Items of Interest

Bonnie Teater Award Nominations Due March 31st
The Southern Rural Development Center is pleased to announce that nominations are being sought for the Bonnie Teater Community Development Educator Lifetime Achievement Award for 2016. The following provides specific information regarding this important award and the deadline date for nominations to be received. The award is for superior lifetime work by an individual (not a team) who has made an important contribution to the Extension Community Development (CD) area. The award comes with a $500 stipend.

SRDC Co-Sponsoring the 2016 NACDEP/ANREP Annual Conference:

June 26-29, 2016: Burlington, Vermont
This year’s 2016 joint conference theme, “Building a Path to Resiliency: Uniting Natural Resources & Community Development.” For the first time, National Association of Community Development Extension Professional (NACDEP) and Association of Natural Resource Extensional Professionals (ANREP) are teaming up for a Joint Annual Conference June 26-29, 2016 at the Sheraton Hotel in beautiful and vibrant Burlington, Vermont. Between our memberships, we are anticipating over 350 attendees, providing an excellent opportunity to broaden your Extension Network, present and learn from your peers, and learn from an expanded topic menu. Our Burlington location features an impressive diversity of both established and new, innovative and best practice programs from community and economic development, forestry, water quality, housing, local food, social justice, place making, environmental education, arts and culture, sustainability, public and private initiatives – plus many more. Registration for the conference opens February 15th, 2016.

SRDC is pleased to help promote the National eXtension Conference

March 22-25, 2016: San Antonio, Texas
The 2016 National eXtension Conference is about issues, innovation, and impact—both within the Cooperative Extension System and within eXtension itself. In 2015, we began a quest to reinvent eXtension to focus on innovation and professional development and how to bring them together to accelerate Extension professionals’

Webinars:

Southern CRD Webinar Series:
Community Food Systems and Healthy Food Access Initiatives
February 16th, 2016
10am CT/11am ET
WEBINAR LINK
LEARN MORE

You’ve got the Position, Now Make Sure You Have the Talent
March 29th, 2016
10am CT/11am ET
WEBINAR LINK
LEARN MORE

Improving the Health and Safety of NC Farmworker: Connecting Community Resources
April 2016
LEARN MORE

Other Great Webinars:
Florida’s Urban Extension Strategic Plan
February 25th, 2016
12 pm CT/1:00 pm ET
This webinar will discuss how a two year planning process resulted in the adoption of the plan and where UF/IFAS is in the implementation phase.
WEBINAR LINK
impact in the communities they serve. Together with our Fellows, Innovation Project awardees and leaders of unique user communities, we created a new initiative—i-Three—to provide more support for Extension professionals seeking professional growth. As much workshop as conference, our 2016 National eXtension Conference showcases the knowledge, energy, and commitment to innovation of Extension professionals system wide.

LEARN MORE

Southern CRD Webinar Series Continues:

Community Food Systems and Healthy Food Access Initiatives

February 16th, 2016 10:00am CT/11:00am ET

The session will share accomplishments, lessons learned and next steps in Virginia. Examples of initiatives addressing farm to table, urban and rural food deserts, healthy food retail, food system councils and other collaborative efforts will be discussed.

LINK TO WEBINAR

Grant Connections

Farm Business Management and Benchmarking (FBMB) Competitive Grants Program

The Farm Business Management and Benchmarking (FBMB) Competitive Grants Program provides funds to (1) improve the farm management knowledge and skills of agricultural producers; and (2) establish and maintain a national, publicly available farm financial management database to support improved farm management. Deadline for application is due April 11, 2016.

LEARN MORE

Call for Research Proposals: Drivers of Rural Innovation and Implications for Community and Regional Economic Development

SRDC is pleased to help promote the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development National call for proposal to support data access and research in rural business innovation and economic development. As international competition and knowledge intensity in economic activity have increased, innovation in new products, services, and ways of doing business has emerged as a key driver of productivity and growth. USDA’s Rural Establishment Innovation Survey (REIS) provides a new and rich array of data on innovative practices and technologies that will allow researchers to address questions about the ways in which business innovation is happening in rural areas, and its dependence and impact on rural communities and regional economies. Proposals are due by 5pm (EST) of February 25, 2016.

LEARN MORE

Archived Webinars:

Southern CRD Webinar Series:

January: Disaster Planning for the Prairie View A&M University Region
WEBINAR RECORDING

December: Developing and Implementing an Effective E-Commerce Program
WEBINAR RECORDING

November: Getting Community Stakeholders to Identify Water Quality Issues and Priorities Using Liberating Structures Webinar:
WEBINAR RECORDING

October: South Region CRD Webinar Series – Youth Engagement Leadership Program
WEBINAR RECORDING

National CRD Indicators Team Webinar Series:

Shoestring Evaluation: New Hampshire’s Experience Measuring CRED Impacts with Limited Resources and Expertise
WEBINAR RECORDING

Evaluating for Public Value through Impact Narratives Webinar
WEBINAR RECORDING
EPA and USDA Launch New Effort to Support Broadband and Main Street Redevelopment; Letters of Interest Due February 24

Communities interested in using broadband service to help revitalize small-town main streets and promote economic development are encouraged to apply for Cool & Connected, a pilot program sponsored by USDA Rural Utilities Service and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Sustainable Communities. Through Cool & Connected, a team of experts will help community members develop strategies and an action plan for using planned or existing broadband service to promote smart, sustainable community development. Quality broadband access can provide new opportunities for people and businesses. A growing number of communities have combined broadband service with other local assets such as cultural and recreational amenities to attract and retain investment and people, including young people. This can help diversify local economies. Such efforts typically require planning among community leaders, businesses, and internet service providers. The Cool & Connected program will provide assistance to this end, helping communities take advantage of new or existing broadband service to create walkable, connected, economically vibrant main streets and small-town neighborhoods.

