DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 2015  
NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH

APRIL 8, 2015  
AFFORDABLE CARE ACT – CADILLAC TAX – WEBINAR – A CCAO 2nd Wednesday Webinar Series

APRIL 8, 2015  
CCAO JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

APRIL 8, 2015  
CCAO WORKERS’ COMPENSATION GROUP RATING PROGRAM ANNUAL MEETING, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

APRIL 13, 2015  
CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, MURPHIN RIDGE INN, ADAMS COUNTY (WEST UNION)

APRIL 13, 2015  
CCAOVEC ENERGY PROGRAM MEETING, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

APRIL 15, 2015  
CCAO SMALL COUNTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

APRIL 15, 2015  
CCAO METROPOLITAN & REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, CONFERENCE CALL

APRIL 20, 2015  
CCAO GENERAL GOVERNMENT & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

APRIL 21, 2015  
CCAO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

APRIL 21, 2015  
OHIO COUNCIL OF COUNTY OFFICIALS LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION, STATEHOUSE ATRIUM, COLUMBUS

APRIL 24, 2015  
CCAO DEFERRED COMPENSATION COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

APRIL 24, 2015  
CCC/EAPA REGIONAL TRAINING, ROSE HILL RESTAURANT, MEDINA COUNTY (MEDINA)

APRIL 24, 2015  
CCAO DEFERRED COMPENSATION COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

MAY 1, 2015  
SELECTING PROJECT DELIVERY MODELS & BIDDING FOR PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN OHIO, THE CONFERENCE CENTER AT OCLC, DUBLIN

MAY 20-22, 2015  
NACo WESTERN INTERSTATE REGION CONFERENCE, KAUAI COUNTY (HI)
ASSOCIATION NEWS

APRIL IS NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH: RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT COUNTIES

CCAO and NACo encourage counties across the country and hold activities and events in April as part of National County Government Month (NCGM). Activities such as open houses at county facilities, conducting programs with schools, recognizing veterans and employees, and issuing proclamations help county leaders raise public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of county government. Since 1991, CCAO and NACo have encouraged counties to actively promote county government programs and services.

The 2015 national theme is “Counties Moving America Forward: The Keys are Transportation and Infrastructure,” which is the focus of NACo President Riki Hokama’s presidential initiative. Following the theme, counties will be showing their residents how they are at the forefront of strengthening transportation and the infrastructure fundamental to moving America forward. Counties play a key role in everything from moving people and goods to moving the economy forward.

Meet with your member of the Ohio Congressional Delegation: One activity that all counties should pursue during NCGM is to meet with their members of Congress. During those meetings, county officials should stress that federal policies matter to county government and county government matters to America’s local communities. They should know that county governments are responsible for the fundamental building blocks for healthy, safe and vibrant communities and that federal policy decisions have a major, cascading impact on county government. Click here for talking points.

Meet with your member of the Ohio General Assembly: All county officials are invited to attend the Ohio Council of County Officials (OCCO) Legislative Reception to be held on April 21 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Statehouse Atrium in Columbus. Arrive early to attend a hearing, Senate or House session, and schedule a meeting with your members of the Ohio General Assembly. Invite them to attend the reception with you. The reception is being co-sponsored by the Ohio Judicial Conference. Read more…

Join in for the County Day or Recognition for National Service: Participate in the County Day of Recognition for National Service on April 7, 2015. Every day, in counties across America, national service is tackling tough problems and strengthening communities. The initiative is being led by NACo and the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). Click here to learn more and sign up your county!

Send photos and articles about your National County Government Month activity to Communications Coordinator Andrew Johnson to post on CCAO’s social media sites.

OCCO LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION – APRIL 21 – NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH ACTIVITY

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the Ohio Council of County Officials (OCCO) Legislative Reception on Tuesday, April 21 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Statehouse Atrium in Columbus. Representatives from other
OCCO member organizations will be in attendance as well as many members of the Ohio General Assembly. Also, we are hopeful that some of our State Office Holders will be in attendance.

The Ohio Council of County Officials (OCCO) is an organization that strives to unite the various associations representing county elected officials and judges, and promote sound, efficient, and fiscally responsible government. CCAO delegates to the OCCO are Commissioners Gary Lee (Union) and Debbie Lieberman (Montgomery).

County officials need to continually communicate and build partnerships with members of the General Assembly. Invite your state senators and state representatives to the reception! While you are in Columbus that day, please schedule appointments with your legislators to discuss issues of importance to your county and/or attend a Senate or House session. Don't miss this important opportunity to lobby the Ohio General Assembly during National County Government Month!

CCAO understands that many of you see your lawmakers regularly within your counties. We strongly encourage you to travel to Columbus on April 21 to physically show your support for your lawmakers, who will be looking to see if anyone from their district attended this important event.

