



MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

Michael L. Parson
Governor

Dru Buntin
Director

April 16, 2024

Tyler Schwartze
Conservation Federation of Missouri
728 West Main Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Director Schwartze:

Thank you for reaching out to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to share the resolutions adopted at the 2024 annual convention of the Conservation Federation of Missouri. We appreciate your interest in these important topics.

Show-Me Green Schools: The Missouri Department of Natural Resources values stewardship and encourages future generations to appreciate and learn about sustainability and how to connect with nature. Ensuring students have a safe and healthy environment to learn is paramount to a successful and vibrant community. The department will continue to support environmentally sound practices to the best of its legislative and statutory authority.

Awareness of Microplastic Pollution in Missouri Streams: While the study of microplastics is still emerging, we know that they can be found in many places. We continue to learn more about their presence in our air, land, and water and what the potential impacts may be. We will continue to be transparent and share what we learn about the prevalence of microplastics and possible solutions with the regulated community and the public.

Support the Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax: Missouri citizens have shown strong support for soil and water conservation and state parks by passing the one-tenth-of-one percent Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax. The tax is placed on the ballot every 10 years to reaffirm the voter's support of the park system and soil and water conservation efforts. The tax was first approved by voters in 1984 and was reapproved by two-thirds of Missouri voters in 1988, 1996, 2006 and 2016. In 2016, the tax was approved by approximately 80 percent, passing in every county. The tax will be on the ballot for renewal in 2026 and we appreciate the support of the Conservation Federal of Missouri.

Framework for State Authorities to Protect Missouri Waters: The department supports the protection of water quality through implementation of Missouri Clean Water Law and as delegated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the federal Clean Water Act in Missouri. We appreciate participation by the Conservation Federation of Missouri in our rulemaking processes.

