Resource Guide for Rural Planning and Design

Planning

The American Planning Association (APA) represents the interests of planning and planners. APA dues support the development of planning policy, public information, and fellowships and awards. Members belong to a local chapter with its own conferences, meetings, and newsletters. APA publishes books through its own Planners Press. These books and others in the field of planning are available through the Planners Bookstore in Chicago. APA Publishes Planning magazine, APA Journal, Land Use Law & Zoning Digest, and Zoning News. APA’s Planning Advisory Service (PAS) provides members with PAS reports which cover subjects of current interest to practicing planners; the Memo, a monthly bulletin; and access to a national data bank of zoning and subdivision ordinances, agency reports, books and periodicals.

American Planning Association
1776 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Suite 704
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 872-0611 Internet: http://www.planning.org
APA Planners Bookstore
1313 East 60th Street
Chicago, IL 60637
(312) 955-9100

The Council of State Community Affairs Agencies, a membership association consisting primarily of state agencies, addresses the common interests and goals of states with respect to community and economic development, housing, public works assistance, and state-local relations.

Council of State Community Affairs Agencies
Hall of States Building
444 North Capitol Street, N.W. Suite 251
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 393-6435

The National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) is the national grassroots organization that serves as the spokesman for the nation’s nearly 3,000 soil and water conservation districts. Its activities are aimed at advancing the resource conservation cause of the local districts and the millions of cooperating landowners and land managers whom they serve. The NACD operates five regional offices in addition to its Washington, DC headquarters. NACD keeps its members and subscribers informed through the Tuesday Letter and The District Leader, both monthly newsletters. The Conservation Technology Information Resource Center is a clearinghouse for information on soil and water conservation and water quality practices on cropland.

National Association of Conservation Districts
509 Capitol Court, N.E.
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 547-6223

Housing

The Building Officials and Code Administrators International (BOCA), a membership association of construction code officials, was established to provide a forum for the exchange of knowledge and ideas concerning building safety and construction regulation. BOCA maintains ongoing model code development activity, conducts regular training and education programs, offers a variety of model construction codes and code-related publications, and provides code interpretation assistance to its members. It also produces two bi-monthly publications.

Building Officials and Code Administrators International
4051 West Flossmore Road
Country Club Hills, IL 60478
(708) 799-2300

The Center for Community Change helps low-income groups develop strong community organizations. A broad range of assistance is offered, including organizational development, coalition assistance, help to groups in raising money, and working with them to rehabilitate housing and revitalize neighborhoods. The Center publishes a quarterly newsletter and technical publications.

Center for Community Change
1000 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20007
(202) 342-0519
The Center for Neighborhood Technology, a non-profit research, public policy, and technical assistance organization, seeks affordable, locally controlled ways for city residents to meet needs for housing, energy, jobs, and a healthy environment. Six program divisions make up the Center: energy services, housing services, neighborhood investment, industrial development, public issues, and The Neighborhood Works newsletter.

Center for Neighborhood Technology  
2125 West North Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60647  
(312) 278-4800

The Council for Rural Housing and Development (CRHD), as the only national nonprofit corporation whose sole focus is the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) Section 515 program, advocates an effective and adequately funded rural rental housing program in a fair tax environment for private sector participants. CRHD maintains a working relationship with FmHA and provides its members with access to a knowledgeable staff to field questions. The Council publishes CRHD Report, a monthly publication; Rural Survival Alert (RSA), a newsletter; and special mailings. It holds mid-year and annual meetings, plus two seminars each year on the Low Income Housing Tax Credit.

Council for Rural Housing and Development  
2300 M Street, N.W., Suite 260  
Washington, DC 20037  
(202) 955-9715

The Housing Assistance Council (HAC) is a service organization that works to increase the availability of housing for low-income people in rural areas. It administers a revolving loan fund, provides technical assistance, undertakes research and training programs, and publishes booklets on housing issues and programs. The Council also publishes HAC News, a biweekly newsletter.

Housing Assistance Council  
1025 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Suite 606  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 842-8600

The International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO) is a nonprofit service organization owned and controlled by its member cities, counties, and states. The ICBO’s aims are to publicize, maintain and promote the Uniform Building Code and its related documents, develop uniformity in regulations pertaining to building construction, educate the building official, and formulate guidelines for the administration of building inspection departments. Membership in ICBO is open to all governmental units as well as other segments of the building construction industry. ICBO publishes a periodical, Building Standards, but its primary publication is the Uniform Building Code and its related volumes. ICBO operates five regional offices.

