From the Director

Having just completed training at the new location for the APWA 20th Annual Equipment Operation Safety Training and Snow Rodeo at the Billings Metra, I am happy to report this event was very successful. My hat is off to all those involved in the seamless transfer of the Snow Rodeo from the City of Great Falls to Yellowstone County Road and Bridge Department in Billings. My sincere appreciation to everyone who helped make this event a valuable training session and competition. Being such a success, Tim Miller, Director, Yellowstone County Road and Bridge Department, said they will hold it again at the Billings Metra next year and he looks forward to the same spirit of cooperation.

During the first day of events, having a hands-on surveying contest at the Snow Rodeo provided an atmosphere of competition for participants. I was fortunate to have Quinn Wright, HKM, assist in the surveying class, along with Montana LTAP’s field engineer, Bart Kraus.

The twelve four- to seven-man teams went around the Metra pond measuring five different locations. The Richland/Park County Group hit the measure dead on, coming in first. The Stillwater Group placed second with Gallatin County group in third and bringing up fourth place was Jefferson County/City of Miles City Group.

Late this fall LTAP is offering Winter Maintenance and Anti-Icing training. For more information go to our website: www.coe.montana.edu/ltap on the Training page. On-line registration is available too. While at that Training page please take time to click on the 2009 Needs Assessment form and complete it. Right now is the time to express what your training needs are because Montana LTAP is your training program. Your input is vital in continuing to develop a strong training program.

Just a quick reminder--with warm fall days, this is the time to start basic snow removal equipment checks and helping new drivers run their routes before the snow flies.

As always, safe driving,
Steve Jenkins, Montana LTAP Director
2009 Snow Rodeo

Day One - Training & Equipment Walk-arounds

“Having the 20th Snow Rodeo and Equipment Training at the Billings Metra Park provided everyone an opportunity to receive training opportunities on cattleguard liability, gravel road information, and surveying basics with hands-on field training,” Montana LTAP Conference Coordinator Genevieve Albert said. She also noted there were 83 participants for the first day of training and it did not take long to fill the 60 competition spots for Day Two.

Advisory Committee Members

The Advisory Board meets annually to make recommendations and evaluate the effectiveness of the Montana LTAP program.

Debbie Arkell
City of Bozeman

Bob Seliskar
Federal Highway Administration

Kelly Elser
Town of Ennis

Fred Hansen
MACo

Jim Rearden
City of Great Falls

Russ Albers
Chouteau County

Thomas Danenhower
MMIA

Eric Griffin
Lewis and Clark County

Russ Huotari
Richland County

Sue Sillick
Montana Dept of Transportation

Alec Hansen
Montana League of Cities & Towns

Lynn Miller
Montana Dept of Transportation
Albert also noted that the Tractor and Equipment Company trainers provided safety walk-arounds on their new equipment as well as participants trying out the new equipment on the east side of the Metra.

Steve Jenkins, Montana LTAP Director, started the training with various aspects of cattle guard (or car gate) liability issues and provided examples of recent Montana counties involved in cattleguard lawsuits. He also touched on clear zones and the importance of road audits, keeping the traveled way safe for motorists. His second topic on grading gravel roads brought numerous comments from the eighty-plus participants. Alex Frank, Yellowstone County, provided insight into various aspects of grading a road. The third portion of training covered surveying with Jenkins being assisted by Quinn Wright, HKM, on the basics of surveying mathematics. After classroom training, everyone moved outside to learn the basics of equipment set up. Due to the size of the class, half proceeded to break into survey teams of seven or less while the other half of the class went to the equipment area for safety walk-arounds and operating new equipment for an hour and a half. At the end of that time period, everyone switched places.

**Day Two - Snow Rodeo Competition**

Sixty competitors tried their hardest to gain points to become best in their equipment classes of snowplow, motorgrader, backhoe, and front end loader, as well as passing the inspection test and written safety exam.

Debbie Kimball, City of Great Falls, was on hand to assist the Yellowstone County personnel tabulate scores and provide moral support.

