

From: [Soil & Water Conservation Program](#)
To: [DNR.Soil and Water Conservation Districts staff](#); [Soil & Water Conservation Program](#)
Cc: [DNR.MGS SWC Staff](#)
Subject: FW: Governor Kehoe Announces Jake Buxton as Director of Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Date: Friday, August 28, 2026 1:12:18 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good afternoon. Please see the press release below.

Thank you,

MoDNR Soil and Water Conservation Program
573-751-4932 | dnr.mo.gov



Please take a few minutes to complete our [Customer Satisfaction Survey](#). Thank you.

From: Office of Governor Mike Kehoe <mogov@mogov.dmarc.public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2026 11:31 AM
Subject: Governor Kehoe Announces Jake Buxton as Director of Missouri Department of Natural Resources

From the Communications Office of Governor Mike Kehoe

Mike Kehoe Missouri Governor



Governor Kehoe Announces Jake Buxton as Director of Missouri Department of Natural Resources

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 28, 2026

JEFFERSON CITY, MO – Today, Governor Mike Kehoe announced the appointment of Jake Buxton as director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Buxton currently serves as DNR deputy director, overseeing the department’s Division of State Parks, the Missouri Geological Survey, and the Division of Administrative Support.

"Throughout his career in public service, Jake has worked to build relationships with elected leaders, local governments, and stakeholders in agriculture, business, and non-profits, earning a reputation as a leader, trusted advisor, and knowledgeable advocate," said **Governor Kehoe**. "I am proud to welcome Jake to the Cabinet, and I am confident he will do an excellent job leading the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in its mission as a steward of our state's natural resources."

Buxton will assume the role of DNR director effective September 4, 2026, and awaits Missouri Senate confirmation.

"I would like to thank Governor Kehoe for the opportunity to lead the Department of Natural Resources as we move into the future," said **Buxton**. "We will continue to work closely with our stakeholders, including local communities and Missouri landowners, to steward our natural and cultural resources in a way that is beneficial to Missourians."

Prior to being named DNR deputy director in January 2025, Buxton previously worked in the Governor’s Office and as a legislative liaison for the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Buxton holds a bachelor’s degree in political science from Truman State University. [A headshot of Buxton is attached here.](#)

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Governor Mike Kehoe



About Governor Mike Kehoe

Mike Kehoe was sworn in as Missouri’s 58th Governor on January 13, 2025. Guided by a dedication to public service and a commitment to Missouri families, Governor Kehoe has made public safety, education, economic development, and agriculture the cornerstones of his administration.

