFFERSON CITY – Senator Wes Shoemyer, D-Clarence, is inviting everyone to attend a public rally this weekend to discuss issues facing the seed industry, including consolidation, seed retention, and keeping the markets competitive. Sen. Shoemyer says the goal of the public rally is to ensure farmers have access to an open, fair and competitive market and to discuss solutions to the problems facing the seed industry today.

“U.S. farmers have to pay more for patented seed than farmers in other countries,” Sen. Shoemyer said. “We need to find ways to help farmers retain the seed they own and to make sure the same rules apply to everyone – whether they are farming in Brashear or Brazil.”

Sen. Shoemyer says numerous experts in the seed industry have been invited to attend the Saturday summit at Mark Twain State Park, including representatives from the Organization for Competitive Markets, state lawmakers and county and local government officials. Sen. Shoemyer says he hopes farmers from across northeast Missouri will attend the public rally and free BBQ.

“I just want to let my farmers know I have not forgotten them and this public rally is being held for their benefit,” Sen. Shoemyer said. “There will be all kinds of experts on hand to answer any questions farmers might have and to help find solutions to the problems they face regarding seed. I’ve always believed farmers should be able to retain the seed they own, and that’s one of the things we’ll be talking about this weekend.”

Public Rally on Seed Industry

Time: 3:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Date: Saturday, July 12, 2008
**Location: Huck Hall, Buzzard’s Roost,
Mark Twain State Park
Stoutsville, MO (directions on next page)**

Directions to Mark Twain State Park

From St. Louis

Mark Twain State Park is about a two-hour drive from the Chesterfield Airport area, depending on traffic. Go west on I-70 to the Montgomery City/Hermann exit and take Hwy. 19 north to the town of Perry. At Perry you will need to turn west on Hwy. 154. Stay on Hwy. 154 for about six miles after leaving Perry. When you come to the intersection with Hwy. 107, turn north on 107. In one-half mile take the first paved road to the left to enter the campground. The park office is another two miles north on Hwy. 107 near the junction of Route U. Turn east on Route U and follow the signs to the park office.

From Columbia

Mark Twain State Park is about a one-and-one-half hour drive from I-70 in Columbia. From Columbia go north on U.S. Hwy. 63 to Moberly. At Moberly turn east on US Hwy. 24. Continue east on U.S. Hwy. 24 until about five miles east of the town of Paris to Route U. Take Route U east ten miles to Hwy. 107. The park office is located east of Hwy. 107 on Route U - follow signs. To get to the campground, turn south on Hwy. 107, cross the bridge and take the second paved road to the right - about two miles.

From Hannibal

Mark Twain State Park is about 35 minutes or 30 miles southwest of Hannibal. Take U.S. Hwy. 36 west from Hannibal to Monroe City. At Monroe City, turn west on U.S. Hwy. 24. Go west on U.S. Hwy. 24 for about 10 miles to Hwy. 107 and turn south. In about six miles you will come to the intersection of Hwy. 107 and Route U. Turn left onto Route U if you wish to go to the park office and follow the signs. To get to the campground, continue south on Hwy. 107, cross the bridge and take the second paved road to the right - about two miles.