“The Snow Rodeo has taken on a life of its own after being held for twenty years at the City of Great Falls,” commented Kimball. “Tara Jensen and Kim Peterson from Yellowstone County have really put in that extra effort it takes to make this event happen, as well as all their crew members and other entities such as Montana Department of Transportation, City of Billings, and all the Montana cities and counties that participate. The network opportunities that occur for this workforce are immeasurable.”
Although the temps were reaching almost 100 on the second day, the competition was fierce for awards in front end loader, backhoe, snowplow and motorgrader obstacle courses. Here are the winners:

**Snow Rodeo All-Around Champion 2009**

**Clay Moore, Yellowstone County**

Front End Loader Division:
1st Place – Andy Dean, Yellowstone County
2nd Place – T.J. Graveley, Broadwater County
3rd Place – Jerry Jochinson, Missoula County
1st Timer Award – Tracy Fairchild, Gallatin County

Backhoe Division:
1st Place – Clay Moore, Yellowstone County
2nd Place – Russell Christensen, Sheridan County
3rd Place – Marty McConnell, City of Billings
1st Timer Award – Tracy Fairchild, Gallatin County

Snow Plow Division:
1st Place – Andy Dean, Yellowstone County
2nd Place – Jerry Jochinson, Missoula County
3rd Place – Jim Markowski, Yellowstone County
1st Timer Award – Jim Markowski, Yellowstone County

Motorgrader Division:
1st Place – Clay Moore, Yellowstone County
2nd Place – Cal Bramsen, Missoula County
3rd Place – Larry Chapman, Lewis & Clark County
1st Timer Award – Greg Turley, Musselshell

---

**L to R:** Clay Moore,
Jerry Jochinson,
Larry Chapman,
Jim Markowski,
Russell Christensen,
Greg Turley

**Front Row Seated:**
Marty McConnell,
Andy Dean,
Cal Bramsen
### Calendar of Events • July 2009 - June 2010

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3: 4th of July Holiday (Offices Closed)
24-28: NACo Annual Conference, Nashville, TN - www.naco.org

#### 3 & 4: MACRS Planning Meeting, Heritage Inn, Great Falls, MT
11: Veterans’ Day - Offices Closed
16-19: Nat’l Tribal Transportation Conference, Phoenix, AZ
26-27: Thanksgiving Holiday - Offices Closed

#### 30: Winter Maintenance, Missoula, MT - Montana LTAP

**Winter Maintenance Workshop:**
- November 30, Monday - Missoula - Ruby’s
- Preregistration Required
- Montana LTAP - 1-800-541-6671
- [http://www.coe.montana.edu/ltap/pages/training.htm](http://www.coe.montana.edu/ltap/pages/training.htm)

#### March 2010

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March Flagging Certification Classes - TBA
15-19: MSU Spring Break
29,30, 31 and April 1: MACRS 26th Annual Conference Heritage Inn, Great Falls, MT (MT LTAP)

**MACRS 26th Annual Conference:**
- March 29 - April 1, Heritage Inn - Great Falls
- Preregistration Required
- Montana LTAP - 1-800-541-6671
- [http://www.coe.montana.edu/ltap/pages/training.htm](http://www.coe.montana.edu/ltap/pages/training.htm)

#### April 2010

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1: MACRS 26th Annual Conference Heritage Inn, Great Falls, MT (MT LTAP)
MACRS Workforce Development Week: Location & Time TBA (MT LTAP)
25-29: NACE 2010, Sheraton Ft. Worth Hotel & Ft. Worth Convention Center, Fort Worth, Texas. Contact NACE at nace@naco.org

Some dates and locations are subject to change.
Call Genevieve Albert, LTAP, 1-800-541-6671 to confirm.
## Calendar of Events • July 2009 - June 2010

### September 2009

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**2 & 3: Snow Rodeo - Metra Park, Billings, MT (MT LTAP)**

7: Labor Day Holiday - Offices Closed

13-16: 2009 APWA Congress - The Best Show in Public Works Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, OH

15-17: Int'l Conference on Sustainable Concrete Pavements; Sacramento, CA; Sam Tyson, 202-366-1326, sam.tyson@fhwa.dot.gov

