



CIDS

County Information and Data Service

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DATES TO REMEMBER

JUNE 8-10, 2008	CCA O/CEAO ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE, RENAISSANCE QUAIL HOLLOW, LAKE COUNTY (PAINESVILLE)
JUNE 17, 2008	LADIES GALLERY DEDICATION & RE-ENACTMENT PHOTO AT STATEHOUSE
JUNE 18, 2008	OFSWCD/CCA O LAND, WATER, PEOPLE: SUSTIANING HEALTHY CONSERVATION THROUGH CONSERVATION” TOUR, HOCKING COUNTY (LOGAN)
JUNE 20, 2008	CCA O WORKERS’ COMPENSATION ANNUAL MEETING, HOLIDAY INN COLUMBUS-WORTHINGTON, COLUMBUS
JULY 11-15, 2008	NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE, JACKSON COUNTY (KANSAS CITY), MISSOURI (WWW.NACO.ORG)
JULY 14, 2008	CCA O LUNCHEON AND CAUCUS, KANSAS CITY MARRIOTT, JACKSON COUNTY (KANSAS CITY), MISSOURI
JULY 28, 2008	NW DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS AND ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING, OTTAWA COUNTY (PUT-IN-BAY)
AUGUST 6, 2008	CCA O ANNUAL GOLF OUTING, OAKHAVEN COUNTRY CLUB, DELAWARE COUNTY (DELAWARE)
AUGUST 19-20, 2008	COUNTY COMMISSIONER DAYS, ROSS COUNTY (CHILLICOTHE)
AUGUST 29, 2008	CORSA ANNUAL MEETING, THE RAMADA PLAZA HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER, COLUMBUS

ASSOCIATION NEWS

WANTED: 88 COUNTY REP’S FOR JUNE 17TH STATEHOUSE EVENT...

... To hold county flag on Statehouse steps for photo – RSVP form attached to CIDS

A celebration is in the works for Tuesday, June 17 at the Statehouse to dedicate the Ladies Gallery inside the Capitol and to re-enact a picture on the Statehouse West Steps from an historic Woman’s Suffrage Rally in 1914. Capitol Square Foundation and the Capitol Square Review & Advisory Board have asked for CCAO and counties to assist with this special event!

The Ladies' Gallery is a place of honor and learning in the Ohio Statehouse. The room pays homage to the first women Ohio legislators who paved the way for women in government and honors all women who have served in the Ohio General Assembly. Its enduring function will be to inform and inspire all who visit – especially young women and girls – to take an active role in democracy.

Specifically, they would like a representative, (preferably a woman, though all are welcome) from each county to hold their county flag in a reenactment photo at 1:00 p.m. on the Statehouse West Steps. Flags will be provided by CSRAB. Individuals are asked to assemble at 12:30 p.m. in preparation. The Ladies' Gallery Dedication will take place at 2:00 p.m. following the photo.

Participants are asked to wear white clothing in honor of the event. An RSVP form is attached. If you have questions, please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904 or at mjneiman@ccao.org.

PHOTOS NEEDED: OHIO STATEHOUSE MUSEUM PHOTO PROJECT

The Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board (CSRAB) has developed a design plan to create updated, high-tech, interactive exhibits and educational programs at the Ohio Statehouse. CSRAB and CCAO have partnered on this project and seek the assistance of all counties. The Ohio Statehouse Museum Web site portal is featured on the front page and under the education tab of the Statehouse Web site – www.ohiostatehouse.org. The new Ohio Statehouse Museum is scheduled to be completed in early March 2009.

How can counties participate? Thanks to **Allen, Champaign, Clinton, Fayette, Hancock, Henry, Knox, Putnam, Ross, Stark, Summit, Wayne, Wood and Wyandot** counties for submitting CDs containing photos for the new Ohio Statehouse Museum project! These photos highlight individuals who have come to serve their fellow citizens and make a difference either as governors, legislators, business people, farmers, concerned citizens and even school children.

At this point, the CSRAB still needs A LOT of photos to make the exhibition work. Without your county's participation, the project will not be as successful. Counties that have participated have been very thoughtful in who they chose for the photos. However, CSRAB is willing to still accept any and all images to make the project successful. Counties may still submit photos of 25 individuals. The photos can be random people who are young, old, male, female, etc. Photos do NOT need to be the top historical figures of the county. The Ohio Statehouse is working hard to highlight the diversity throughout our great state.

