

Upcoming GHRPC Projects 23-24

New GHRPC Projects for our 23-24 fiscal year include:

- ♦ Code Enforcement Program
- ♦ Business Service Specialist
- ♦ Appropriations
- ♦ PIDP—Port Infrastructure Development Program—AgriServices of Brunswick

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A Message from the Executive Director



2022-2023 was another great year for Green Hills Regional Planning Commission, and as I celebrate my third Annual Meeting with GHRPC, I now have the perfect description for the organization—a “glorious whirlwind”. We have an incredible staff constantly moving and shaking across eleven counties and 74 communities. The years following the pandemic have been an exciting time to be a part of community development with an incredibly high level of funding coming for infrastructure and development related activities. As you read through the pages, I hope you are inspired by the progress the staff have made to build a stronger Green Hills Region.

This year, GHRPC reached 55 years of regional impact. We are excited to celebrate this achievement with all of you and reflect on past achievements while we look to what the future holds for the Green Hills Region. GHRPC has continued to promote economic growth while building stronger community and workforce development programs.

Please join me and the staff as we thank you for all you do for GHRPC and the region we serve. I’m looking forward to seeing what amazing things happen in our region now and for the next 55 years!

Sincerely,
Corinne Watts

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County

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Carroll
Chariton
Daviess
Grundy
Harrison
Linn
Livingston
Mercer

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ber
Charley Pittman, City Member

Meet the Team



Corinne Watts, Executive Director

Corinne's shared passion for community development and engagement led her to the roll of Executive Director at GHRPC in March of 2021. Since that time, she has led the organization, growing the programs, funding and staff. Prior to GHRPC, Corinne had been responsible for the development and management of workforce programs in the PacMtn region of Washington State. Corinne has experience managing both adult, youth state, and federal workforce programs in Washington. In addition to her knowledge of Workforce Development, she also brings familiarity with the community and technical college system as both an administrator and instructor. Phone: (660) 359-5636 Ext. 11
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Lisa Colson, Director of Programs

Lisa rejoined Green Hills Regional Planning Commission on March 1, 2022. She was previously with GHRPC from 1998-2006. During her 16 years in community development, she has expanded her skills to include creation and management of a community non-profit, community health administration, social and youth programs in addition to numerous infrastructure projects. Lisa has administrated approximately \$55 million in project funds generated by grant writing, soliciting foundations and private donors, and forming relationships with industry and private businesses. She enjoys building relationships with the communities she works with and creating projects that lead to sustainability and growth for the region. Phone: (660) 359-5636 Ext. 23
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Debbie Pergande, Fiscal Manager

Debbie started working for the GHRPC in January of 2003. Debbie lives in Purdin with her husband, Rodger. She has 4 boys, 3 stepsons, 9 grandchildren, 4 step-grandchildren, and 1 great grandchild. Debbie started working in Workforce Development, then transitioned to office manager/fiscal assistant. In 2006, she moved to her current position as Fiscal Manager. Debbie also serves as secretary at her church and enjoys spending time with her family. Phone: (660) 359-5636 Ext. 16
Email address: debbie@ghrpc.org



Cathy Scott, Workforce Program Director

Cathy has been with GHRPC going on 4 years. She has over 28 years of experience in social services, primarily with Family Support Division, as a supervisor helping families in need. Cathy is the Workforce Program Director for the Trenton/Chillicothe/Kirksville Job Centers, where we assist low income Adults, Dislocated Workers and Youth with barriers with funding for training or post-secondary education. Cathy finds her job very rewarding, as she see participants attending training/school, reach their goals, graduate, and to successfully find employment. She has 9 grandchildren (6 girls and 3 boys) and loves spending time with them. Phone: (660) 359-5636 Ext.13
Email address: cathy@ghrpc.org

Meet the Team



Ann Hamilton, Solid Waste Program Manager/Fiscal Assistant

Ann has worked for Green Hills Regional Planning Commission for over 19 years, previously she was a Demolition Specialist and Solid Waste Planner. She is currently the Solid Waste Program Manager, Fiscal Assistant, and 911 Coordinator. She has been married to her husband Randy for 29 years. They live in Chula and have 4 children, 5 grandchildren and 2 great grandsons. She is involved with many organizations in her community and helps run her family farm with her two brothers. She enjoys traveling, camping, attending her grandchildren's activities, and spending time with her family.