20-24: MACo's 100th Annual Conference, Colonial Inn, Helena, MT

**29: MACRS Fall District Meeting - Polson, MT (MT LTAP)**

Gravel Pit Operations & Operator Safety

30 & Oct 1 & 2: Governor’s Occupational Safety & Health Awards Program Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula, MT

### October 2009

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**Oct 1 & 2: Governor’s Occupational Safety & Health Awards Program Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula, MT**

**MACRS Fall District Meetings: (MT LTAP)**

Gravel Pit Operations, Truck & Loader Safety

5: Bozeman 6: Big Timber 8: Great Falls 15: Glendive

7: Walk to School Day - www.walktoschool.org

7, 8, 9: 78th League of Cities & Towns, Heritage Inn, Great Falls, MT

**7: Public Works Directors - (MT LTAP)**

19-21: 8th Nat'l Conference on Transportation Asset Management, Portland, OR; Contact Tom Palmerlee, 202-334-2907, tpalmerlee@nas.edu

20 & 21: Region 7 Local Roads Conference, Rapid City, SD

### January 2010

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1: New Year’s Day - Offices Closed

18: Martin Luther King Day - Offices Closed

**20, 21, 22: Loss Control Conference (LTAP Safety Congress) MACo Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula, MT**

21: Steve Jenkins Presents

**Loss Control Conference:**

- January 20-22 - Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula
- January 21, Thursday - Steve Jenkins Presents
- Preregistration Required - www.maco.cog.mt.us

### February 2010

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**8 & 9: Traffic Control Supervisor Two-Day Course, Wingate Inn, Helena (MT LTAP)**

10: Asphalt Institute, Colonial Inn, Helena (MT LTAP)

15: President’s Day - Offices Closed

**Traffic Control Supervisor Two-Day Course**

February 8 & 9 - Monday & Tuesday - Helena-Wingate

Preregistration Required

Montana LTAP - 1-800-541-6671

http://www.coe.montana.edu/ltap/pages/training.htm

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31: Labor Day - Offices Closed

**MACRS Workforce Development Week: Locations & Time TBA (MT LTAP)**

### June 2010

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31: Labor Day - Offices Closed

**MACRS Executive Meeting: TBA (MT LTAP)**

**LTAP Annual Advisory Board Meeting: TBA (MT LTAP)**

### **OCTOBER Highlights**

**MACRS Fall District Meetings: (MT LTAP)**

Gravel Pit Operations, Truck & Loader Safety

Oct. 5: Bozeman  Oct. 6: Big Timber  Oct. 8: Great Falls  Oct. 15: Glendive

Oct. 7-9: 78th League of Cities & Towns, Heritage Inn, Great Falls, MT

Oct. 7: Public Works Directors (MT LTAP)
Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day - October 10, 2009

“Don’t be Driven to Distraction- Drive to Arrive”

Nearly 40,000 people are killed in highway crashes each year in the U.S., and nearly 2.5 million are injured. Highway crashes are the leading cause of death of people 3 through 6 and 8 through 34 years of age and are the cause of more permanent impairments than any other type of accident. There are approximately 110 of our fellow citizens, almost all of whom are someone’s friend, family, and most beloved who become a statistic each day. They are dying in tragic and what are most often preventable accidents on our nation’s roadways.

According to the Auto Alliance, an organization representing vehicle makers, if everyone in the U.S. practiced ecodriving it would prevent 21 percent of the non-fatal injuries. In terms of crash outcome severity, it is the single most lethal contributing factor—greater than speeding, alcohol or non-use of seat belts.

• Motor vehicle crashes in which roadway condition is a contributing factor cost the U.S. economy more than $217 billion each year. That is more than three-and-one-half times the amount of money government at all levels is investing annually in roadway capital improvements—$59 billion, according to the Federal Highway Administration. This societal cost includes $20 billion in medical costs; $46 billion in productivity costs; $52 billion in property damage and other resource costs; and $99 billion in monetized quality of life costs.