Please **RSVP by April 14, 2015** to Justin Long, Legislative Services Assistant for the Ohio Judicial Conference, at (614) 387-9756. [Read more…](#)

**CAUV PRESENTATION: SMALL COUNTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OPENS INVITATION TO ALL**

The CCAO Small County Affairs Committee will meet on April 15, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the CCAO offices, 209 East State Street, in Columbus. Gloria Gardner, Assistant Administrator - Tax Equalization Division, from the Ohio Department of Taxation will speak about the proposed formula changes to the County Agricultural Use Value (CAUV). The formula changes will reduce 2015 valuation for taxes to be paid in 2016 to better reflect crop yields and prices, resulting in a 4.3 percent decrease in taxes per acre. An open invitation is extended by the Small County Affairs Committee Chair, Mike Bartram, to all county commissioners, county executives and county council members to attend. Lunch will be provided. If you would like to join the committee for this presentation, please RSVP your attendance by April 10 to Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979 or (888) 757-1904.

**COUNTY SEWER DISTRICTS HANDBOOK CHAPTER UPDATED**

Chapter 28 - County Sewer Districts of the [County Commissioners Handbook](#) has been updated and published on the web. This comprehensive chapter on the structure of the county sewer districts is divided into four parts as follows:

- Introductory Material on Water, Sewer, Drainage, & Storm Water Prevention and Replacement Facility Improvements
- Sewer Facilities
- Water Facilities
- Drainage and Storm Water Prevention & Replacement Facility Improvements

[Click here](#) to read Chapter 28 or click on the County Commissioners Handbook button on the front page of our website – [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org). If you have any questions about county sewer districts, please contact Brad Cole, Managing Director of Research, at (614) 220-7981 or (888) 757-1904.
AFFORDABLE CARE ACT – “CADILLAC TAX” WEBINAR – APRIL 8

CCAO is pleased to offer a one-hour “Affordable Care Act—Cadillac Tax” webinar on April 8 at 9:30 a.m. The "Cadillac Tax" is an excise tax scheduled to take effect in 2018 to reduce health care usage and costs by encouraging employers to offer plans that are more cost-effective and engage employees in sharing in the cost of care. It is a 40% tax on employers that provide high-cost health benefits to their employees. This is a permanent annual tax beginning in 2018 with the purpose of generating $80 billion over the next 10 years to help finance the expansion of health coverage. Our speaker, Marc Fishel - a partner in the law firm of Fishel Hass Kim Albrecht - will discuss the following topics:

- What is the Cadillac (Excise) tax?
- What are the excise tax issues?
- Other issues: Reporting requirements and King v. Burwell pending before the United States Supreme Court

Registration: Participants in the webinar may pose questions to the presenters who will respond during and after the power point presentation. Click here to register for this exceptional educational opportunity. There is no charge to attend the webinar.

If you experience difficulty in connecting to the link above and wish to register for the webinar, please email Amanda Jones, CCAO Program Assistant, and provide her with your name, title, and email address. Webinar participation is limited to the first 100 to sign-on to the webinar that morning. For additional information regarding the topic for this webinar, please contact Brad Cole, CCAO Managing Director of Research. Read more...

CEBCO ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS; CLARK COUNTY WINS WELLNESS WARRIOR AWARD

The County Employee Benefits Consortium (CEBCO) Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 1 in Columbus. Commissioners Peggy Carlo (Ashtabula), Bob Corbett (Champaign) and Lenny Eliason (Athens) and County Administrator Becky Saine (Allen) were elected to three-year terms on the board. In addition, Michelle Noble, Clark County Human Resources Director, was elected to complete an unexpired two-year term.

Congratulations to Clark County for winning the “2014 Wellness Warrior Award” for their successful wellness program! Clark County’s wellness program activities include onsite fitness classes, a pedometer lending program, over ten educational sessions, smoking cessation program, annual health and wellness fair, group classes, blood pressure and weigh stations, lifestyle management program, container gardening program, and a scorecard linked to reduced premiums. Tori Sinclair, CEBCO Wellness Coordinator (right), presented the award to Nichi Baker and Michelle Noble.

REMINDER: ALL MEMBERS WELCOME TO ATTEND CCAO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

This is a reminder that all county commissioners, county executives and county council members are welcome and invited to attend the CCAO Board of Directors Meetings. The next CCAO Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 3:00 pm at the CCAO Office. Members are then invited and encouraged to attend the 2015 Ohio Council of County Officials (OCCO) Legislative Reception being held at the
Statehouse Atrium from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. If you plan on attending the CCAO Board of Directors Meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 3:00 pm at the CCAO Office, please RSVP to Kathy Dillon, Office Manager & Boards’ Liaison, on or before April 15. Also, please feel free to contact Kathy should you have any questions.

