

NACo e-News



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

February 8, 2011

Counties concerned about budget cuts

Legislative Conference is only a month away – Register Now!

Grant available to address juvenile detention reform

Dear Member,

I hope you, your family and county have survived the harsh temperatures and "Monster" storms that most every state has endured this winter. As if county budgets weren't strained enough, snow removal, safety crews and overtime have added even more to fiscal difficulties. Please stay safe and warm and let us know if we can help.

This week's poll question, "Has your Department of Public Works' budget been busted by winter storms?" Click [here](#) to vote.

The last poll question asked, "Who will win Super Bowl XLV (45) being played in Tarrant County, Texas?" 64 percent cheered for the winning Green Bay Packers and 36 percent picked the Pittsburgh Steelers.

New from NACo



Counties concerned about budget cuts

NACo President Glen Whitley and Executive Director Larry Naake sent a letter last week to President Obama and congressional leaders expressing the deep concern by county governments that "too much emphasis will be placed on reductions to domestic, discretionary spending programs that will affect the American people." Click on these links to read: the letter to [President Obama](#), the letter to [congressional leaders](#), and [NACo's press release](#).

Contact: [Ed Rosado](#) • 202.942.4271

Immediate Past President Valerie Brown tapped by White House

NACo Immediate Past President Valerie Brown has been appointed by President Obama to serve on a new national advisory group on the development and implementation of a national strategy for disease prevention and health promotion. The advisory group will provide recommendations and advice to the National Prevention, Health Promotion, and Public Health Council. Click [here](#) for more information.

Contact: [Paul Beddoe](#) • 202.942.4234



Plan to celebrate National County Government Month in April

With two months to go, now is the perfect time to plan to celebrate National County Government Month (NCGM) in April. Booklets and materials to help you plan your county's activities are now available by contacting NACo or clicking [here](#). The theme for 2011 is "Serving Our Veterans, Armed Forces, and Their Families." New this year, NACo will present an award to three counties for their outstanding NCGM activities.

Contact: [Jim Philipps](#) • 202.942.4220

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[Legislative Bulletin](#)

[Model Programs](#)

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Take the e-News Poll



NACoRF receives grant to address juvenile detention reform

The National Association of Counties Research Foundation (NACoRF) was recently awarded a grant from the Annie E. Casey Foundation (AECF) to continue work on the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI). NACoRF has a longstanding partnership with AECF to advance juvenile detention reform. The \$30,000 grant will allow information dissemination and technical assistance to counties interested in learning about and adopting the JDAI model.

Contact: [Maeghan Gilmore](#) • 202.942.4261

2011 County Courthouse Awards Applications now available

Applications for the 2011 NACo County Courthouse Awards program are now available [here](#). The County Courthouse Awards program is sponsored by Siemens and recognizes innovative governance by county elected officials from NACo Member counties. Award winners will receive an engraved plaque that they can display in their county, recognition at the 2011 NACo Annual Conference and a \$5,000 college scholarship to present to a graduating high school senior. Awards will be given out in three categories: rural, suburban and urban. All NACo members are encouraged to apply. Applications must be received by April 29, 2011.

Contacts: [Dalen Harris](#) or [Erik Johnston](#) • 202.393.6226



Residents saving money with NACo prescription discount cards

If your county is not among the 1,375 counties taking advantage of the NACo Prescription Discount Card Program, what are you waiting for? Residents in participating counties have saved more than \$355 million over the past six years. The average savings per purchase is 24.9 percent. This NACo membership benefit program is free and easy for your county and your residents. Click [here](#) for information.

Contact: [Andrew Goldschmidt](#) • 202.942.4221

Delaware River Basin Forums to be held March 10

The Delaware River Basin Forums will bring together public, private and nonprofit entities that have a stake in the area's clean and plentiful water to shape local policy for drinking water protection, on March 10 in multiple locations. To learn more, click [here](#).

Contact: [Carrie Clingan](#) • 202.942.4246



Free NACo traffic congestion webinar recording available

NACo has archived its webinar on strategies to mitigate traffic congestion. You can view this presentation online at your convenience by clicking [here](#). AICP credits are available.

Contact: [James Davenport](#) • 202.661.8807

Coming up...



NACo Legislative Conference is only a month away

Two more congressional speakers have been added to the 2011 NACo Legislative Conference, March 5 -9, in Washington, D.C. Rep. Doc Hastings (R-Wash.), chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, and new U. S. Sen. Chris Coons (D-Del.), former county executive from New Castle County, DE, will address attendees. To see the full lineup of speakers, committee meetings and educational workshops being offered, click [here](#).

Contact: [Kim Struble](#) • 202.942.4288

Register now for Western Interstate Regional Conference

This year's Western Interstate Regional (WIR) Conference will take place May 18 - 20 in Chelan County (Wenatchee), Wash. Register before April 6 and save. To register, please see conference details and plan your participation click [here](#).

Contact: [Amanda Clark](#) • 202.661.8804



Free NACo webinars

Communities Working Together for Lasting Solutions: Increasing Public Participation (Members only)

Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2 – 3:15 p.m.

How communities work together to make difficult decisions matters. Discover how communities tackle problems using a well thought-out process for educating and engaging community members. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Trudy Rice](#) • 202.661.8805

Getting the Most of Your Conference Attendance

Thursday, Feb. 10, 2 – 3:15 p.m.

Review NACo's Legislative Conference schedule and opportunities with NACo staff. Begin now to plan your participation for the most benefit to your county and your leadership. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Ruth Nybro](#) • 202.942.4277

Communities Working Together for Lasting Solutions: Building Effective Leadership (Members only)

Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2 – 3:15 p.m. EST

Explore ways you can diversify your leadership base, as you prepare new leaders for future responsibilities. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Trudy Rice](#) • 202.661.8805

Tell Your County Story: Creating a Countywide Media/Communications Plan (Members only)

Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2 – 3:15 p.m.

If you don't tell your county's story, few will know. Learn the importance of having a countywide communications or media plan and the tools necessary to tell your county story. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Jim Philipps](#) • 202.942.4220

Implementing the Affordable Care Act: Updates and Upcoming Issues

Thursday, Feb. 24, 2 – 3:15 p.m.

Learn about upcoming provisions in the health reform law, current state implementation efforts and the potential effects of the new political climate. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Anita Cardwell](#) • 202.942.4267

Other Free Webinars of Interest

Tracking County Building Performance

Tuesday, Feb. 8, 3:30-4:45 p.m. EST

Learn about the free tools available to you to track your buildings' energy use and to make improvements. Leslie Cook of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will introduce the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager tool. Gene Hepler of Mohave County, Arizona's Office of Management and Budget will discuss his county's own success using Portfolio Manager. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Eryn Rosenblum](#) • 202.661.8834

USDA Food and Nutrition Service Summer Food Service Program Webinar

Thursday, March 3, 3 – 4:00 p.m. p.m.

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service is offering a free webinar outlining the Summer Food Service Program which provides nutritious meals to low-income children during the summer months. State and local elected officials and staff are encouraged to join the webinar and learn about the benefits of and how to participate in this federally funded program. Click [here](#) to register.

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

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