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Rebecca TenHulzen, Business Service Specialist

Rebecca started at Green Hills Regional Planning Commission in September 2023. She has a bachelor's degree in business marketing from the University of South Carolina. She was born and raised in Charleston, SC. In her downtime you can find her spending time with her family, working hard on her homestead, and spending time outdoors. She looks forward to building relationships and helping our community thrive!

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Carly Taul, Code Enforcement Officer

Carly started working at GHRPC in July 2023. She is GHRPC's Code Enforcement Officer. Before starting her career with GHRPC, she worked in law enforcement in Trenton for over 4 years. Carly lives in Trenton with her boyfriend and 2 puppies. She supports her community whenever she can! Carly sees potential in this program and hopes the Code Enforcement Program flourishes and becomes one of a kind in the state of Missouri.

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Amanda George, TAC/SEMA/Assistant Planner

Amanda started with GHRPC in July 2023. She and her partner Steve have a son, James. She grew up in Princeton, Missouri. After attending the University of Missouri, Columbia and Mid-America Nazarene University in Olathe, Kansas she returned to the region to be closer to her family. Upon returning to the area, she opened and operated a Group Home Childcare business for 13 years called "Tiny Tigers" in Princeton, Missouri. In addition, she and Steve opened Chief's Tavern in 2010. She is looking forward to contributing her abilities to the Green Hills Region in both Transportation and Hazard Mitigation Planning.

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Putnam County
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Charley Pittman, City of Unionville
Jack Tucker, Citizen Representative

Meet the Team



Crystal Sprofera, Lead Workforce Development Specialist
Crystal joined GHRPC in June 2021 as a Workforce Development Specialist. In September, 2023 she was promoted to the Lead Workforce Development Specialist. She married her best friend, Anthony 10 years ago. Her background is primarily in Non-Profit and working with Adults with Disabilities. She has always wanted to work within a youth program and is happy to have joined GHRPC. Crystal looks forward to contributing her best to ensure that local youth have the skills and support they need to be successful.
Phone: (660) 646-0671 - Chillicothe Job Center
Email address: crystal@ghrpc.org



Cassidy Russell, Workforce Development Specialist
Cassidy joined GHRPC in December 2022 as a Office Assistant. Cassidy’s role changed in July and she is now a Workforce Development Specialist in the Trenton/Kirksville/Chillicothe Job Centers. She and her husband have 2 children, ages 11 and 9. She lives in Laredo and enjoys gardening and her French Bulldog, Potato.
Phone: (660) 359-5636 Ext. 17
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Tara Curd, Workforce Development Specialist
Tara joined GHRPC in September 2023 as a workforce Development Specialist in the Trenton/Kirksville/Chillicothe Job Centers. Tara previously worked in the Solid Waste Department part-time. She has 3 daughters ages 17, 13, and 5. Tara enjoys watching football, camping and, being outdoors.
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Colleen Hinshaw, Office Manager/Fiscal Assistant
Colleen started working at GHRPC in December 2022. She originally was in the CDBG department working on grants. In July 2023, she moved to Office Manager and helps in the fiscal department. She lives in Lineville, Iowa with her husband of 35 years, Brent. They have 2 sons and a grandson on his way. She loves all kinds of music, and being with her family and friends.
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Economic Development



The Green Hills Regional Planning Commission is recognized by the Economic Development Administration as an Economic Development District and receives planning grant funds on an annual basis. Each year, the District is required to provide EDA with an Annual Scope of Work which encompasses all of the activities that staff will complete.

This partnership and funding allows the Planning Commission to dedicate staff to serve the economic development needs and interests of the region. A major focus of the District's Annual Scope of Work is to provide technical assistance to the region's economic developers and leaders who are involved in economic and community development on the local level, including assistance in community strategic planning, grant writing and representing the region at the state and local level.

