October 2011

Reports & Resources

Low Unemployment in Rural Counties
The Daily Yonder | READ STORY
The rural unemployment rate continues to remain below the national average in most rural counties.

- Rural Employment, August ‘11
Six out of ten rural counties had unemployment rates below the national average in August, 2011

- National Average: 9.08% August 2011
- High Unemployment: 12% to 22.3% (276 counties)
- Above Average: 9.1% to 11.9% (522 counties)
- Below Average: 8% to 9.08% (273 counties)
- Low Unemployment: 5% to 7.9% (618 counties)
- Very Low Unemployment: Under 5% (338 counties)

President’s Corner
We are happy to announce the 2012 Rural Community Conference will take place May 15-16 at the MSU Campus in Bozeman, MT. We are now planning keynote and session speakers, financial sponsors and other special events. Stay tuned for more info.

The deadline for submission of abstracts to the 2012 Community Development Society Annual Conference is October 31, 2011. The CDS Conference will take place July 21-25, 2012 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Abstracts involving partnerships between practitioners and academics are especially encouraged.

-Paul Lachapelle
MACDEP President

Upcoming Events
Air Pollution in Cities
World Health Organization | READ STORY
A new report by the WHO compares air pollution in cities. The figure below compares the PM10 levels (pollutant particles smaller than 10 microns) by region.

Thinking About Public Spaces
Planetizen | READ STORY
This article examines what elements make up great public spaces.

Trends in Higher Education
Daily Good | READ STORY
This infographic examines trends in higher education over the last 10 years.

MSU Fall Career Fair
October 6th, Bozeman
Sponsor: MSU

Business Financial Management Workshop
October 19-20, Butte
Sponsor: Headwaters RC&D

The Northwest Solar Summit
November 7-8, Bellevue, WA
Sponsor: Puget Sound Energy

SSTI Annual Conference:
Innovative Economies, Creating Our Future
November 8-9, Columbus, OH
Sponsor: State Science and Technology Institute

Grants, Awards & Jobs
Healthy, Educated Workforce for Montana Initiative
Deadline: October 26, 2011
Funder: Blue Cross Blue Shield

Grants to Support Environment, Education, Human Services and Other
Deadline: November 1, 2011
Funder: The Lawrence Foundation

Grants for Research on Value and Impact of US Arts Sector
Deadline: November 8, 2011
Funder: National Endowment for the Arts

Impact Analysis Grants
Deadline: Ongoing
Funder: Northwestern Energy
Rural/Urban Poverty Gap Decreases

The Daily Yonder | READ STORY
The poverty gap between rural and urban Americans is at its lowest in 50 years.

Recession: Perception Versus Reality

Daily Good | READ STORY
This infographic shows that Americans hardest hit by the recession are more likely to be satisfied with the state of the economy.
Study: Great Falls Has Shortest Commute Time in Nation
Great Falls Tribune; Sept 22

Four Montanans Make Forbes 400 List
Missoula Independent; Sept 21

Montana County Examines Population Increase
Great Falls Tribune; Sept 17