AFFILIATE NEWS

2015 CCC/EAPA REGIONAL TRAINING – APRIL 24

Join the County Commissioners Clerks and Engineers Administrative Professionals Association (CCC/EAPA) at the first of three regional training sessions will be held on April 24 at the Rose Hill Restaurant, 7249 Wooster Pike - Route 3, in Medina County (Medina). The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. and is hosted by Peggy Folk, Clerk, Medina County Commissioners, and Gina Frimel, Secretary, Medina County Engineers Office. There is no charge to attend. Lunch is provided by CCAO/CEAO.

All the county commissioners’ and engineer’s office support staff members are encouraged to attend. These regional meetings and the CCAO/CEAO Annual Winter Conference, held in December, are excellent opportunities for networking. The topics discussed at the regional meetings vary from the daily operations of the office to recent legislative updates.

RSVP your attendance to the meeting coordinator - Gail Crossen, Clerk, Ashland County Commissioners Office - at (419) 282-4220. Information about the CCC/EAPA is available at www.ccc-eapa.org and there is also a yahoo group that is a resource for questions and answers. You can sign up at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CCC_EAPA. For more information about CCAO’s oldest affiliate organization, please contact 2015 CCC/EAPA President Theresa Upton, Clerk, Lorain County Commissioners, 226 Middle Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035 or (440) 329-5103.

STATE ACTIVITIES

2016-19 STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD OPEN

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is now accepting public comments on the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) for 2016 to 2019. The STIP identifies the multi-modal transportation improvement projects that are scheduled for some phase of implementation throughout the state over the next four years.

The draft documents will be available for public review and comment at 30 locations statewide during the review period of March 30 through April 10, 2015, during normal business hours. These locations consist of the Planning and Engineering Administrator’s office in each of the 12 ODOT District headquarters, the ODOT Central Office Division of Planning located in Columbus and each of the seventeen Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) offices.

For additional STIP information and locations of STIP Open Houses, please visit the STIP website: transportation.ohio.gov/stip. Any comments concerning the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program may be submitted by email to Natasha Turner or mail to Jennifer Townley, Deputy Director, Division of Planning, Ohio Department of Transportation, Mail Stop #3260, 1980 West Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43223. Written comments must be received by the close of business on April 17, 2015.

OHIO JUVENILE JUSTICE ALLIANCE FACT SHEET SERIES; PUTTING OHIO YOUTH ON A PATH TO SUCCESS

Each year nearly 100,000 Ohio youth go through Ohio’s juvenile court system for delinquency and status
offense cases. Research over the past decade has shown what works to give these youth opportunities to start and stay on a path to becoming positive members of our communities instead of remaining system-involved.

To facilitate a discussion around these youth, the Ohio Juvenile Justice Alliance (OJJA) has created a fact sheet series on Ohio’s juvenile justice system. Each fact sheet examines a slice of the system and includes national research and best practices on keeping youth on the right track and a snapshot on Ohio’s current practices on points of contact our children have with the juvenile justice system and special issues/populations in Ohio’s juvenile justice system.

Overall, Ohio has made significant strides to embrace this research-based approach, particularly by decreasing the number of youth in locked facilities and instead placing them in less costly, more effective community-based alternatives (CBAs). CBAs can target high-risk youth for $5,000 for several months of treatment, compared to $205,000/year for placement in a DYS facility. Click the following links to access a press release, fact sheets, and infographics.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE IS APRIL 6; ABSENTEE VOTING BEGINS APRIL 7

Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted reminds Ohioans that the deadline to register to vote and participate in the May 5th Primary and Special Election is on Monday, April 6, 2015. Absentee voting will open for all registered Ohio voters on the following day, Tuesday, April 7, 2015. Read more...

OSHIIP ’WELCOME TO MEDICARE’ EVENTS SCHEDULED

The Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program (OSHIIP) will hold free “Welcome to Medicare” events across Ohio in April and May. These events are being held to help consumers and their families new to Medicare, or those becoming eligible later this year, learn more about their coverage options. OSHIIP, a program of the Ohio Department of Insurance, is the state’s official source for free and unbiased Medicare information and counseling.

A total of 25 events have been scheduled across the state. Topics will include Medicare Part A and B benefits, the Part D prescription drug benefit, Medicare Advantage plans, financial assistance, and key deadlines. For those unable to attend an event, OSHIIP has scheduled four public webinars about Medicare on March 16, June 15, September 14, and December 14 at 6:00 p.m. Visit the Medicare Services section at www.insurance.ohio.gov to register. Ohioans can also contact OSHIIP at (800) 686-1578 with questions and assistance with Medicare enrollment. Read more...