The Ohio Statehouse Web site highlights plans of the interactive museum, including a fly-through video. The Ohio Statehouse Museum Web site portal is featured on the front page and under the education tab of the Statehouse Web site – www.ohiostatehouse.org. The new Ohio Statehouse Museum is scheduled to be completed in early March 2009.

The deadline has been extended to July 15, 2008 due to the importance and significance of the project. If you have any questions, please contact the Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board at (614) 752-9777.

A GREAT "LAKE" EXPERIENCE – ATTEND THE CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE!

Join Lake County Commissioners Robert Aufuldish, Raymond Sines, and Daniel Troy and County Engineer James Gills for the 128th CCAO/CEAO Annual Summer Conference to be held June 8-10, 2008 at the Renaissance Quail Hollow Resort in Concord. Geographically, Lake County is the smallest of Ohio's 88 counties with magnificent coastal and country vistas. Some of the most unique features are the 31 miles of shoreline and two major rivers flowing through the county that provide harbors and marinas for shipping and superb recreational opportunities. Large national and regional companies call Lake County home. International business prospers with access to air and water transportation and the wine industry thrives in fertile soil and the ideal climate for grape production. For a current agenda and more information go to CCAO's website (www.ccao.org). Click on the link on the front page.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER DAYS – AUG. 19-20

Ross County Commissioners Jim Caldwell, Frank Hirsch, and Doug Corcoran and OSU Extension invite you to attend County Commissioner Days on August 19-20, 2008 in historic Ross County (Chillicothe). Plan to bring your family to enjoy Ohio's First Capital. Opportunities include educational sessions, local tours, a trip to Tecumseh – an outdoor historical drama production, an optional golf outing and the many other tourist attractions that you can experience on your own. Registration information will be distributed in June, so save the dates and plan to attend.

LAND, WATER, PEOPLE: SUSTAINING HEALTHY CONSERVATION THROUGH CONSERVATION TOUR

Join the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (OFSWCD), CCAO, and your local Soil & Water Conservation District representative for educational tours on June 18, 2008. "Land, Water, People: Sustaining Healthy Conservation Through Conservation" Tour is hosted by Hocking County. Meet by 9:30 a.m. at the Chieftain Elementary School parking lot, located at the corner of U.S. Route 33 and State Route 180, in Logan. Buses will depart at 10:00 a.m. and return at 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be served.

The tours will focus on successful conservation programs in Hocking County. Tour highlights: livestock farming, wetland development, reclaimed strip mine land productivity, federal conservation programs, forestry practices, manure/mortality composting, educational programs, and recreational projects.

There is no charge to attend, but pre-registration is necessary. Registration deadline: June 9, 2008. For more information please contact the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, P.O. Box 24518, Columbus, OH 43224, (614) 784-1900 or www.ofswcd.org. In addition, you can e-mail Mindy Bankey, CEO, at mindybankey@ofswcd.org or Laura Hollingsworth, Administrative Assistant, at laurahollingsworth@ofswcd.org.

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

HOUSE PASSES COMPREHENSIVE MORTGAGE RESCUE PACKAGE

The House recently passed a comprehensive package of legislation aimed at addressing the months-long mortgage turmoil in the nation's housing industry.

The legislation included several major pieces.

- H.R. 5830 - FHA Housing Stabilization and Homeownership Retention Act
- H.R. 1852 - Expanding American Homeownership Act
- H.R. 1427 - Federal Housing Finance Reform Act
- H.R. 5579 - Emergency Loan Modification Act
- Protections for veterans and service members, such as expanding the VA Home Loan limit in high-cost areas, and foreclosure mitigation and assistance.
- Tax provisions - the bill includes a temporary homeowner state and local real property tax deduction. It also includes a first-time homebuyer tax credit that is an interest-free loan equal to 10 percent of the purchase price of their home, up to \$7,500.

The package also included language that provided a \$10 billion increase in housing bond authority to provide the loans for first-time homebuyers and to finance the construction of low-income housing. Some tax-exempt bonds could also be used to assist with the refinancing of subprime loans.

The bill increases the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit allocation limit, and allows Federal Home Loan Banks to enhance the credit of tax-exempt bonds.

The legislation now moves to the Senate, where a bill more limited in scope was passed in April. The Senate bill, an industry-oriented package of tax rebates, included \$4 billion for the CDBG program to assist communities. It also included temporary property tax deductions to homeowners who do not

itemize but who pay property taxes, provided that their county does not raise property taxes for the period of time between April 2, 2008 and January 1, 2009.