Job Opportunities

Community Development Specialist, University of Missouri Extension

University of Missouri Extension regional specialists provide collaborative leadership and subject-matter expertise to develop, deliver and evaluate educational programs focused on improving lives, communities and economies. In general, regional specialists provide educational opportunities that enable businesses, farms, families and communities to strengthen the economy and enhance quality of life.

This position is responsible for planning, implementing and evaluating educational programs in the following subject-matter areas: community economic development, capacity assessment, community and organizational planning and decision making, regional development, leadership and civic engagement, community partnerships, local government, community emergency management, public policy issues identification and framing.

Conferences, Workshops, Trainings

New Partners for Smart Growth: Portland, OR

February 11-13, 2016

The New Partners Conference is heading back to the West Coast – Portland – after stops in America’s Heartland, the Rockies, and the Chesapeake Bay over the past three years. The nation’s largest smart growth and sustainability event, the theme for New Partners 2016 is “Practical Tools and Innovative Strategies for Creating Great Communities”, underscoring this year’s stronger emphasis on implementation. The program will feature tools, strategies, focused training, and new technologies that will help communities NOW. Registration deadline is January 21, 2016.
12th Annual Tri-State Diversity Conference: Cincinnati, OH

February 18-19, 2016
The Tri-State Diversity Conference is hosted by four land grant universities from Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio. It is designed for administrators, faculty, and staff from Cooperative Extension, research, and academic programs; private and public university representatives; K-12 educators; community outreach leaders; health and social services professionals; employers and supervisors; human resource staff; elected and appointed officials; and all others wanting to expand diversity efforts and increase cultural understanding in their communities and workplaces.

National eXtension Conference: San Antonio, TX

March 22-25, 2016
Our 2016 National eXtension Conference is about issues, innovation, and impact—both within the Cooperative Extension System and within eXtension itself. In 2015, we began a quest to reinvent eXtension to focus on innovation and professional development and how to bring them together to accelerate Extension professionals’ impact in the communities they serve. Together with our Fellows, Innovation Project awardees and leaders of unique user communities, we created a new initiative—i-Three—to provide more support for Extension professionals seeking professional growth. As much workshop as conference, our 2016 National eXtension Conference showcases the knowledge, energy, and commitment to innovation of Extension professionals system wide.

Extension Sustainability Summit 2016: Portland, OR

April 5–7, 2016
Held for the first time in 2013, this popular event promises an exciting two-day Summit addressing sustainability and Cooperative Extension’s outreach activities and opportunities. Plus field trips! And all the local foods and sustainably-created fun the Rose City has to offer!

2016 National Health Outreach Conference: Roanoke, VA

April 5–7, 2016
Health literacy is emerging as a leading issue affecting U.S. consumers’ health. It has been shown to be a stronger predictor of a person’s health than age, income, employment status, education level, or race. To best meet the health literacy needs of consumers, Extension educators can use best practice guidelines for improved health communications to develop effective educational materials, which include getting to know the target audience; sending clear, actionable message(s); and using appropriate formatting with meaningful visuals. Extension educators can apply these best practice guidelines to better promote health-related behaviors and communicate science more effectively to consumers.

2016 Extension Risk Management Education National Conference: Fort Worth, TX

April 27–28, 2016
The 2016 Extension Risk Management Education National Conference will bring together public and private sector educators, crop insurance agents, lenders, and other agricultural professionals to share ongoing and emerging successful risk management education efforts which target agricultural producers and their families. Conference
participants will learn about what is working to help producers effectively manage the financial, production, marketing, legal and human risks associated with their agribusinesses.

15th Annual Cambio de Colores (Change of Colors) Conference: Columbia, MO
June 8-10, 2016
Cambio de Colores is a multistate conference about integration of immigrants in new destinations in the Midwest. It is a professional development opportunity that engages practitioners, researchers, and those working with immigrant communities in sharing experiences and knowledge that facilitate the integration of immigrants in new settlement areas.

2016 NACDEP/ANREP Annual Conference: Burlington, VT
June 26-29, 2016
For the first time, NACDEP and ANREP are teaming up for a Joint Annual Conference June 26-29, 2016 at the Sheraton Hotel in beautiful and vibrant Burlington, Vermont. Between our memberships, we are anticipating over 350 attendees, providing an excellent opportunity to broaden your Extension Network, present and learn from your peers, and learn from an expanded topic menu.

79th Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting: Toronto, Canada
August 7-10, 2016
2016 RSS Annual Meeting Call for Papers, Posters, and Organized Sessions. The theme of the 2016 conference is Understanding Rural Social Class in an Era of Global Challenge and will be held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 7 - 10 August 2016. The call for papers deadline is Friday, February 5, 2016 11:59 pm (EST).

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