• American businesses are paying an estimated $22 billion of the annual economic cost of motor vehicle crashes involving their employees in which roadway condition is a contributing factor. This includes almost $10 billion a year in health-related fringe benefit expenses for insurance ($6.0 billion) workers’ compensation claims ($1.2 billion), sick leave ($1.7 billion) and Social Security ($920 million). These crashes cost government (taxpayers) at all levels $12.3 billion.

To view the report visit the Transportation Construction Coalition website at http://www.transportationconstructioncoalition.org/

Source: Transportation and Development Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers

By Montana LTAP

Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day was initiated by many partner organizations who are working to lower this statistic. These efforts to reduce fatalities address the need for improvements to our roadways, our vehicles, and basic driver behavior.

Among the study’s key findings:

• Roadway condition is a contributing factor in more than half—52.7 percent—of the nearly 42,000 American deaths resulting from motor vehicle crashes each year and 38 percent of the non-fatal injuries. In terms of crash outcome severity, it is the single most lethal contributing factor—greater than speeding, alcohol or non-use of seat belts.

Motor vehicle crashes in which roadway condition is a contributing factor cost the U.S. economy more than $217 billion each year.

Tips on Driving Cleaner

According to the Auto Alliance, an organization representing vehicle makers, if everyone in the U.S. practiced ecodriving it would be equivalent to heating and powering nearly 8 cities the size of Los Angeles. They offer the following tips:

• Avoid rapid stops and starts,
• Use cruise control,
• Plan your trips using the shortest distances,
• Avoid idling,
• Buy an automated road pass for toll roads,
• Use the highest gear possible,
• Check tire pressure monthly and
• Remove excess weight from your trunk.

For more information visit their website: http://www.transportation1.org/RealSolutions/drivingtips.html

A study...concludes that talking on a cellphone while driving is as dangerous as driving drunk, even if the phone is a hands-free model.

(Researchers at the University of Utah, published in the summer 2006 issue of Human Factors, the quarterly journal of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society)
New Water Reclamation Facility

Bozeman Celebrates with a Groundbreaking Ceremony for its New Water Reclamation Facility (WRF)

By Tom Adams, City of Bozeman WRF Superintendent June 5, 2009

April 2009 marked the beginning of construction work on a major upgrade and expansion for the Bozeman water pollution control facility. Construction has begun on a $53.8 million dollar expansion which will provide the City of Bozeman with both increased capacity and state-of-the-art technology.

The design of our new water reclamation facility was a joint venture between HDR Engineering of Missoula and Morrison-Maierle, Inc. of Bozeman and Helena. MMI’s design calls for the construction of an 8.5 MGD, 5-Stage Bardenpho activated sludge process. Bardenpho is an enhanced treatment process that is capable of providing very efficient Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR) in addition to a nearly complete removal of conventional pollutants such as BOD and TSS.

Like many communities in Montana, Bozeman will be facing new, highly restrictive nutrient limitations when its existing MPDES discharge permit expires in 2011. Our research shows that the Bardenpho process is one of the few treatment technologies capable of reaching or approaching the level of treatment needed to comply with the State’s new nutrient criteria which are currently being drafted by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

The Montana DEQ has recently published statewide nutrient removal targets that will require some receiving waters to reach in-stream standards as low as 3.0 mg/l Total Nitrogen and 0.03 mg/l Total Phosphorus. Treatment to these extremely low levels can only be achieved by employing an enhanced BNR process.

The new Bozeman facility will employ many other new and innovative technologies including ultra-violet (UV) disinfection, highly efficient turbo blowers, waste heat recovery systems and an fermentation system to produce the VFA compounds needed to maximize the removal of phosphorus.

Sometime near the end of our Phase construction, the City hopes to complete the installation of an FKC Screw Press for solids dewatering. This unique biosolids dewatering technology is capable of producing a 22% to 25% dry cake product using only about 10% of the energy normally required by more conventional dewatering systems such as centrifuges.

The City of Bozeman invites you to come see our new facility grow and change. In the coming months we will provide additional construction updates as our two-year project moves forward.

Reprint permission was granted by APWA Rocky Mountain Chapter

2009 Walk to School Day

2009 Walk to School Day Registration is open for 2009 Walk to School Day, an international event where communities from more than 40 countries join together to walk and bicycle to school. Walk to School Day is October 7, 2009.