This language is particularly troubling for local governments and is expected to be a point of discussion in future talks. The House package of housing legislation now moves to the Senate, where it faces an uncertain future.

In a related development, the House also passed H.R. 5818, the Neighborhood Stabilization Act, on a 239-188 vote. The act authorizes \$15 billion in federal grants and loans to help state and local governments to purchase, rehabilitate, resell or rent foreclosed homes. For more information go to the related story on the front page of www.naco.org.

FARM BILL NOW LAW DESPITE MISSING SECTION

On May 21, the president vetoed the farm bill as expected. The House voted to override the veto by a vote of 316 to 108, only to discover that due to an error by the enrolling clerk's office, the bill that was sent to the President was missing the trade title.

As a result, House leadership decided to have a second vote on passage of the farm bill conference report. The House voted May 22, 306-110, to approve the same bill that had been approved the week before. The Senate voted to override the president's veto the same day by a vote of 82-13. Therefore, 14 of the 15 farm bill titles are now the law of the land and USDA is turning its attention to implementation of the massive bill. The Senate took up the complete conference report after the Memorial Day recess to ensure inclusion of the trade title, with a presidential veto and congressional override to follow.

The conference report misses an opportunity to fund the **Rural Development** title, but still authorizes many programs critical to rural counties and provides \$150 million in mandatory funding. NACo and its partners in the Campaign for a Renewed Rural Development led the effort to call on conferees to restore mandatory funding for rural development which had been reduced to zero during conference negotiations.

Mandatory funding is especially important for rural development programs because authorized programs are competing for an increasingly limited amount of discretionary dollars.

The bulk of the mandatory funding will go towards the \$2 billion backlog in pending water and wastewater loan/grant applications from rural communities. The bill provides \$120 million in mandatory funding for these pending applications. It also reauthorizes water, waste disposal and wastewater facility grants at \$30 million a year through 2012.

A new Rural Microenterprise Assistance Initiative with \$15 million in mandatory funding was created. The initiative will provide low- and moderate-income individuals small loans of \$50,000 or less to establish new small businesses in rural areas. The Value-Added Agricultural Market Development Program Grants received \$15 million in mandatory funding and are authorized at \$40 million per year.

The Rural Collaborative Investment Program championed by Sen. Tom Harkin (D-Iowa) did not receive the mandatory funding originally contained in the Senate's version of the farm bill, but the innovative new program did make it into the final bill and is authorized at \$135 million over five years.

The bill makes some changes to **agricultural policy**. The first ever specialty crop title, provides support to fruit and vegetable growers, including farmers' markets. It also maintains a safety net for farmers but sets new standards for farm commodity and disaster program benefit eligibility by mandating that these benefits only be available if farm income does not exceed \$750,000 or non-farm income does not exceed \$500,000.

Conservation programs did well in the conference report with approximately \$4 billion in additional resources. The renamed Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) will enroll nearly 115 million acres by 2017. The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) received an increase in budget authority of \$3.4 billion over the next 10 years and the Wetlands Reserve Program received \$1.3 billion, enough to enroll 1.22 million acres of wetlands over the next five years.

The **Energy** title promotes renewable energy and has one program specifically targeted to rural communities. The title provides more than \$250 million in mandatory funding for grants and loans for rural renewable energy and energy-efficiency systems. Biomass processing is encouraged through loans, but the bill does not overturn the prohibition of using biomass from federal lands. Advanced biofuels such as biodiesel and cellulosic biofuels are encouraged through \$300 million in mandatory funding for research and development.

Counties could directly benefit from the new Rural Energy Self-Sufficiency Initiative championed by Rep. Jeff Fortenberry (R-Neb.). The program is designed to create models of energy independence on a rural community level. The program is authorized at \$5 million per year from 2009–2012. Rural communities will be able to apply for grants to conduct an energy assessment that assesses the total energy use of all energy users, formulate and analyze ideas for reducing energy usage from conventional sources, and develop and install an integrated renewable energy system. For more information please contact: Erik Johnston, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4230 or ejohnston@naco.org and Marilina Sanz, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4260 or msanz@naco.org.

