# MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS

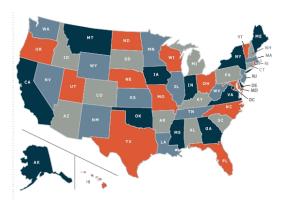
January 2014

### Reports & Resources

### **Student Debt Today**

#### **Project on Student Debt | READ STORY**

The Project on Student Debt has provided an online tool which simplifies data from their report "Student Debt and the Class of 2012." The average student debt of Montana State University graduates in 2012, for instance, was \$27,320, while the average debt of University of Montana graduates was \$29,126. Montana has the 18th highest average student debt among graduates in the U.S.



### **Changing Transportation Trends**

#### U.S. Pirg | READ STORY

This report by U.S. Pirg examines shifts in U.S. transportation habits. Americans did the most per capita

#### President's Corner

We would like to invite MSU Extension faculty and staff to consider membership in the Montana Association of Community Development Professionals (MACDEP). MACDEP is the state affiliate of the National Association of Community Development **Extension Professionals** (NACDEP) with the mission of encouraging excellence in community development educational programs, processes, research, and technical assistance through the exchange of ideas and methods, collaboration, and professional development of members to benefit communities; To learn more, please visit our website. The state membership is \$10; please contact Mandie Reed, MACDEP Treasurer, with inquiries.

> -Paul Lachapelle MACDEP President

driving in 2004. The average U.S. miles per day is down 7.6% since then. Less people are commuting to work in their own private vehicles, more are working at home, fewer have more than one car, and more forgo owning a vehicle altogether.



### **Western Economy Atlas**

### **Headwaters Economics | READ STORY**

This interactive tool from Headwaters Economics presents information on the economic landscape of the westernmost eleven states of the U.S. Economic trends can be investigated at the state, regional, and county levels. Montana, for instance, has gained over 13,000 jobs in the health care/social assistance field--the most in any field--but the retail industry still provides the most jobs, over 70,000 total.



### **Upcoming Events**

### **Community Development Extension Institute**

February 26-28, 2014 Boise. ID Sponsor: CDEI

#### 2014 National Interagency **Community Reinvestment** Conference

March 30-April 2, 2014 Chicago, IL

Sponsor: Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, et al.

### **International Association for Community Development**

June 9-11, 2014 Glasgow, Scotland Sponsor: International Association for Community

Development

#### Grants, Awards & Jobs

### **Transportation for Veterans** in Rural Areas

Deadline: February 3, 2014 Funder: Department of Veterans Affairs

### **Grants that Increase Employment Outcomes for People with Disabilities**

Deadline: February 7, 2014 Funder: Kessler Foundation

### **Support for Social Justice** Issues

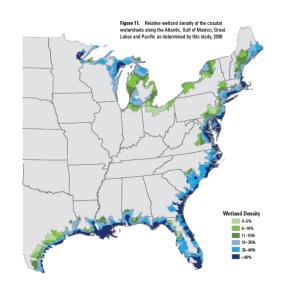
Deadline: February 14, 2014 Funder: Public Welfare

Foundation

# One of Nation's Key Ecosystems Being Lost at Staggering Rate

### NOAA | READ STORY

From 2004-2009 wetland area in the coastal watersheds of the U.S. dropped by over 360,000 acres according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in <a href="theirreport">their report</a>. That amounts to an annual loss of over 80,000 acres, a 25 percent-increase since the agencies' previous reporting period.



# US Navy Predicts Summer Ice Free Arctic by 2016

### Annual Review of Earth and Planetary Science | READ STORY

An ongoing US Department of Energy-backed research project led by a US Navy scientist predicts that the Arctic could lose its summer sea ice cover as early as 2016 - 84 years ahead of conventional model projections. The project, based out of the US Naval Postgraduate School's Department of Oceanography, uses complex modelling techniques that make its projections more accurate than others. A paper by principal investigator Professor Wieslaw Maslowski in the Annual Review of Earth and Planetary Sciences sets out some of the findings.

# Projects that are Designed and Implemented by Women and Girls

Deadline: February 15, 2014 Funder: Open Meadows

Foundation

### **Community Action Grants Program**

Deadline: February 15, 2014 Funder: American Association of University Women (AAUW)

### **Champions for Healthy Kids Program**

Deadline: March 15, 2014 Funder: General Mills

### **Grant Proposals for Youth Creativity Programs**

Deadline: April 15, 2014 Funder: Lego Children's Fund

#### Support for Organizations Assisting Low-Income Communities

Deadline: Open Funder: The Kresge

Foundation

### Support for Vulnerable Children Programs Worldwide

Deadline: Open

Funder: Dorothea Haus Ross

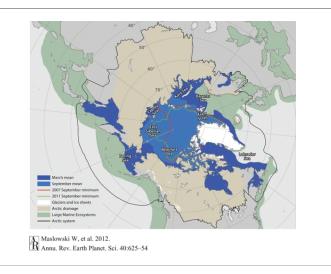
Foundation

### Proposals for Environmental, Education, Human Services Projects

Deadline: April 30, 2014 Funder: The Lawrence

Foundation

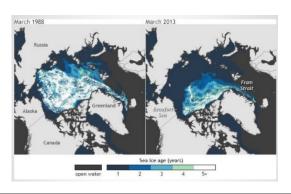
National/International News



# NOAA: Expect 'Widespread, Sustained Changes' in the Arctic

#### **NOAA | READ STORY**

Three decades of a consistent warming trend have made a greener Arctic the new normal, and "widespread, sustained changes" are set to come to region, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said in a recent assessment.



# Humanity Wholly Unprepared for Abrupt Climate Impacts, Warns Report

#### National Academy of Sciences | READ STORY

A new report released by scientists in the National Academy of Sciences says the sudden impacts of climate change this century and beyond are inevitable but warn that far too little has been done to prepare for them stating, 'the pace of change is orders of magnitude higher than what species have experienced in the last tens of millions of years.'

### WY to Diversify Energy Investments

Star Tribune; January 1

### ND Train Derailment Evokes Safety Concerns

Denver Post; December 31

### Home Electricity Use Lowest Since 2001

Idaho Statesman; December 30

### FAA Selects Eight States for Drone Test Sites

New York Times; December 30

#### Mercury Levels Rising Around Alberta Oilsands

Canada.com; December 29

#### Montana News

### Housing Starts Boost Rate of Building in Bitterroot

Ravalli Republic; January 1

### MT Gas Prices Lowest in the Nation

Flathead Beacon; December 31

#### Blewett Not to Run for Reelection

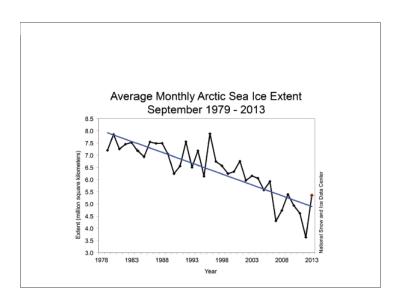
Great Falls Tribune; December 31

### **Building Boom in Billings**

Billings Gazette; December 29

### Mixed Bag for MT Mining in 2013

Missoulian; December 29





MSU Extension Community Development | Wilson Hall 2-117 P.O. Box 172240 | Bozeman, MT 59717-2240 Tel: (406) 994-3620

Back issues of the MACDEP E-news are available <u>here</u>
To subscribe to the Montana CD E-Newsletter, send a request to: <u>commdev@montana.edu</u>