International Conference of Building Officials  
5360 South Workman Mill Road  
Whittier, CA 90601  
(213) 699-0541  
www.icbo.org

The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), a federation of more than 800 state and local builder associations, monitors state and local legislation, offers technical and legal assistance, and sponsors educational seminars and conferences.

National Association of Home Builders  
1201 15th Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 822-0200

The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) is a professional association for housing and community development professionals. The association publishes the Journal of Housing, NAHRO Monitor newsletter, and a catalog of housing related books.

National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials  
1320 18th Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 429-2960  
www.nahro.org
The National Community Development Association (NCDA) is composed of more than 450 local governments that administer federally supported community/economic development, housing, and human service programs. NCDA works through its members to counsel at the federal level on new program design and current program implementation. Members receive up-to-the-minute mailings of federal legislative and administrative developments.

National Community Development Association
522 21st Street, N.W., Suite 120
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 293-7587

Land Use and Natural Resources
The American Farmland Trust (AFT) informs Americans about the issues posed by rapid depletion of the nation's farmland, the harmful effects of soil erosion, and other threats to the agricultural viability of the land. AFT undertakes projects, directly through cooperating organizations and individual landowners, which demonstrate farmland protection techniques, and assists farmland protection policy efforts and land use initiatives by local, state, and federal government.

American Farmland Trust
1920 N. Street, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 659-5170
www.farmland.org
Northeastern Field Office: (413) 586-9330

The American Forestry Association (AFA) advocates the protection, wise management, and enjoyment of both rural and urban forest resources in America. Its objective is to maintain and improve the health and value of trees and forests throughout America and to attract and cultivate the interests of citizens, industry and government.

American Forestry Association
P.O. Box 2000
Washington, DC 20013
(202) 667-3300 FAX 202-667-7751

American Rivers works to preserve the nation's outstanding rivers and riverscapes. It works to enlarge the national Wild and Scenic Rivers system; advocates for state river protection laws, hydroelectric power policy reform and public lands planning; and provides technical assistance to state and local river organizations.

American Rivers
801 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., Suite 400
Washington, DC 20003
(202) 547-6900 FAX: (202) 543-6142
www.amrivers.org

The Archaeological Conservancy is a national, nonprofit conservation organization dedicated to acquiring and permanently preserving the best of the nation's remaining archaeological sites. To save these sites, the Conservancy acquires the property by purchase, gift, or bargain sale to charity, secures the property and stabilizes the cultural resources, prepares a management plan and dedicates the property as a permanent archaeological preserve, and educates the general public about the destruction of our cultural heritage and how best to save what is left. Members receive The Archaeological Conservancy Newsletter.

The Archaeological Conservancy
415 Orchard Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 982-3278

The Conservation Fund, a national nonprofit organization, is dedicated to advancing land and water conservation with creative ideas and new resources. It provides specialized services ranging from land planning and acquisition to ecological assessment and communications support, and analyzes regulations, policies, and bills relating to natural resources and land use. The fund also publishes a bimonthly newsletter, Common Ground, and the bimonthly Land Letter, which discusses natural resource policy at the national level.

The Conservation Fund
1800 North Kent Street, Suite 1120
Arlington, VA 22209
(703) 522-8008
The **Environmental Defense Fund, Inc. (EDF)** is a nationwide public interest organization of lawyers, scientists, and economists dedicated to protecting and improving environmental quality and public health. EDF pursues responsible reform of public policy in the fields of energy and resource conservation, toxic chemicals, water resources, air quality, land use, and wildlife, working through research and public education, and judicial, administrative, and legislative action.

Environmental Defense Fund, Inc.  
Headquarters: 257 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10010  
(212) 505-2100  
www.edf.org

**Friends of the Earth** works to influence public policy, engages in research and litigation, and serves as a clearinghouse for information. The institute's special areas of concern include groundwater protection, strip mining, nuclear waste, and coastal resources.

Friends of the Earth  
218 D Street, S.E.  
Washington, DC 20003  
(202) 544-2600  
www.foe.org

The **Institute for Environmental Negotiation** provides neutral third-party mediation assistance to governments, businesses, and citizen groups in the settlement of land use, historic preservation, and environmental policy disputes.

Institute for Environmental Negotiation  
164 Rugby Road  
University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
(804) 924-1970  
www.virginia.edu/~envneg/IEN.html

The **Land Trust Alliance** is the national organization of land trusts. The Alliance provides specialized services, publications, information, and training for land trusts and other conservation organizations, and works for public policies that advance land conservation.