SENATE APPROVES BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANTS AS PART OF SUPPLEMENTAL PACKAGE

On May 22, the Senate voted 75 to 22 in support of the domestic spending amendment to the 2008 supplemental. The amendment includes the full \$490 million for Byrne/JAG among other domestic programs. Twenty-five Republicans supported the proposal in the face of White House opposition. The bill now goes back to the House where its future is uncertain. (Contact: Donald Murray, NACo Senior Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4239 or dmurray@naco.org)

NACo ACTIVITIES

NACo 73rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION

The National Association of Counties (NACo) and

Jackson County (Kansas City), Missouri invite you to join over 2,000 appointed and elected officials from across the nation this summer for NACo's 73rd Annual Conference & Exposition to be held July 11-15, 2008. This is the only national conference and exposition dedicated solely to county government. Conference registration is now open! Register for the conference and housing online at www.naco.org to save \$25 per registrant. Click on the article about the conference on the front page. The early bird discount expires on May 30. For more information please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904 or mjneiman@ccao.org.

2008-2009 NACo STEERING COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

The nomination process for membership on NACo policy steering committees in 2008-2009 is underway. As a NACo steering committee member, you are responsible for debating and creating national policies and priorities affecting counties and serve on NACo's front line in their grassroots efforts. Committees meet at the NACo legislative and annual conferences and one other time during the year. You will be responsible for your own travel. Attendance and participation in the committee is important.

NACo has eleven steering committees: Agriculture & Rural Affairs; Community & Economic Development; Environment, Energy & Land Use; Finance & Intergovernmental Relations; Health; Human Services & Education; Justice & Public Safety; Labor & Employment; Public Lands; Telecommunications & Technology; and Transportation. If you choose to serve as a member of a steering committee again, you may serve on the same committee or join another committee.

CCAO processes all nominations for Ohio public officials before being sent to NACo. If you would like to serve on a NACo committee for 2008-2009, please respond by **Friday, June 13, 2008**. Nominations will be approved by the incoming NACo President after the NACo Annual Conference which will be held July 11-15, 2008 in Jackson

County (Kansas City), Missouri. NACo will announce your appointment in September 2008.

For more information about NACo Steering Committees please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904 or mjneiman@ccao.org.

VOTING CREDENTIALS – 2008 NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The NACo Annual Conference will be held July 11-15, 2008 in Jackson County (Kansas City), Missouri. To ensure that member counties can participate in the NACo annual election of officers and policy adoption for the “American County Platform,” the NACo staff needs your help!

In order to vote a county must have paid its membership dues for 2008 and have one paid registrant for the conference, according to NACo bylaws. Credentials information and a “NACo 2008 Credentials (Voting) Identification Form” were distributed on May 7 to member counties. Please indicate on the form the name of the voting delegate and alternate authorized to pick up your county’s voting materials. You must also indicate your county’s choice on the form in the event that your delegate does not pick up the county’s ballot. Your choices are:

- Allow **another county within your state** to pick up your ballot
- Allow **CCAO President Daniel Troy (or designee, such as CCAO Executive Director Larry Long)** to pick up your ballot
- Allow **no one** to pick up your county’s ballot.

Additionally, the president of the board of county commissioners must sign the form. On-site balloting procedures have also changed.

Please fill out the “NACo 2008 Credentials (Voting) Identification Form” in advance and return it by Friday, June 27 to: Credentials Committee, c/o Emily Landsman, National Association of Counties, 25 Massachusetts Avenue, NW – Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20001, (202) 942-4242, fax (202) 393-2630 or elandsman@naco.org. More information can also be found on the front page of www.naco.org.

If you have any questions about CCAO’s voting procedures at the NACo Conference, please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904 or mjneiman@ccao.org.

CLASSIFIEDS

OEQ PROJECT MANAGER

The Board of Clermont County Commissioner's - Clermont County Sewer District - Office Of Environmental Quality (OEQ) is accepting employment applications for a full-time OEQ Project Manager. Provides technical assistance and administrative oversight in the management and application of projects and processes. Acts in the capacity of the supervisor in his or her absence. Prepares technical reports and associated paperwork. Attends meetings, conferences, seminars, and training sessions. Handles public relations functions for the department. Works alone or with other persons in short- or long-term team projects to resolve problems or conflicts in any area of county operations or to complete assigned projects at the direction of any county supervisor or department head when assigned. Participates in cross-training and maintains proficiency in area of cross-training as necessary. New and other related duties as assigned. Reports safety/risk management issues to immediate supervisor. Emergency response required.