To register a Walk to School event, please visit www.walktoschool.org/register. This site is hosted by the National Center for Safe Routes to School. Registration is free and available to individuals or organizations holding an event in the U.S. By registering, Walk to School organizers gain access to a variety of downloadable materials, including certificates, templates for printing stickers and a frequent walker punch card. Registrants can also subscribe to a weekly Walk to School e-newsletter with tips and resources on holding a Walk to School event. Participation reached a record high last year with more than 2,800 events from all fifty states and the District of Columbia registering on the Walk to School Web site (www.walktoschool.org). You can also view a clickable map of Walk to School events to find one in your area and participate.

For more info: http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/ped/ped-forum/index.htm

Source: Pedestrian Forum Safe Pedestrians and a Walkable America VOL. 47, Summer 2009

ARRA in Montana On MDT’s Web Site

Are you wondering where Montana's ARRA (American Recovery Reinvestment Act) money is being spent? MDT has a specific website that lists upcoming projects: http://www.mdt.mt.gov/recovery/project_status.shtml See awarded projects that are updated weekly, upcoming projects, and bid schedules; invitation for bids, bid letting dates, and contracting/consulting. There are actual camera images of recent projects taking place. For specific Montana projects and ARRA allocations, go to: http://www.mdt.mt.gov/other/arra/external/arra_awarded.pdf

Best Practices for Dust Control on Aggregate Roads

The Minnesota Department of Transportation has released a January 2009 report that examines the performance and cost of commonly used dust palliatives on roads located throughout Minnesota to determine the extent to which treatments reduced dust levels. Go to: http://www.lrrb.org/PDF/200904.pdf or contact Montana LTAP 1-800-541-6671 for a hard copy (54 pages).

Rural Roads Safety Program

Visit the FHWA Local and Rural Roads Safety Program Website: http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/local_rural/ This website hosts a wealth of information for County Road professionals to assist them in crafting and implementing safety programs in their counties. It is worth a visit to view the many guides and publications, statistics, and policies that are available.

Source: NACE July 11, 2009
Welcome to the LTAP Lending Library where publications, videos, DVD’s, and software may be borrowed for a two-week period. We have a limit of three videotapes or DVD’s for the rent-free two-week period. Some publications are free or for a nominal charge upon request.

For information or checkout procedures, please call Genevieve Albert or Michele Beck, LTAP, 1-800-541-6671. If you have computer access, please e-mail us: mtltap(at)coe.montana.edu.

We recently reorganized the library and have the new lists for the library publications, software, DVD’s, and videos at our web site: www.coe.montana.edu/ltap.

At this web site, you can also keep track of upcoming workshops, past and present newsletters, and “What’s New” items that change periodically. Our 2009-2010 Needs Assessment form is presently available at this web site. Thank you for taking time to complete it.

New Publications

p-236 Ground-Based LiDAR Rock Slope Mapping and Assessment (FHWA September 2008) LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging), also referred to as 3D laser Scanning, is an emerging three-dimensional mapping technology that employs a laser and a rotating mirror or housing to rapidly scan and image volumes and surficial areas such as rock slopes and outcrops, buildings, bridges, and other natural or man-made objects. This report was to determine whether the new technology of LiDAR could assist FHWA with highway rock slope stability. (114 Pages)

p-237 Safety Evaluation of Lane and Shoulder Width Combinations on Rural, Two-Lane, Undivided Roads (FHWA 2009) The FHWA organized a pooled fund to study 26 states to evaluate low-cost safety strategies as part of its strategic highway safety effort. The purpose was to evaluate the safety effectiveness of several low-cost safety strategies. (8 pages)

p-1060 Evaluation of Sign and Marking Alternatives for Displaced Left-Turn Lane Intersections (FHWA 2009) This document describes research conducted by the FHWA to support guidance on the signing and marking of displaced left-turn lane intersections (DLT)- also known as continuous flow intersections (CFI) (16 pages)

p-1207 Guide to Promoting Bicycling on Federal Lands (FHWA September 2008) Federal lands, including units of the National Park Service, National Forest, National Wildlife Refuges, and Bureau of Land Management are at a critical juncture. Increasing numbers of automobiles in some areas have led to many problems. This report provides guidance to Federal land managers on how to promote bicycling. This report presents benefits, successful programs, supporting policies, issues and challenges, and useful resources. (214 pages)

p-3210 Road Quake: Temporary Portable Rumble Strips (Plastic Safety Systems 2009) Information on the Road Quake Temporary Rumble Strips and contact information. (1 page)