The Land Trust Alliance  
1319 F Street, N.W. #501  
Washington, DC 20004-1006  
(202) 638-4725 FAX: (202) 638-4730  
www.lta.org

The **Mineral Policy Center** was founded in 1988 to bring environmental controls to the mining industry. The center directly assists local community groups working on mining problems, lobbies Congress and federal agencies, and works with the courts. It publishes Clementine, Journal of Responsible Mineral Development, and other bulletins.

Mineral Policy Center  
1325 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Suite 550  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 737-1872

The **National Association of Service and Conservation Corps (NASCC)** is a nonprofit education association made up of conservation and service corps operating in states and cities. It serves as an information exchange network for members concerning conservation corps administration and management, promotes conservation and service values among staff and corps members, offers technical assistance to those interested in launching new corps, and promotes establishment of federal, state, and local programs. NASCC sponsors an annual national conference and regional seminars and workshops for youth corps advocates and related youth service programs.

National Association of Service and Conservation Corps  
666 Eleventh St., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 737-6272  
www.nascc.org

The **National Parks and Conservation Association (NPCA)** is a private, citizen-funded organization devoted solely to defending, expanding, and conserving the National Parks. NPCA works as an ally and constructive critic of the National Park Service. The Park Education Center provides extensive information on our nation’s parks, while citizen action programs give citizens an opportunity to get personally involved in issues. Members of NPCA receive National Parks, a bi-monthly magazine.

National Parks and Conservation Association  
1776 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036-1904  
(202) 223-6722  
www.npca.org
The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) functions as a nonprofit conservation education organization dedicated to creating and encouraging an awareness of the need for wise use and management of those resources upon which lives and welfare depend: soil, air, water, forests, minerals, plant and wildlife. NWF undertakes a conservation education program, distributes periodicals and educational materials, sponsors outdoor education programs in conservation, and litigates environmental disputes.

National Wildlife Federation
1400 Sixteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036-2266
(202) 797-6800
www.nwf.org

The Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. (NRDC) is a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to protecting America’s endangered natural resources and to improving the quality of the human environment. The Council combines government agencies from various disciplines, bringing legal action and disseminating citizen information.

Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc.
40 West 20th Street
New York, NY 10011
(212) 727-2700
www.nrdc.org

The Nature Conservancy, an international environmental organization, works to protect the habitat of rare plants and animals. The Conservancy operates 50 state offices, regional and field offices, and maintains 1,100 nature preserves. It also publishes Nature Conservancy Magazine.

The Nature Conservancy
1815 North Lynn Street, Suite 400
Arlington, VA 22209
(703) 841-5300
www.tnc.org

The Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC), a nonprofit organization, is devoted to converting abandoned railroad rights-of-way into trails for public use. In partnership with citizen groups, public agencies, railroads, and others, the Conservancy is working to build a transcontinental trailway network. RTC’s program includes technical assistance, public education, advocacy, negotiation, legislation, and regulatory action. Publications such as the Citizen’s Manual, Legal Manual, and the newsletter Trailblazer, in addition to conferences and statewide meetings, keep advocates up to date on rail-trail regulations and procedures.

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
1100 17th Street, NW
10th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 331-9696 FAX (202) 331-9680
www.railtrails.org

The Sonoran Institute works with communities to conserve and restore important natural landscapes in Western North America, including the wildlife and cultural values of these lands. The Institute’s efforts create lasting benefits, including healthy landscapes and vibrant livable communities that embrace conservation as an integral element of their economies and quality of life.

Sonoran Institute
201 S Wallace
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406) 587-7331
www.sonoran.org

The Trust for Public Land (TPL), a nonprofit organization with twelve offices located throughout the U.S., is a network of experts in real estate negotiation, finance, and law, dedicated to protecting land for the public’s use and enjoyment. Neither a membership nor advocacy group, TPL assists public agencies, landowners, and citizens’ groups to protect land of recreational, historic, and scenic value. Its projects range from lot-sized neighborhood gardens to vast additions to forests, parks, and national recreation areas.

The Trust for Public Land
116 New Montgomery Street, Fourth Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 495-5660
www.tpl.org
Design

The American Institute of Architects (AIA), the national organization for professional architects, is supported by regional and local chapters nationwide. The AIA offers a variety of publications pertaining to architecture and urban design, and maintains a complete architectural library.