Qualifications: High school diploma or GED equivalent. Completion of undergraduate major core course work in environmental sciences, earth sciences, public administration, or a related field; or five years’ experience in a similar position or education, training and/or experience in an amount equal to the minimum qualifications stated above. Applicants must meet the minimum requirements. Conditions and procedures for selection will be consistent with Clermont County Personnel Policy and/or Collective Bargaining Agreement if applicable. Also, certain classifications, because of the nature of the work, require pre-placement and/or periodic physical examinations which may include drug/alcohol screening tests.

Position requires a strong working knowledge of environmental issues, especially water quality and solid waste. Knowledge of/experience in laboratory analysis, field sampling methodology, report writing, public communication, contract management and data analysis is preferred. This position would primarily be responsible for maintaining annual surface water monitoring program consistent with OEPA Level III Credible Data Rules, maintaining stream gauges and data sondes, interfacing with contractors and laboratories, maintaining a web page, responding to citizen enquiries and preparing written communication to citizens and local officials.

Deadline: 4:30 p.m. on **June 8, 2008**. Contact Information: Human Resources, 101 East Main Street - Room 322, Batavia, OH 45103, (513) 732-7110 or www.co.clermont.oh.us. A completed employment application is required and must be received in the Human Resources Department by 4:30 P.M. on the posted deadline date. A resume can also be attached for consideration. Neither faxed nor e-mailed documents are acceptable.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Mental Health and Recovery Board of Wayne and Holmes Counties is seeking an experienced professional to lead our agency in achieving its mission of providing a unified and comprehensive system of behavioral health services for the citizens of Wayne and Holmes Counties. The Executive Director manages and directs all operations of the Board. With responsibility for over \$12 million, the Board funds and monitors services that are provided by a network of contract agencies.

Successful candidates will have strong management, communication, and leadership skills, and a proven work history in the areas of financial planning and management, innovative problem solving, coalition building, and strategic planning. He/She must possess direct service experience and a familiarity with mental health, substance abuse, recovery and human service policies and practices.

Master's degree required, MPA, MBA, or behavioral social sciences preferred. Other highly desirable attributes include administrative experience in public behavioral health or nonprofit management,

strong oral and written communications, levy experience, and external relations. Salary commensurate with education and experience and excellent fringe benefits including PERS and health plan. The MHRB is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Apply by sending a cover letter and resume, including contact information for at least three professional references by **July 1, 2008** to: Search Committee, Mental Health and Recovery Board of Wayne and Holmes Counties, 2345 Gateway Drive, Suite C, Wooster, Ohio 44691. Applications may also be sent via fax: 330-264-7879 or email: jbogner@whmhrb.org

COUNTY PLANNING DIRECTOR

The Trumbull County Planning Commission is seeking to fill the position of County Planning Director. The Executive Director is responsible for developing and supervising the planning, community and economic development activities of Trumbull County, Ohio. Eligible applicants require a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree, Masters preferred, in Planning or a related field, and a minimum of seven years of related experience and/or training; excellent written and verbal communication skills; grant writing experience; and computer skills including word processing. Starting salary range from \$56,362 to \$68,369. Please send a resume to the: Trumbull County Planning Commission, 347 N. Park Ave., Warren, Ohio 44481. Application deadline is **Friday, July 11, 2008**.

FINANCE ADMINISTRATOR

The Fairfield County Auditor is seeking a forward thinking individual with strong management skills, good judgment, sound analytical ability and technical skills for the full-time position of Finance Administrator. Responsibilities include administering and directing the county's budgetary, payroll, and fixed asset functions and preparing the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Popular Annual Financial Report. Candidates for this position must possess an undergraduate degree in finance, accounting, or related area and 6-10 years of progressive experience in financial management/supervisory positions. Experience

with local government/public sector accounting and a CPA designation preferred. Knowledge and experience with the MUNIS Application Suite is preferred. The annual salary is \$65,000 to \$75,000 based upon qualifications. Applicants should submit a resume, cover letter, and a completed civil service application to Human Resource Director, 239 West Main Street, Lancaster, OH 43130 by **June 13, 2008**. Applications can be found on-line at <http://www.state.oh.us/das/dhr/jobapp.html>. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

CLASSIFIED ADS

CCAO publishes the County Information and Data Service (CIDS) weekly. Classified ads will be published free of charge as a service to counties. Ads will run for two weeks if space is available. Ads will also be published on the CCAO website at www.ccao.org. When submitting your ad to CCAO please provide a link to the job posting online and a deadline. Please provide a copy of the classified ad by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday of each week. Transmit the copy to Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, by e-mail mjneiman@ccao.org.