

# NACo e-News



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

March 8, 2011

**Expanded Media Relations Guide for Counties available**

**Apply today for an EPA Smart Growth Achievement Award**

**Check out NACo's Green Government Database**

**U.S. Communities announces new online marketplace**

Dear Member,

NACo is in the midst of its 2011 Legislative Conference. More than 1,300 elected and appointed county officials and staff are in Washington, D.C. setting NACo policy, meeting with Administration officials and Congressional representatives as well as attending educational workshops. For details on the conference and outcomes, please read *County News* in print or online at [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org) or check out [NACo's Facebook page](#).

This week's poll question, "Should your state pass legislation limiting the collective bargaining rights of public employees similar to what Gov. Scott Walker has proposed in Wisconsin?" Click [here](#) to vote.

The last poll question asked, "Congress must pass a continuing resolution by March 4, to fund the federal government for the remainder of FY11. Do you think the federal government will shut down for an undetermined period of time before reaching a resolve? 56 percent said no and 44 percent said yes.

## New from NACo



### Expanded Media Relations Guide for Counties available

The new and improved Media Relations Guide for Counties is now available for members. In addition to the DOs and DON'Ts of speaking with a reporter, the free guide contains new sections detailing best practices for using Facebook and Twitter, as well as tips on making the most of your out-of-county travel to events such as NACo conferences. Please call NACo to get a guide sent to you or click [here](#) to download the electronic version.

Contact: [Jim Philipps](#) • 202.942-4220

### Apply today for an EPA Smart Growth Achievement Award

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is now accepting applications for the 10th Annual National Award for Smart Growth Achievement. EPA will recognize communities that have successfully used smart growth principles in the following areas: programs, policies and regulations; smart growth and green building; civic places; and rural smart growth. Winners will be recognized at a ceremony in December in Washington, D.C. The entry deadline is April 6. To view the application and complete entry guidelines, click [here](#).

Contact: [James Davenport](#) • 202.661.8807

### 2011 Arts and Culture Award applications now being accepted



## Quick Links

[NACo Website](#)

[Membership Information](#)

[Legislative Bulletin](#)

[Model Programs](#)

[County News Online](#)

[News Room](#)

[Government Purchasing](#)

[Grants Clearinghouse](#)

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

[Forward to a Colleague](#)

# Take the e-News Poll





Has your county used arts, culture or historic preservation to address a particular issue or recently completed a project that preserves arts and culture in the community? Submit an application for the 2011 NACo Arts and Culture Award. Applications are due April 15. To view the application, click [here](#).

Contact: [Jacqueline Byers](#) • 202.942.4285

**U.S. Communities announces new online marketplace**

The U.S. Communities Marketplace has been updated with many new features to help public agencies find the resources they need. Contracts are available for technology products and equipment, electrical and data communications, maintenance, repair and operations and many more. Go to the [U.S. Communities website](#) and click on the "Shop Now" button. In addition, U.S. Communities will be hosting several webinars about the new marketplace. Click [here](#) to register. Contact: [Nancy Parrish](#) • 202.661.8824



**Check out NACo's Green Government Database**

Looking for examples of how other counties are implementing sustainable practices in their communities? NACo is unveiling its new NACo Green Government Database, a searchable tool of the best examples of county greening strategies, policies, staff descriptions and more. To access it, click [here](#).

Contact: [Cindy Wasser](#) • 202.942.4274

**New award to recognize best NCGM activities**

NACo has created an award to honor three counties for their outstanding National County Government Month (NCGM) activities. The awards will be presented at the Annual Conference in July. April is NCGM, and this year's theme is "Serving Our Veterans, Armed Forces and Their Families." For information about the award and this year's activities, click [here](#). To submit an online award application for your counties' efforts, click [here](#).

NCGM booklets are also available by contacting NACo.

Contact: [Tom Goodman](#) • 202.942.4222

# Coming up...



**Rail Conference to be held in April**

Make plans now to attend the 2011 Rail Conference, "Moving Freight and Passengers in the 21st Century," in Du Page County, Ill., a suburb of Chicago, April 27 – 29. This conference will focus on the impact of freight and passenger rail on county, city and state governments and their citizens and businesses and more. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Bob Fogel](#) • 202-942-4217

**2011 WIR Conference optional tour information available**

The Western Interstate Regional (WIR) Conference will take place May 18 – 20 in Chelan County (Wenatchee), Wash. The county has organized two optional tours for May 17 showcasing the area's thriving agriculture, natural resources and energy industry. Each tour is \$35 and is not covered by the conference registration fee. More information is available [here](#).

Contact: [Amanda Clark](#) • 202.661.8804



**Register today for the 2011 NACo Annual Conference**

Registration is now open for NACo's Annual Conference to be held July 15 – 19 in Multnomah County (Portland), Ore. More than 40 educational sessions are being prepared along with abundant networking events to further your educational and informational experience. Plan to see more of Portland and the Northwest before or after the conference. Click [here](#) for information and to register.

Contact: [Kim Struble](#) • 202.942.4288



# Free NACo webinars

---

## **Innovative Practices for County Leaders: Promoting County Government in Your Community (Members only)**

*Wednesday, March 23, 2 – 3:15 p.m. EDT*

NACo Research Director Jacqueline Byers moderates a panel of officials and staffers on programs, services and activities that promote county government. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Jackie Byers](#) • 202.942.4285

## **Rural Counties and Health Reform: Community Health Needs Assessments**

*Thursday, March 24, 2 – 3:15 pm EDT*

Learn how new requirements in the health reform law for nonprofit hospitals can help counties ensure the health care safety net burden is shared. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Anita Cardwell](#) • 202.942.4267

## **Using a Neighborhood Rating System to Measure Sustainable Development**

*Thursday, March 31, 2 – 3:15 p.m. EDT*

Staff from NACo and the U.S. Green Building Council will introduce the new LEED for Neighborhood Development Rating System (LEED-ND) and demonstrate how it can be used to support your overall sustainable development goals. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Jared Lang](#) • 202.942.4224

## **A New Wave of Tools for Coastal County Resiliency**

*Thursday, April 14, 2 – 3:15 p.m. EDT*

Are you in a coastal county? Haven't visited the Digital Coast? Get a sneak peek at upcoming tools and learn about NACo's Digital Coast partnership. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Carrie Clingan](#) • 202.942.4246

---

## **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](http://www.naco.org) | [NACo Staff Contact List](#)

Click [here](#) to unsubscribe

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