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July 2011

Reports & Resources

Food Desert Locator
USDA Economic Research Service | READ STORY
A new tool on the ERS website allows users to locate food deserts.

More Deaths than Births in Rural Counties
The Daily Yonder | READ STORY
Most US counties that have more deaths than births are rural.

President's Corner

The Community Development Society / Rural Sociological Society Joint International Conference takes place July 28-31, 2011 in Boise and several MACDEP members will be attending. Follow the conference updates via Twitter feeds; To follow tweets about the CDS/RSS Conference, use the hashtag: #CDS-RSS; and tweets about CDS: #CommDevSoc. More info about the conference and the new CDS blog is available at the CDS website.

-Paul Lachapelle
MACDEP President

Upcoming Events

Energizing Entrepreneurs Webinar Series
July 13, 20, and August 17, 2011
Economic and Tax Comparisons by State
Taxpayersnetwork.org | READ STORY
A source of information on a number of public policy issues.

Bicycle Highway Systems
Daily Good | READ STORY
Proposals for a national bicycle freeway system are regaining momentum.

Senator Tester's Women's Small Business Opportunity Workshop
July 22, 2011
Billings, MT

Harvesting Clean Energy Conference
October 23-25, 2011
Boise, ID

Grants, Awards & Jobs
Community Health and Fitness Grants
Deadline: July 31, 2011
Funder: JR Albert Foundation, Inc

Family Farm Grants
Deadline: August 1, 2011
Funder: Farm Aid

Special Events Grant Program
Deadline: October 21, 2011
Funder: Montana Department of Commerce, Office of Tourism

Rural Development Grants
Deadline: Varies
Funder: USDA Rural Development

National/International News
EPA To Release Strict Emissions Limits
New York Times; July 5
The Information Needs of Communities
Federal Communications Commission | READ STORY
A new report examines information technology access and needs of communities.

The Problem With Fair-Trade Coffee
Stanford Social Innovation Review | READ STORY

University to Study More Efficient Way to Use Coal
Denver Post; July 5

Rural Newspapers More Successful Than Metro Papers
High Country News; July 5

House Committee Approves Bill to Transfer Water Authority to States
New York Times; June 22

Harvard Study Offers New Nutritional Guidelines
Washington Post; June 22

States Feel EPA Budget Cuts
Washington Post; Jun 20

Canadian Companies Outsourcing Work to US
Toronto Globe and Mail; June 12

Scientists Link Persistent Drought in Southwest to Climate Change
Christian Science Monitor; June 9

US Falling Behind in Green Technology Business
New York Times; June 8

Utah Inventor’s Invention May Make Wind Energy More Profitable
NewWest.com; June 8

Interior Department Reverses
Strict certification requirements may be putting coffee growers and consumers at a disadvantage.

Bike Commuting and Happiness

A nationwide study finds that cities with more bike commuters are happier.

Bike Share to Work (log)

Welfare

Bonneville Power Administration Seeks to Improve Montana Wind Power Exports

Montana News

Wheat Farmers Deal with Blight

Rising Water Could Push Oil Spill Further Down Yellowstone

NPS Published Proposed Winter Use Policy for Yellowstone

Lumber Company to Sell Land in Western Montana

Earth First! Rally May Target Megaload Shipments

Montana Begins Work on Hydraulic Fracturing Legislation

USFS Funds Montana Biomass Project

Bonneville Power Administration Seeks to Improve Montana Wind Power Exports

Socioeconomic Profile Toolkit
The Economic Profile System-Human Dimensions Toolkit allows users to produce detailed socioeconomic profiles of their communities.

A new tool compares American and Canadian cities using indicators of greenness.