



CIDS

County Information and Data Service

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DATES TO REMEMBER

JULY 15, 2013	CEBCO AFFORDABLE CARE ACT TRAINING, ATHENS COUNTY (ATHENS)
JULY 19-22, 2013	NACo COUNTY SOLUTIONS & MARKETPLACE (ANNUAL CONFERENCE), TARRANT COUNTY (FORT WORTH), TEXAS
JULY 20, 2013	CCAO CAUCUS RECEPTION (HELD DURING THE NACo COUNTY SOLUTIONS & MARKETPLACE), FORT WORTH CONVENTION CENTER, TARRANT COUNTY (FORT WORTH), TEXAS
JULY 29, 2013	CEBCO AFFORDABLE CARE ACT TRAINING, MEDINA COUNTY (WADSWORTH)
JULY 30, 2013	CEBCO AFFORDABLE CARE ACT TRAINING, ALLEN COUNTY (LIMA)
JULY 31, 2013	CEBCO AFFORDABLE CARE ACT TRAINING, CLINTON COUNTY (WILMINGTON)
AUGUST 12, 2013	CEBCO AFFORDABLE CARE ACT TRAINING, FRANKLIN COUNTY (COLUMBUS)
AUGUST 14, 2013	THE BASICS OF THE PREVAILING WAGE LAW (CCAO 2 ND WEDNESDAY WEBINAR)
DECEMBER 8-10, 2013	CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL WINTER CONFERENCE, GREATER COLUMBUS CONVENTION CENTER, COLUMBUS (HEADQUARTERS HOTEL: HYATT REGENCY)

ASSOCIATION NEWS

LONG RECOGNIZED FOR NEARLY 40 YEARS OF EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE

CCAO Executive Director Larry Long was recognized by the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate for his nearly 40 years of exceptional service to the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) and to Ohio's counties. Long, who is scheduled to begin his retirement August 2, was presented with resolutions during floor sessions Tuesday in the House and Wednesday in the Senate.



To watch excerpts from the floor sessions in which Long was recognized and had the opportunity to address members of the General Assembly, click on the following links: [Ohio House June 25, 2013](#), and [Ohio Senate June 26, 2013](#).

Long expressed appreciation for the recognition, thanked the Representatives and Senators for what they do for Ohio, and encouraged lawmakers to remember that counties are an arm of state government. While acknowledging that counties and state may have disagreements and have robust debate on issues, Long concluded his remarks in both chambers by stressing that “we need you and you need us” to make things work for the citizens of Ohio and its 88 counties.

CIDS PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Since next week will be shortened work week, the County Information and Data Service (CIDS) will not be published on July 5. We will return to our usual publication schedule on Friday, July 12. Happy July 4!



REGIONAL AFFORDABLE CARE ACT TRAINING FOR COUNTY OFFICIALS

CEBCO, in cooperation with the law firm of Fishel Hass Kim Albrecht LLC, is offering training programs throughout Ohio to assist county commissioners and their support staff with the Affordable Care Act (ACA) compliance. The changes in 2014 and beyond place many new responsibilities on county administration as health plan sponsors, and what you don't know – when it comes to the ACA – CAN hurt you. All those nagging questions about what must be offered, to whom, and at what cost as well as the new taxes and reporting requirements will be addressed by Marc Fishel. Participants will receive a summary of the key responsibilities incumbent upon counties and actionable ideas to remain compliant with the new regulations.

Five sessions have been scheduled around the state to insure accessibility. The same program will be presented at each seminar. Details will e-mailed and announced on the CCAO website next week. Mark your calendar and plan to attend or send the appropriate staff member to one of these meetings:

- July 15 – Athens County (Athens)
- July 29 – Medina County (Wadsworth)
- July 30 – Allen County (Lima)
- July 31 – Clinton County (Wilmington)
- August 12 – Franklin County (Columbus)

All meetings will start with a presentation at 10:30 a.m. and a Q&A through lunch (provided). This **FREE training** is open to all counties.

STATE ACTIVITIES

RESEARCH IDENTIFIES STRATEGIES FOR OVERCOMING AFFORDABLE HOUSING BARRIERS IN OHIO'S APPALACHIAN REGION

The Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) recently partnered with the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) to fund a research initiative to analyze the need for affordable housing and identify strategies to increase housing opportunities in Ohio's 32 Appalachian counties.

The research includes a housing needs assessment of Ohio's Appalachian counties conducted by Vogt Santer Insights and a Project Funding Analysis conducted by Bob Snow & Associates. Researchers from Ohio

University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs with support from the Ohio CDC Association conducted surveys, interviews, and focus groups with housing developers and intermediaries to identify several barriers to the development of affordable housing in the region. The challenges brought forth by the research included a lack of funding, low area median incomes and population density, and aging, substandard housing stock.

The Appalachian Housing Initiative's research concluded that there is a clear and pressing need for additional funds for development, operating assistance and rental assistance to meet the housing needs in the Appalachian region of the state. [Click here](#) to read the Appalachian Housing Initiative's report.