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

USDA AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT PROGRAM

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is making available $332 million in financial and technical assistance through the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP). USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will accept ACEP applications to help productive farm and ranch lands remain in agriculture and to protect the nation’s critical wetlands and grasslands, home to diverse wildlife and plant species.

The 2014 Farm Bill consolidated three previous conservation easement programs into ACEP to make it easier for diverse agricultural landowners to fully benefit from conservation initiatives. In FY 2014, NRCS used $328 million in ACEP funding to enroll an estimated 145,000 acres of farmland, grassland, and wetlands through 485 new easements.
ACEP applications may be submitted at any time to NRCS; however, applications for the current funding round must be submitted on or before May 15, 2015. To learn about ACEP and other technical and financial assistance available through NRCS conservation programs, visit [www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted) or contact Ohio’s USDA Service Center. Read more…

2015 COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS – ATTEND WEBINAR ON APRIL 7

The [County Health Rankings & Roadmaps (CHR&R)](http://www.northwell.org/healthcommunication/tools/county-health-rankings) were released on March 25 as a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute (UWPHI). The data allow each state to see how its counties compare on 30 factors that impact health, such as education, transportation, housing, violent crime, jobs, diet and exercise. In 2015 Delaware County was named the healthiest Ohio County. [Click here](http://www.northwell.org/healthcommunication/tools/county-health-rankings) for more data on Ohio counties.

CHR&R will host a webinar **April 7, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.** to provide a **County Health Rankings & Roadmaps 101 Website Tour**, including:

- How to use the Rankings as a call to action in your community
- The Roadmaps to Health Action Center tools and resources, including an overview of What Works for Health and the coaching program, and
- RWJF’s Culture of Health Prize.

These resources are designed to help communities rally to look at the factors that influence health, choose strategies that work and make changes that will have a lasting impact.

**A Roadmaps to Health Action Center** includes step-by-step tools and guidance to move from data to action, a searchable database of proven policies and programs that can improve health, as well as how to engage with community coaches, located across the nation, who provide customized consultation to local leaders seeking guidance in how to accelerate their efforts to improve health.

NACo ACTIVITIES

NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION – REGISTRATION IS OPEN

NACo’s 80th Annual Conference and Exposition will be held July 10-13 at the Charlotte Convention Center, in Mecklenburg County, (Charlotte) North Carolina. The Annual Conference provides county officials with a great opportunity to vote on NACo’s policies related to federal legislation and regulation; elect officers; network with colleagues; learn about innovative county programs; find out about issues impacting counties across the country; and view products and services from participating companies and exhibitors.

Registration is open. Register online to save $25! The largest hotel blocks are at the Westin Charlotte Hotel (headquarters) and the Hilton Charlotte City Center Hotel. Room blocks have been held at seven other downtown hotel properties. Downtown Charlotte is a very walkable city with many dining opportunities. NACo will be encouraging walking throughout the conference. Shuttle service will be available running on a 20-25 minute schedule with stops at multiple hotels. The discounted early bird registration deadline is May 29, but waiting until this date will not guarantee your hotel reservation at your first choice hotel. For more information and to register online, [click here](http://www.northwell.org/healthcommunication/tools/county-health-rankings).
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

SW OHIO ANNUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Southwest Ohio Annual Leadership Conference will be held on April 16, 2015 at the Cincinnati Marriott North at Union Centre Hotel, 6189 Muhlhauser Road, in West Chester Township. “Think Regional! 2015 Leadership Conference” focuses on growth through collaboration and features keynote speakers including Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley, Cincinnati Vice-Mayor David Mann and luncheon speaker State of Ohio Dave Yost who will be discussing successful Southwest Ohio regional collaborations. Go to www.thinkregional.com for online registration and program information.

CLASSIFIEDS

CCAO publishes classified ads on our website and in CIDS. Classified ads will be published free of charge as a service to counties. Ads will be published on the website until the application deadline and for several weeks in CIDS. When submitting your ad to CCAO, please provide a link to the online job posting and a deadline date. Email your classified ad to Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate.

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<th>Title /For More Information. . .</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contracts/Acquisitions Supervisor</td>
<td>Lucas County April 7, 2015</td>
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<td>County Administrator</td>
<td>Union County April 10, 2015</td>
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<td>Program Specialist</td>
<td>Clark County April 10, 2015</td>
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<td>Job Developer 2</td>
<td>Clark County April 10, 2015</td>
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<td>Executive Director</td>
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<td>Human Resources Administrator</td>
<td>Lorain County April 17, 2015</td>
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<td>Management Information Systems Manager</td>
<td>Lorain County April 17, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>LSC Telecommunications Fellowship</td>
<td>Ohio General Assembly (Legislative Service Commission) May 31, 2015</td>
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<td>County Administrator</td>
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