Roadway Surface Management Workshop - November 2 & 3, 2009: TLN (Transportation Learning Network)
This Asset Management Workshop for Local Officials is sponsored by FHWA and the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute. This program will be televised and distributed through the TLN Network. The proposed program will be offered in three half-day sessions. Please call Montana LTAP for more information 1-800-541-6671 or go to our web site: www.coe.montana.edu/ltap

Montana LTAP will also be e-mailing information in October about the Roadway Surface Management workshop. MDT has 12 TLN sites available for possible distribution.
Your employees had better watch their backs, lest they suffer from back pain later in life. Get prevention techniques now before the pain sets in and hurts operations and profits. This program shows how you can ‘head off’ back pain through common sense and practical advice. (15 minutes)

DVD 828  First Aid: Prepared to Help (Coastal 2005)  Being the first one on the scene of a workplace accident can be unnerving. Be sure your employees know how to help their fellow workers in the case of an injury suffered on the job with this program. First aid tips and emergency response principles are covered. (18 minutes)

DVD 832  Spill Prevention and Control: Insuring a Safety World (Coastal 2009)  Spill prevention control and countermeasures, or SPCC, was enacted by the EPA to protect our waterways and shorelines from oil spills. The rule considers many substances other than petroleum to be “oil”. For instance, animal-based oil, vegetable oil and biofuel are covered by the rule. Make sure your employees are familiar with the prevention and control measures they must take in the event of a spill at your facility. (17 minutes)

DVD 951  Roadway Worker Safety: In The Zone (Coastal 2008)  Roadway work is full of potential hazards from passing traffic and trenches to electrical wires and hearing loss. Help reduce injuries and fatalities with this vital training program. Includes information on roadway hazards, flagging, night-work operations, PPE, special training, MSDS, and Traffic Control Pattern Awareness. (24 minutes)

p-3212 RI Lampus Company: Rosetta Walls, Steps, & Accents and Eco-Tek Permeable Paving System & Turfstone (R.I. Lampus Company 2009)  The Rosetta wall collection is an engineered system featuring interlocking components. Information on different Rosetta products. Eco-Tek Permeable Paving System interlocking paving systems allow permeable pavers to effectively improve the quality of storm water as it is filtered through the paving system and absorbed into the ground. (5 pages)

p-3213 GeoPlan: GIS Solution (GeoDecisions: A Division of Gannet Flemming 2009)  A Comprehensive data management and geographic information system (GIS) solution for municipalities, cities, and counties. (3 pages)

p-3214 Deighton (Deighton 2009)  Software information on how Deighton software can support all aspects of infrastructure asset management. Information includes: Deighton’s vision, community and strategic alliances, sustainable solutions and Deighton’s Total Infrastructure Asset Management Solution, Enterprise/Desktop solutions, internet solutions, return on investments, implementation and post-implementation, and training. (8 pages)

p-3532 Transportation Research Program Administration in Europe and Asia (FHWA 2009)  The scanning studies of Europe and Asia to review transportation research program administration practices. (64 pages)
The Local Technical Assistance Program Newsletter, *LTAP MATTERS*, is published quarterly. Funding for this program is provided by the Federal Highway Administration, Montana Department of Transportation, Montana State University, and a portion of Montana's gas tax revenues.

This newsletter is designed to keep you informed about new publications, techniques, and new training opportunities that may be helpful to you and your community.

Present and past issues are available at www.coe.montana.edu/ltap or by calling 1-800-541-6671.

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LTAP attempts to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person participating in any service, program or activity. Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided upon request.

Please send us any comments or concerns you may have regarding this newsletter with your name and address in order that we may respond in a timely manner.