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

FARM BILL COLLAPSES IN HOUSE AFTER CONTENTIOUS DEBATE

On June 20, the House farm bill met an abrupt end as it was defeated on the chamber's floor by a vote of 195-234. Contention surrounding cuts to nutritional assistance programs created enough tension within the House to dismantle any progress made toward passing the bill, despite vocal support for the measure on the part of House majority leaders.

Following last week's passage of the U.S. Senate's farm bill, the Agriculture Reform, Food and Jobs Act of 2013 (S. 954), focus intensified on House leadership's ability to generate enough support for its farm bill. The increasingly polarizing House measure would controversially cut \$20.5 billion from the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as the food stamp program. Thanks in part to these cuts, and despite the vocal support of Speaker of the House John Boehner for the measure, the future of the legislation had been uncertain at best. [Read more...](#)

HOUSE COMMITTEE PASSES COAL ASH BILL

The House Energy and Commerce Committee passed the Coal Residuals Reuse and Management Act of 2013 (H.R. 2218), commonly referred to as the Coal Ash bill, by a vote of 31-16. The measure would prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from regulating coal ash as a hazardous waste and would establish requirements for the management and disposal of coal ash in a manner that protects human health and the environment. [Read more...](#)

EPA REPORT DETAILS HOW DEVELOPMENT CAN IMPACT PUBLIC HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released its most comprehensive review to date on how the way we build our cities and towns - directly affects our environment and public health. The publication, "[Our Built and Natural Environments: A Technical Review of the Interactions Among Land Use, Transportation, and Environmental Quality](#)", provides evidence that certain kinds of land use and transportation strategies - where and how we build our communities - can reduce the environmental and human health impacts of development.

The publication is important and timely because population growth and demographic changes will substantially alter the way our nation is developed over the next half century and beyond. The report, the second edition of a popular document published in 2001, summarizes trends in land use, buildings, travel behavior, population growth, and the expansion of developed land. [Click here](#) for more information about the report and an upcoming webinar.

GRANTS

USDA RURAL HOUSING GRANT APPLICATIONS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is accepting applications for grants to help low- and very-low-income rural residents repair their homes. Grants are provided to qualified intermediaries such as town or county governments, public agencies, community organizations, federally recognized Indian Tribes, non-profit and faith-based organizations. The grants are then distributed to qualified homeowners or owners of multi-family rental properties or cooperative dwellings who rent to low- and very-low-income residents. The grants can be used to weatherize and repair existing structures, install or improve plumbing or provide access to people with disabilities. In addition, the program assists rental property owners and cooperative housing complexes in repairing and rehabilitating their units if they agree to make such units available to low- and very low-income persons. For additional information on eligibility for Housing Preservation Grants, please see the [June 18, 2013 Federal Register](#). [Read more...](#)

COUNTIES ELIGIBLE FOR GRANTS IN DIGITAL HUMANITIES

Counties are eligible for a start-up grant in the area of digital humanities. Examples of grant projects include planning and developing prototypes of digital tools for preserving, analyzing and making accessible digital resources like libraries' and museums' digital assets or innovative uses of technology for public programming and education. Applications are due **September 12, 2013**. [Read more...](#)

GRANTS AVAILABLE TO COUNTIES FOR RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Counties are eligible for grant funding for the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). RSVP offers a range of volunteer activities that serve communities to create measurable impact while also benefitting volunteering seniors. The areas of focus for this grant include: education, healthy futures, veterans and military families, environmental stewardship, economic opportunity and disaster services. Applications are due **September 10, 2013**. While not required, a Notice of Intent to Apply is encouraged and due by August 9, 2013. [Read more...](#)

NACo ACTIVITIES

NACo RELEASES MUNICIPAL BONDS BUILD AMERICA POLICY RESEARCH PAPER

Last week, NACo released a new policy research paper, *Municipal Bonds Build America: A County Perspective on Changing the Tax-Exempt Status of Municipal Bond Interest*. The report analyzes the municipal bond market and the estimated impact of a 28 percent cap and a repeal of the tax-exempt status of municipal bond interest on the nation's 3,069 county governments. Among the report's findings are:

- Municipal bonds finance a range of locally selected infrastructure projects and have a long history of low default rates
- Any tax imposed on currently tax-exempt municipal bond interest will affect all Americans, as investors in municipal bonds and as taxpayers securing the payments of municipal bonds
- In 2012 alone, the debt service burden for counties would have risen by \$9 billion if municipal bonds were fully taxable over the last 15 years and by about \$3.2 billion in the case of a 28 percent cap

[Click here](#) for more information.

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION

SYLLABUS

2013-022

A board of township trustees may reimburse a township officer or employee pursuant to R.C. 505.601 for monthly Medicare Parts A, B, and D premium payments made by the officer or employee, so long as the benefits provided by Medicare Parts A, B, and D are consistent with the benefits identified in the township resolution stating that the township has chosen not to procure a health care plan under R.C. 505.60 and the reimbursement does not exceed the uniform monthly or yearly payment amount set by that resolution.

CLASSIFIEDS

Title /For More Information. . .	Employer/Application Deadline
EMA Director	Open until most desirable candidate is found Ashtabula County
Director	July 8, 2013 Allen County JFS
SWD Coordinator	July 18, 2013 Logan County
City Engineer	July 19, 2013 City of Tiffin