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## **Local Communities Receive State Funding** *Tourism, Wastewater Projects Receive Assistance*

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JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, today announced the Division of Tourism and Department of Natural Resources has awarded state assistance to local projects in Southeast Missouri. The city of Gordonville will receive a loan and grants for wastewater improvements and Scott and Cape Girardeau counties will receive tourism funding.

The city of Gordonville will receive a \$252,000 Rural Sewer Grant, a \$996,920 State Forty Percent Grant, and a \$1.5 million Clean Water State Revolving Fund Direct Loan. The loans and the grant, totaling \$2.7 million, will provide for Gordonville's new wastewater collection and treatment system, which is estimated to cost \$2.8 million. Remaining costs will be provided for by local funds. The Department of Natural Resource's (DNR) Rural Sewer Grants provide for local wastewater construction projects, specifically unsewered projects. Forty Percent State Construction Grants through DNR are for small, unsewered communities and cover 40 percent of costs to construct wastewater collection and treatment systems. The Direct Loan Program provides very low interest loans from DNR for small communities experiencing financial difficulties.

"Regardless of the economic climate, it is important that communities in Missouri have the resources they need to make vital improvements that will improve residents' quality of life," said Sen. Crowell. "I am pleased this funding is available for the city of Gordonville to utilize for this new wastewater collection and treatment system, and I look forward to its successful construction and completion."

The Division of Tourism has distributed a matching fund award to two organizations in Southeast Missouri that will receive a total of \$61,750 in state funds for a total of \$123,500 in tourism-focused projects. The Tourism Division's Cooperative Marketing Program distributes state funds on a competitive basis. The program utilizes partnerships between the state and qualified nonprofit destinations for the promotion of tourism attractions and businesses. The program asks organizations to match the funds provided by the state. In Cape Girardeau, the Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Bureau will receive \$36,750 for its "Here... You Will Find..." campaign to promote local destinations and attractions. In Scott County, \$25,000 will go towards promoting leisure travel marketing in the communities of Sikeston and Miner.

"This program is a collaborative effort that utilizes state funding as well as local dollars to promote tourism in our communities," said Sen. Crowell. "These events attract visitors and improve economic development in our area, and I encourage families throughout Southeast Missouri to get out and enjoy some of the local attractions available in our own backyards."

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