

NACo e-News



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

September 6, 2011

Join the 9/11 'National Moment of Remembrance'

NACo takes stand on control of federal deficit

Registration opens for Coastal Counties Forum

Free webinars planned on key county issues

Dear William,

Earthquakes, hurricanes, wild fires and excessive heat are testing county officials across the country to meet the needs of their residents. Ten years ago, county officials in three areas were tested in a different way by the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The 10th anniversary of the attacks is this Sunday. Please make sure your county is participating in the "National Moment of Remembrance." Check the news item below for more details.

This issue's poll question is: With the added security measures, do you think our country is safer now from terrorist attacks than it was 10 years ago? Click [here](#) to vote.

The poll question from the last issue asked, "Do you think the United States news media would resort to hacking methods to gain or create news stories?" Ninety-two (92) percent of the respondents said yes; 8 percent said no.

New from NACo



Join 'A National Moment of Remembrance' on 9/11 anniversary

U.S. Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.) has sponsored and received unanimous support for his resolution, S. R. 237, "A National Moment of Remembrance" at 1 p.m. EDT on September 11, 2011, to pause and remember those we lost as a result of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The senator is asking counties, cities and towns across America to sound sirens and ring bells at that time. For more

information and details please see the following links:

- [Letter from Lautenberg to County Officials](#)
- [Senate Resolution 237 — A National Moment of Remembrance](#)
- [9/11 National Moment of Remembrance flyer](#)

Please send your media coverage to NACo (via Jim Philipps) so that it can be shared with Senator Lautenberg and NACo members.

Contact: [Jim Philipps](#) • 202.942.4220

NACo takes stand on control of federal deficit

NACo supports a balanced approach to tackling America's debt, according to a letter sent on August 31 by NACo President Lenny Eliason to the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction. The letter includes four key principles adopted by the NACo membership that should guide discussion as options are considered by the committee. The principles are:

- 1) The budgetary deficit cannot be solved only by cutting domestic, non-military discretionary programs.
- 2) Deficit reduction should not be accomplished by shifting costs to counties, (e.g. cuts to Medicaid), imposing unfunded mandates, or by preempting county programs or taxing authority.
- 3) Federal assistance to state and local governments will help mitigate further public-sector layoffs.

Quick Links

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NACo Prescription Discount Card Program



- 4) Federal investment in state and local infrastructure produces private-sector jobs.

The committee is charged with recommending by November 23 steps to reduce the federal deficit by \$1.5 trillion over a 10 - year period. The committee's recommendations will then be put to a simple up or down vote by Congress by December 23. If the committee fails to agree on a package or the full Congress fails to pass it, "trigger mechanisms" would enact \$1.2 trillion in automatic spending cuts to serve as the second installment of deficit reduction measures. To read the letter, click [here](#).

Contact: [Ed Rosado](#) • 202.942.4271



U.S. Communities adds new supplies and services contract

Lead public agency Maricopa County, Ariz. has awarded the Maintenance, Repair and Operating (MRO) Supplies contract to [The Home Depot](#), [HD Supply Facilities Maintenance](#) and [Applied Industrial Technologies](#). The contract was competitively solicited and awarded on Aug. 1 and is now available for use by participating agencies nationwide. It provides deeper discounts, improved rebate structure, additional MRO-supplies products and enhanced services to U.S. Communities participating agencies. U.S. Communities will be conducting webinars on each of the new supplier partners. Information at www.uscommunities.org.

Contact: [Jim Sawyer](#) • 202.661.8868



Registration open for the 2011 Coastal Counties Forum

Join NACo in Chatham County (Savannah), Ga. on Oct. 27–28 for a one-and-a-half-day forum to discuss how your coastal county can take better advantage of public and private resources to build resilient, sustainable ecosystems and economies. The forum will include information and discussions about how counties can best use data, tools, partnerships and technical assistance to grow local

economies and enhance coastal ecosystems. To register, visit

www.naco.org/coastalforum.

Contact: [Carrie Clingan](#) • 202.942.4246

New foreclosure publication produced

Foreclosures have been a daunting problem for counties and residents for the past several years. To help counties deal with the problem, NACo has produced a new publication that explains the negative impacts of foreclosures on counties, and the approaches county leaders and housing professionals are taking to help alleviate those impacts. To view, click [here](#).

Contact: [James Davenport](#) • 202.661.8807



Pipeline planning and safety summary report available

The Pipelines and Informed Planning Alliance (PIPA) Summary Report aims to help build county officials' capacity to improve transmission pipeline safety, especially through the development and implementation of local land use policies and practices. This publication conveys the findings of the PIPA Report (released in December 2010) and distills the information pertinent to county

governments. To access the summary, click [here](#).

Contact: [James Davenport](#) • 202.661.8807

GASB releases accounting standards improvement drafts

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) recently released its proposed improvements to its standards for reporting on and accounting for the pensions that governments provide to their employees. Released in two "exposure drafts," the proposals relate only to accounting and financial reporting and do not apply to how governments approach the funding of their pension plans. GASB is currently seeking comments through Sept. 30. The drafts and plain-language supplement can be found [here](#).

Contacts: [Jackie Byers](#) • 202.942.4285; [Mike Belarmino](#) • 202.942.4254

Free NACo webinars

Use Hazard Mitigation Funding Opportunities to Strengthen Your Community (Members only)

Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2–3:15 p.m. EDT.

Learn how your county can use its Hazard Mitigation Plan to apply for funds to strengthen the community against future disasters. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Dalen Harris](#) • 202.942.4236



Preparing Your County for Electric Vehicles

Thursday, Sept. 15, 2–3:15 p.m. EDT.

Find out how to prepare your community and build the infrastructure necessary to operate and maintain electric vehicles for both internal county and community-wide use. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Jared Lang](#) • 202.942.4224

Disaster Financial Recovery Solution: The Integration of FEMA & Insurance (Members only)

Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2–3:15 p.m. EDT.

Discover how you can effectively coordinate FEMA funds and insurance to ensure each recovery project is funded to the fullest extent. See recovery strategies with respect to what's covered/eligible, how claims are valued and what funding you can expect to receive. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Dalen Harris](#) • 202.942.4236

Leveraging Public-Private Partnerships to Promote County Health

Thursday, Sept. 22, 2–3:15 p.m. EDT.

Learn how cooperating with the private sector can increase the capacity of your local health-promotion efforts, and how your county can capitalize on public-private community collaborations. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Anita Cardwell](#) • 202.942.4267

Improving Local and State Partnerships in Sentencing and Corrections

Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2–3:15 p.m. EDT.

See how states and counties are developing more effective partnerships in the criminal justice field. Hear about performance incentive funding, an example of a new fiscal relationship between states and counties that can improve public safety and control costs. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Rebecca Hsieh](#) • 202.942.4279

Green Purchasing 2.0: No Compromising on Cost & Performance

Thursday, Oct. 13, 2–3:15 p.m. EDT.

An increasing number of counties and organizations are using tools to identify and find sources to purchase green products. During this webinar, learn how you can find these products for use in your county and how NACo's tools can help you. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Jared Lang](#) • 202.942.4224

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.

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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.

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