

Great Northwest Day Held in Jefferson City

Nearly 300 people from an 18 county region of northwest Missouri lobbied legislators and state leaders during the 10th annual Great Northwest Day in Jefferson City. The annual event was held January 31st and February 1st, and included representatives from local government, business, education, and healthcare interests, who expressed their concerns to lawmakers.

Holt County Clerk Kathy Kunkel says last summer's flooding and its impact on the area's infrastructure was one of the major concerns. (play audio :34)

Kunkel says the local leaders are concerned about funding for repair and maintenance of the state's lettered routes and farm-to-market roads. With the state continuing to experience a tight budget situation, she says it's a challenging situation for state legislators. (play audio :39)

Another subject the local leaders brought to Jefferson City was implementation of a statewide 911 system. Kunkel says there is not yet a tax or fee in Missouri to support a statewide 911 system. (play audio :35)

The Great Northwest Day included a panel discussion on unfunded mandates in Missouri and a roundtable discussion with representatives from the departments of Economic Development, Agriculture, and Tourism.

Kunkel says the day is a good chance for northwest Missouri to present a unified voice to state leaders in Jefferson City.