What is a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy?

A Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is designed to bring together the public and private sectors in the creation of an economic roadmap to diversify and strengthen regional economies.

The CEDS analyzes the regional economy and serves as a guide for establishing regional goals and objectives, developing and implementing a regional plan of action, and identifying investment priorities and funding sources. This strategy is updated every five years.



Hazard Mitigation Planning



Hazard Mitigation Plan updates are an ongoing service of the Regional Planning Commission as each county is required to have a current/approved plan on file with SEMA/FEMA in order for the county to be eligible to apply for mitigation funds from SEMA/FEMA should a need exist as a result of a natural disaster. The planning process incorporates input from a variety of stakeholder representatives including: local government agencies, departments, emergency services, the general public, school districts, non-profits and the business community. In addition to the stakeholder feedback, the planning process utilizes an in-depth assessment of natural hazards, vulnerabilities and risks.

Caldwell County's HMP plan was completed in 2022. Several plans in the region are scheduled to expire between 2024 through 2026. The RPC expects to be heavily involved in plan updates in the fall of 2023 and on a continuing basis in the upcoming years. Maintaining current plans is a priority for the RPC and staff is allocated as needed to ensure plans do not lapse.

Staff Retreat - June 2023



June 7th the staff started their day with a lesson in Strength Building and teamwork with John Nabb, an awesome BBQ, and a fun ball game! It was a good day and very appreciated by the staff.

Leadership Northwest Missouri Class of 2023

Lisa Colson was in Leadership Northwest Missouri's graduating class of 2023! This was an exciting leadership development opportunity that brings together participants from throughout a 19-county region to hone their leadership skills, explore regional issues and gain a network of contacts.



Fiscal Retreat March 2023



GHRPC hosted the 2023 Fiscal Retreat in Chillicothe this year. The Fiscal Retreat was well attended by many RPC in the state.



2nd Annual Clerks Tea May 2023

In May of 2023 GHRPC held our 2nd Annual Clerks Tea. Mary West-Calcagno and Valerie Main, from MRWA, were our speakers. County and City Clerks attended, networking with fellow clerks, learning what MRWA had to offer Counties and Municipalities, and enjoying an afternoon celebrating them and their dedication to their Counties and Cities.



RISE



In November 2022, partners announced, via a press release to regional and statewide media outlets, the newly developed partnership and Show Me Jobs project. MOSourceLink also promoted the announcement through its regular newsletter sent to over 6,000 subscribers, published the press release as a blog on its website and shared with followers across its social media channels including LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter.

As a result, the published blog post at mosourcelink.com received 85 page views. In addition, partners have met a number of additional organizations one-on-one to build awareness and actively engage them in the Show Me Jobs project. Organizations come from and serve the defined service area and beyond. UMKC and GHRPC have organized discussions with the Small Business Development Center at UMKC, MU Agriculture and Business Policy Extension, Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority, Atchison County Development Corporation, BTC Bank, and others.

On February 16, 2023, Show Me Jobs partners convened with small agricultural business owners and industry support organizations for a Partner Kickoff networking event. Thirteen individuals attended the event. During the networking event MOSourceLink and Green Hills Regional Planning Commission shared an overview of the Show Me Jobs project; community and industry organizations identified and mapped assets their organizations could contribute to the project; and entrepreneurs in attendance shared areas of need for their businesses.

Between February, 2023 and June of 2023, GHRPC hosted four events for Rural Businesses and Entrepreneurs. These events were held to increase the knowledge of the value of agriculture in the Region and to create an asset map that can be shared with local businesses. The asset map includes physical assets, skill assets, capital assets, and social assets with the Green Hills Region and the State of Missouri.

Projected Impact

2022-2026

Outcomes:

- **100 existing businesses increase capacity** through the addition of new jobs, increased sales, increased knowledge and/or debt/equity infusion
- **5 businesses access debt funds** through revolving loan sources to expand capacity
- **20 new business starts**
- **4 businesses increase sales** by becoming part of the supply chain for urban corporations
- **150 new jobs**



MOSourceLINK

Transportation Planning

Students testing out the distracted driving goggles at the Sullivan County Health Fair.



Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

The TAC incorporates local communities into the statewide transportation process by accepting responsibilities such as attending and participating in quarterly meetings; understanding the scope of work to be accomplished by the TAC and the Green Hills Regional Planning Commission; understanding the planning framework process and how the TAC's involvement is incorporated into the process; providing input on transportation needs in our counties and communities; distributing information to communities and residents; prioritizing transportation needs for the Green Hills region; and prioritizing multimodal transportation projects for the region.

The GHRPC TAC annually compiles a ranked list of transportation needs in the eleven county region which is submitted to MoDot for consideration.

GHRPC had several awarded projects in FY23 including:

- ♦ Route MM, O, 5 (Linn County) - ADA improvements in Browning and Purdin
- ♦ Route M (Chariton/Carroll) - Bridge Rehabilitation over the Grand River near Bosworth
- ♦ I-35 in Harrison County - Seal Coat from Route N to Route 136
- ♦ Route 10 Carroll County Scrub Seal from Route FF to Route 65 in Carrollton

Advocating for Roadway Safety

As a member of the Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety, GHRPC takes a role in the partnership of safety advocates throughout the state who have come together with the goal to end traffic fatalities and serious injuries on public roadways. We participate in a variety of safety activities throughout the year, including the annual Highway Safety Conference. Our Transportation Planning Staff educates the public by promoting Missouri's Strategic Highway Safety Plan with four areas of emphasis:

- ♦ Occupant Protection
- ♦ Distracted Driving
- ♦ Speed and Aggressive Driving
- ♦ Impaired Driving

Retirement

Green Hills Regional Planning Commission celebrated Transition Director Jackie Soptic's retirement. Jackie was an integral part of the GHRPC'S growth and leadership for 33 years. The staff at GHRPC wish her all the best in her future endeavors.



Green Hills Rural Development, Inc.

GHRDI is a 501(c)3 development subsidiary of the Green Hills Regional Planning Commission. GHRDI offers its status to organizations and initiatives through the region that require a 501(c)3 conduit for IRS deduction purposes. This service saves the organization the costs involved in obtaining their own 501(c)3 and assists in record keeping and fund management. GHRDI is governed by an eleven member Board of Directors comprised of persons from the business and local government sectors.

The primary function of GHRDI is the administration of Revolving Loan Funds. Currently, the 501 (c)3 manages loan pools seeded by the USDA Rural Development, and the Community Development Block Grant/HUD program. Each loan pool has its distinct purpose and is intended to serve as gap financing to assist with the financing needs of new business start-ups or expansions. Prospective borrowers are required to present their loan requests to the Board and the members evaluate the merit and approval or denial of the request.

