



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT: Brandi Glover**  
**660-327-5125**  
**[bglover@nemowib.org](mailto:bglover@nemowib.org)**

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# **Governor Nixon Visits Mark Twain State Park**

Paris, Mo. - Joined by **First Lady Georganne Nixon**, the **Governor** visited **Mark Twain State Park**. While visiting the park, Governor Nixon met with Jessica Buckwalter, one of the youth, in the **State Parks Youth Corps Program**: a jobs program launched by Gov. Nixon that employs Missouri youth, ages 17 to 24, in paid positions at one of 85 state parks and historic sites until Sept. 30. "Missouri's parks are a legacy for us to pass on, and good stewardship of those parks will ensure their preservation for future generations," **Gov. Nixon** said. "The young people participating in the State Parks Youth Corps will enjoy the benefits of being outdoors, gain experience that can help them with future employment, and learn to be good stewards of the land."

Enhancing Missouri's parks and historic sites through the State Parks Youth Corps is one part of Gov. Nixon's initiative to boost Missouri's tourism industry through promoting state parks. The Governor's goal is to boost attendance at the parks and historic sites and thereby encourage families to spend more of their tourism dollars in Missouri.

Youth in Northeast Missouri have the opportunity to work at one of several local parks and historic sites, including Mark Twain. At Northeast Missouri Park locations, youth will work to repair and upgrade the park's trails; assist with park maintenance and landscaping projects; work in the park's main office; and work on other special projects.

Young people who want to be a part of the State Parks Youth Corps will go through an application and interview process. Participants will make \$7.25 an hour and be eligible to work for 240 hours.

The Missouri State Parks Youth Corps is a partnership between the Missouri Division of Workforce Development and the Missouri Division of State Parks. Funding for the program is made possible by the federal Workforce Investment Act and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Positions are still available at Northeast Missouri parks. If you are an interested youth age 17-24 looking for a unique summer job experience, please contact Brandi Glover at 660-327-5125 or [bglover@nemowib.org](mailto:bglover@nemowib.org) or visit your nearest Missouri Career Center.

The **NEMO Workforce Investment Board** based in Paris, MO, acts as an oversight and coordinating agent for a sixteen county area in Northeast Missouri. The Board targets improvement and enhancement of the readiness of the area's workforce by developing training and skills programs and

provides services through the four (4) Missouri Career Centers in the region that match job seekers with employment opportunities and assist employers in finding qualified employees.

**NEMO Workforce Investment Board** covers the 16 counties in Northeast Missouri of Adair, Clark, Knox, Lewis, Lincoln, Macon, Marion, Monroe, Montgomery, Pike, Ralls, Randolph, Schuyler, Scotland, Shelby and Warren with its 4 full service Missouri Career Centers located in Hannibal, Warrenton, Moberly, and Kirksville.

To learn more visit the NEMO Workforce Investment Board at <http://www.nemowib.org> or call 660-327-5125.



*Gov. Nixon meets with SPYC youth participant Jessica Buckwalter on the job at Mark Twain State Park in Monroe County Missouri*

*Our vision is a skilled workforce that supports the current and future needs of business and industry while also enhancing the economic prosperity of the citizens of the Northeast Region in Missouri.*