

NACo e-News



The National Association of Counties' biweekly electronic newsletter on current programs, projects and initiatives

January 24, 2012

Applications open for Five Star Restoration Grants

Receive national recognition for your county programs

Register now for NACo's Legislative Conference

Dear Member,

NACo membership renewals are coming in strong this year. That is good news for NACo and for all of America's counties! More than 85 percent understand the value of their membership in NACo and have renewed.

Counties benefit greatly from NACo membership. NACo's efforts include meetings at the White House with the President, Vice President and Cabinet members, meetings with members of Congress, saving money for counties through the U.S. Communities Cooperative Purchasing Program, retirement savings programs for county employees, saving residents money through the NACo Prescription Discount Card Program, and providing educational conferences, webinars and grants. NACo's research information and online resources at www.naco.org enable county staff to save time and money. If your county hasn't renewed its membership, I urge you to do it today. And, a special thank you to those counties that already have.

Lenny Eliason
NACo President
Commission President, Athens County, Ohio

This issue's question, "Who will win Super Bowl XLVI?" Click [here](#) to vote.

The last poll question asked, "With budgets extremely tight, what are the two biggest issues your county board is dealing with now?" The top two, with 61 percent saying funding from state and/or federal governments and 31 percent saying property taxes, followed closely by these two, 29 percent said economic development and 27 percent said job creation.

New from NACo



Applications open for Five Star Restoration Grants

Five Star provides \$10,000 to \$40,000 grants on a competitive basis to support community-based wetland, riparian and coastal habitat restoration projects. Winning projects build diverse partnerships and foster local natural resource stewardship through education, outreach and training activities. Applications can be submitted until Feb. 15. For more information and to apply, click

[here](#).

Contact: [Carrie Clingan](#) • 202.942.4246



Receive national recognition for your county programs

Applications for the NACo Achievement Award program are now available. New this year, all applications must be submitted electronically. In these tough times, this non-competitive awards program provides a way for counties and state associations of counties to recognize innovative programs and the dedicated employees who make these programs successful. Applications are due Feb. 13. For more information, including the 2012 application instructions and a

Quick Links

- [NACo Website](#)
- [Membership Information](#)
- [Legislative Bulletin](#)
- [Model Programs](#)
- [Past Issues of e-News](#)
- [County News Online](#)
- [News Room](#)
- [Government Purchasing](#)
- [Grants Clearinghouse](#)

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

[Forward to a Colleague](#)

Take the e-News Poll



[NACo Prescription Discount Card Program](#)



tutorial video, click [here](#).

Contact: [Kathryn Murphy](#) • 202.661.8806

Upcoming Events



Register for NACo's 2012 Legislative Conference

Attend and learn the most you can about current issues at over 20 educational sessions being presented at this year's Legislative Conference, March 3 - 7 in Washington, D.C. Plan your schedule now, set up appointments with your member of Congress and be the voice of your county. Register and book your hotel online now to maximize your dollars. For more information, including

registration and hotel information, click [here](#).

Contact: [Kim Struble](#) • 202.942.4288



National County Government Month planning guide now available

A booklet full of ideas to celebrate National County Government Month in April is available on the NACo website. It contains suggested activities, a draft proclamation, a sample news release, media outreach strategies and much more. Again this year, NACo will present an award to three counties for their outstanding NCGM

activities. New this year are awards for second place. Click [here](#) for details on National County Government Month.

Contact: [Jim Philipps](#) • 202.942.4220



Register now for 2012 WIR Conference in Santa Fe County, NM

This year's Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference, May 16 - 18, is being hosted by Santa Fe County and the city of Santa Fe, N.M. Topics will include: the National Environmental Policy Act, species conflicts, alternative energy development on public lands and economic development trends. Register by April 4 to receive a

discounted rate. To learn more about the WIR Conference and register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Amanda Clark](#) • 202.661.8804

NACo webinars

Enhancing Local Criminal Justice Practice with a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Thursday, Feb. 2, 2 - 3:15 p.m. EST

Criminal justice coordinating councils (CJCC) are a great resource for counties interested in effectively using funds in criminal justice policy and practice. Learn how to set up a CJCC. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Maeghan Gilmore](#) • 202.942.4261

Developing a Social Media Policy that's Right for Your County (Members only)

Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2 - 3:15 p.m. EST

Explore issues your county should consider when developing a social media policy, such as employee access, content and legal issues. Learn how counties developed their social media policies. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Jim Philipps](#) • 202.942.4220

Health Coverage for Your County Jail's Pretrial Population

Thursday, Feb. 23, 2 - 3:15 p.m. EST

Learn about possible opportunities for individuals held pretrial in county jails to gain health coverage through the Affordable Care Act and the potential implications for counties. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Maeghan Gilmore](#) • 202.942.4261

Webinars on Demand

Did you miss a webinar because you did not have the time? Have you viewed Webinars on Demand that highlight topics you might be dealing with? Viewing these webinars at your convenience is a great way to learn how other counties are dealing with issues and programs. Click [here](#) to see what you have missed.

Contact: [Amanda Odorimah](#) • 202.942.4225



About NACo – The Voice of America’s Counties

National Association of Counties (NACo) is the only national organization that represents county governments in the U.S. NACo provides essential services to the nation’s 3,068 counties. NACo advances issues with a unified voice before the federal government, improves the public’s understanding of county government, assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money.

Executive Director: Larry E. Naake

National Association of Counties
25 Massachusetts Ave NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20001 | Phone: 202.393.6226

www.naco.org | [NACo Staff Contact List](#)

Click [here](#) to unsubscribe

25 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20001