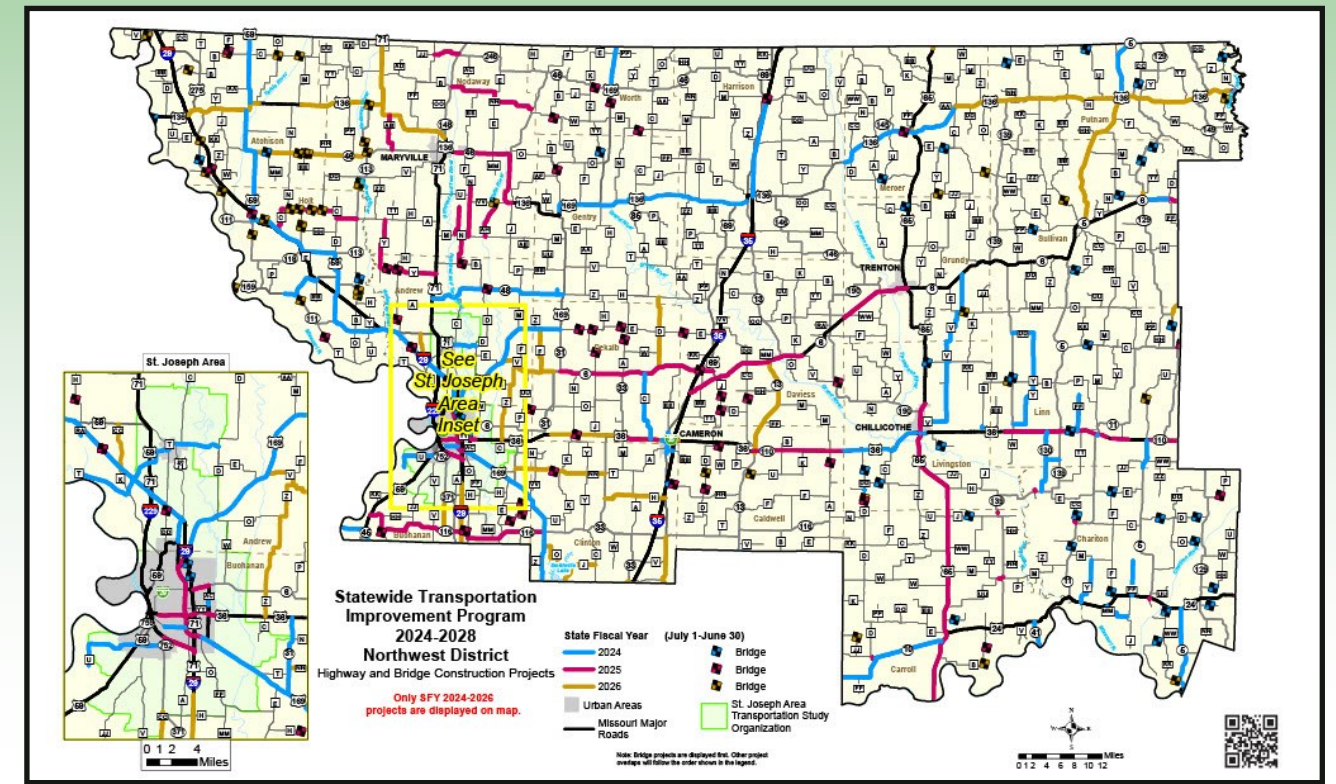


Business Transitioning

RDBG Business Transitioning is a new grant that was awarded to GHRDI for the purpose of helping entrepreneurs who are either retiring or closing their business. This is geared to help them find new people to either take over the business by different means.

GHRPC staff is assisting with the administration of the grant and GHRDI has contracted with Cup Half Full, run by Jackie Soptic, to host workshops and gather information to assist business owners with the transition.

Transportation Planning



Multimodal transportation encompasses freight movement, including over-the-road trucking, rail, air, and waterways. Multimodal also includes public transit options such as trains and buses, as well as bicycle and pedestrian travel routes such as trails and sidewalks.

In 2022, GHRPC, in partnership with AGRIServices of Brunswick, was awarded a Port Infrastructure Development Program Grant to increase barge handling and expand the capacity of the ASB facility.

This project includes:

1. A new heavy-lift sheet pile dock.
2. Replacement of four 40-year-old captive dock barges with tripod dolphins to increase boat crew and employee safety.
3. Replacement of a 40-year-old storage facility to increase capacity and product availability to assure crop production and safety.
4. A new rail spur to increase supply chain resiliency during low water or flooding events at the port.

The projects require \$11M in funding and will be completed as funding permits. The projects will also help the Port to become a more sustainable, multimodal facility with redundancy and resiliency for both people and goods.



Current CDBG Grant Projects

Community Development Block Grant Supports the planning and development within the Green Hills region to help create successful projects and better our counties.

