April 2012

Reports & Resources

Montana Ranks Among Happiest States
GALLUP | READ STORY
This GALLUP Wellbeing study, based on daily surveys conducted through the end of 2011, presents data on the state-by-state relative wellbeing of American citizens.

Farm-Level Price Projections
USDA | READ STORY
Despite projected short-term decline, U.S. farm-level prices for such agricultural staples as corn, wheat, and soy are expected to sustain historic highs.

President's Corner
Scholarships are still available to attend the 2012 Rural Community Conference, May 15-16 in Bozeman, MT.

We also have updated our Session Descriptions and Speaker Bios page.

Please Register today!

-Paul Lachapelle
MACDEP President

Upcoming Events
Growing Sustainable Communities
May 2-3, 2012
Sonoma County, CA
Sponsor: Applied Solutions & Sonoma County Water Agency

FRED 2012 (Focus on Rural Entrepreneurial Dev.)
CarbonTracker Research Tool
ESRL | READ STORY
The ESRL’s Global Monitoring Division provides an online tool called CarbonTracker, which offers a variety of maps, graphs, and movies representing data from studies on world carbon emission flux through the 2000’s.

Rural Population Numbers for 2010
Daily Yonder | READ STORY
Though the number of U.S. citizens living in rural areas decreased 1.2% between 2000 and 2010, nearly 30% of the American population still opts for the rural life.

May 3-5, 2012
Fairfield, IA
Sponsor: Fairfield Entrepreneurs Association

IEDC 2012: Driving Innovation and Prosperity
June 10-12, 2012
St. Louis, MO
Sponsor: International Economic Development Council

ALIA Summer Institute
June 18-23, 2012
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
Sponsor: ALIA Institute

Reclaiming Vacant Properties Conference
June 20-23, 2012
New Orleans, LA
Sponsor: Center for Community Progress

Grants, Awards & Jobs

Grants for Programs With Demonstrated Success in Helping Children Thrive
Deadline: May 1, 2012
Funder: Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation

Metlife Foundation Creativity and Aging Technical Assistance Grant
Deadline: May 4, 2012
Funder: National Center for Creative Aging

Bush Fellowship Program
Deadline: March 7 to May 4, 2012; or May 9 to July 9, 2012
Funder: Bush Foundation
Girls and Boys in Math and the Sciences

An infographic from engineeringdegree.net compares various data between boys and girls related to math and science education.

Farmland Value by Region

According to this USDA study, the value of American farmland varies widely by region, such that national averages can be misleading. This chart displays farmland value data by region.
Job Recovery Demographics
Pew Research Center | READ STORY
This report traces job recovery patterns among the major American population demographics--by ethnicity, gender, race, and nativity--showing disparate levels of recovery across demographic lines.