Current Grant Projects	Jurisdiction	Project Type	Grant Amount	Administration Funds
Hamilton (Distribution)	City of Hamilton	Water Distribution	\$500,000.00	\$28,800.00
Hamilton (Drought)	City of Hamilton	Water Distribution	\$266,930.00	\$19,881.00
Caldwell Co. PWSD No. 3	Caldwell County	Water Distribution	\$349,256.00	\$19,340.00
Gallatin	City of Gallatin	Street Project	\$500,00.00	\$28,000.00
Princeton	City of Princeton	Water Treatment/Storage	\$750,000.00	\$38,000.00
Sullivan Drought PWSD No. 1	Sullivan County	Water Distribution	\$535,800.00	\$25,346.00
Milan	City of Milan	Water Distribution	\$243,700.00	\$18,963.00
Milan (Drought)	City of Milan	Water Distribution	\$176,216.00	\$16,393.00
Brunswick	City of Brunswick	Street Project	\$465,319.00	\$25,500.00
Laclede	City of Laclede	Street Project	\$500,00.00	\$28,846.00

Workforce Development

Workforce Statistics

- ♦ 79 customers enrolled in WIOA Program Services
- ♦ 5 (SNAP) Food Stamp Employment & Training customers enrolled
- ♦ 23 Youth Program participants
- ♦ More than 1,711 job orders listed with 3,000 vacancies in the Green Hills Sub-region

Success Story



Hunter Caldarello attended and graduated from Grand River Technical School receiving an Electrical Certificate of Completion in May 2022. He needed to complete an additional year at North Central Missouri College (NCMC) to obtain his Electrical Certification to become a licensed Electrician. He contacted the Trenton Job Center inquiring about WIOA services. He is the caregiver of his grandma and was not employed at the time of enrollment. He was unable to receive his Pell Grant due to academic probation from his past college days right out of high school. Hunter received a 4.0 GPA for both Fall and Spring Semesters. He graduated in May 2023 receiving a Certificate of Achievement as a AAS graduate with honors for the program of Applied Technology. Hunter is now employed full time at Modine Manufacturing as a Maintenance Electrician. Great job Hunter!

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Services

- ♦ Provides training services to low income adults, dislocated workers, and youth
- ♦ 4 dislocated workers enrolled in training
- ♦ 19 adults enrolled in training
- ♦ 15 youth enrolled in training

Services include but are not limited to: classroom occupational training, on-the-job training, job readiness workshops, staff-assisted job searches,, labor market information, the National Career Readiness Certificate assessment, job matching and referrals to jobs.

Workforce Development



Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

The Workforce Innovations and Opportunities Act (WIOA) authorizes Workforce Development Programs. As with all forms of government services, it is necessary to evaluate products and services to ensure that they are timely, up to date and valuable to our customers.

Building on the previous year's plan, Green Hills Regional Planning Commission Workforce Development staff have partnered with Job Center staff, Adult Education and Literacy (AEL), and Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), as well as other public assistance organizations and agencies to help provide additional services offered to job seekers in the region. These strengthened partnership efforts, add value to our customers' visits and deepen our efforts to braid resources where appropriate.

We continue to work with our customers to help them understand the importance of taking the lead in investing in their own futures. We help them learn to make choices that provide or improve employment, reduce or remove the need for public assistance, contribute to financial stability for them and their families, and grow local communities.

We are grateful to be able to continue to provide these services and programs in our local communities, make a difference one person at a time.

Job Center Services

- ♦ Re-employment Services
- ♦ Orientation to Job Center services
- ♦ Assessment of individual skills
- ♦ Provision of LMI to help customers make choices for training and employment
- ♦ Training information and WIOA training grants
- ♦ Service referrals for additional unmet needs
- ♦ Training opportunities through partner agencies
- ♦ Workshops
- ♦ Online computer training courseware



Broadband Development

In partnership with Missouri's Office of Broadband Development and the nineteen regional planning commissions, the University of Missouri System Office of Engagement and MU Extension facilitated listening sessions in October and November 2022 in 24 locations across the state. Two listening sessions were held in the GHRPC region. The findings of these listening sessions are vital to the state receiving federal funding for the expansion of internet service and the support of digital equity services and programs to connect all Missourians. The questions were consistent in all locations across the State, and the answers were recorded by location.

In the future, as the Broadband Infrastructure monies come through the region, GHRPC can assist by assessing future workforce needs across all infrastructure programs, identifying and expanding earn and learn opportunities, and assist the State Broadband Agency to develop relationships with non-governmental partners industry groups, workforce intermediary organizations, community-based organizations, unions and educational institutions.



Solid Waste Management District

North Missouri Solid Waste Management District – Region B was formed in 1992 in conjunction with Senate Bill 530, which created 20 Solid Waste Districts in Missouri. Region B is the largest District consisting of 11 counties in north central Missouri including Caldwell, Carroll, Chariton, Daviess, Grundy, Harrison, Linn, Livingston, Mercer, Putnam, and Sullivan. There are 74 communities in our 11-county district.

Recycling at the Missouri State Fair

Region B partners with the Missouri State Fair, the Missouri State Recycling Program, and the Missouri Recycling Association to promote recycling at the Missouri State Fair. Region B helps set out approximately 300 recycling containers throughout the fairgrounds for patrons of the State of Missouri to utilize. Ann had noticed a lot of recyclables going in the trash in the campground at the fair. When she asked the State Fair about it they said that they had avoided recycling in the campground area because they did not have staff to monitor the bins. Ann started a pilot program offering recycling in the campground in 2022. She was able to talk to patrons on the benefits of recycling while monitoring the bins. The first year was very successful and Ann hopes to add more bins in 2023. In 2022, there were 6.89 tons of cardboard, plastic, and aluminum recycled during the fair.



Missouri Product Stewardship Council

Region B has been very active in the Missouri Product Stewardship Council since its formation in 2018. Ann has been working on the pharmaceutical's workgroup where a map of all the locations in Missouri that accept unwanted prescriptions has been created. The workgroup is learning about the importance of proper medication disposal and participating in a discussion to develop the next steps for pharmaceutical stewardship in Missouri.

In Missouri households, medications make up the top 3 poisonous substances in children aged 5 years and younger with a record of 77,908 medication poisonings between 2015-2020 (Missouri Poison Center, 2020). More information: <http://www.tinyurl.com/missouri-meds> #MOSaferDisposal

District Grant Program

This program provides financial assistance to cities, counties, non-profits and other organizations that will develop new or improved programs that will reduce the generation of solid waste, will create new markets or improve markets for recovered material, or will improve the handling of items banned from landfills by Missouri law.

Hope Haven Industries, Inc. a sheltered workshop in Chillicothe received grant funding for \$20,000.00 to purchase a newer pickup, which will be used to collect and transport recyclables in our District.



For more information about NMSWMD or waste reduction and recycling opportunities in the North Missouri area, contact Ann Hamilton, NMSWMD Program Manager/Planner, at 660-359-5636 or by email at ann@ghrpc.org.
Find us on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068022312428>

Harrison County Collection

Harrison County had a banned and special item collection on October 29, 2022 to collect tires, electronics, scrap metal, appliances, rechargeable batteries, lead acid batteries, household batteries, and household hazardous waste.



Linn County Collection

A partnership with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources for a free Pesticide Collection was held in Brookfield on April 15, 2023. There were 12,393 pounds of herbicides and pesticides collected from 16 participants. The Missouri Pesticide Collection Program's mission is to help protect human health and the environment by collecting and ensuring safe disposal of waste pesticides from Missouri farmers and households while educating citizens of Missouri on how to properly manage and reduce pesticide waste.



Earth Day Poster Contests – The 1st Annual Earth Day Poster contest theme was “Recycle Right – Plastic Bottles and Aluminum Cans.” Ann Hamilton, NMSWMD Program Manager/Planner stated that “We were thrilled to see so many entries and hope that next year’s contest is even more successful.” There were 181 entries from 6 schools in our district and 61 students were honored with first and second place awards and honorable mentions. The contest was open to kindergarten through 12th grade and homeschool students who reside or attend school in our 11-county region. Schools participating were North Mercer R-3, Ridgeway R-5, Grundy County R-5, Cainsville R-1, Putnam County R-1, and Hale R-1.