American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 626-7300
www.aia.org

The American Institute of Graphic Artists (AIGA), a national nonprofit organization, promotes excellence in the graphic design profession through competitions, exhibitions, publications, professional seminars, educational activities, and projects in the public’s interest. AIGA has 30 geographically diverse chapters, each representing the graphic design profession on a local level. The institute sponsors a biennial conference and publishes a quarterly journal, The AIGA Journal of Graphic Design.

American Institute of Graphic Artists
1059 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10021
(212) 752-0813
www.aiga.org

The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) is the professional organization for landscape architects. Its goal is to inform the public about the profession, land design, planning, and management issues. The Open Committee on the Rural Landscape provides a forum for landscape architects and other disciplines with an interest in agriculture and rural landscape matters.

American Society of Landscape Architects
4401 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Fifth Floor
Washington, DC 20008-2302
(202) 686-2752 FAX (202) 686-1001
www.asla.org

Americans for the Arts, the national clearinghouse for arts board members, volunteers, and individuals, offers several publications, including Connections Monthly and Connections Quarterly as well as various books and annual conferences. In the past NALAA has worked on adaptive use and historic preservation projects for the performing arts.

Americas for the Arts
1000 Vermont Ave. NW 12th floor
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 371-2830
www.artsusa.org

The National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA), a nonprofit membership organization, serves as the collective voice and service organization for arts agencies. NASAA provides professionals and volunteers with opportunities for information exchange, leadership development, and issues analysis. The organization publishes NASAA News and ArtView.

National Assembly of State Arts Agencies
1010 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Suite 920
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 347-6352

Through Our Town, subject to the availability of funding, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) will provide a limited number of grants for creative placemaking projects that contribute towards the livability of communities and help transform them into lively, beautiful, and resilient places with the arts at their core. Our Town prioritizes partnerships between arts organizations and government, private, and nonprofit organizations to achieve livability goals for communities.

Our Town offers support for projects in two areas:

- Arts Engagement, Cultural Planning, and Design Projects that represent the distinct character and quality of their communities
- Projects that Build Knowledge About Creative Placemaking

Our Town, NEA
400 7th Street
SW, Washington, DC 20506
202.682.5400
webmgr@arts.gov
http://arts.gov/grants-organizations/our-town/introduction
Partners for Livable Communities is an international coalition of more than 600 organizations and individuals committed to improving communities’ economic health and quality of life through collaborative resource management. Partners serves as a national resource center for information on the built and natural environments and offers a research and referral service on a broad range of community improvement projects. Partners publishes a newsletter semiannually.

Partners for Livable Communities  
1429 21st Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 887-5990 FAX 202-466-4845  
www.livable.com

Project for Public Spaces (PPS), a nonprofit organization, specializes in the planning, design, and management of public spaces. PPS’s objective is to improve public spaces so they are more usable, lively, safe, and enjoyable. PPS considers public spaces to include all of the areas, interior or exterior, publicly or privately owned, to which the public has access and which form the common life of a community. PPS provides a newsletter update as well as various books and videos.

Project for Public Spaces, Inc.  
419 Lafayette, 7th Floor  
New York, NY 10003  
(212) 620-5660  
www.pps.org

Scenic America, a nonprofit membership organization, is devoted to protecting America’s scenic resources and community character. Scenic America conducts workshops and provides information and technical assistance on sign control, tree ordinances, scenic highways, growth management, and all forms of aesthetic regulation.

Scenic America  
21 Dupont Circle, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036  
(202) 833-4300

The Society of Environmental Graphic Design (SEGD), an international nonprofit organization, was founded to formalize graphic design as a profession, to increase public awareness of the discipline, and to promote high standards of professional conduct within the field. SEGD sponsors several award programs and conferences; publishes a quarterly newsletter, technical information, and a resource directory; and awards scholarships to fund student research projects in environmental graphic design.

Society of Environmental Graphic Design  
47 3rd Street  
Cambridge, MA 02141  
(617) 577-8225

The Waterfront Center, a nonprofit corporation, promotes urban waterfront enhancement through consulting and publications services. The Center publishes Waterfront World Spotlight Quarterly, as well as various books and reports.

Waterfront Center  
1536 44th Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20007  
(202) 337-0356  
www.waterfrontcenter.org

Historic Preservation - Public Agencies

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation advises federal agencies, the President, and Congress on preservation policy. The council also reviews proposed projects in which federal funds are involved in order to evaluate and mitigate potential effects on historic properties.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation  
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20004  
(202) 786-0503  
www.achp.gov

The National Park Service (NPS) of the U.S. Department of the Interior is the principal federal agency responsible for preservation law and activities. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, with amendments, creates the basic framework for community preservation planning and provides the legal structure for the retention of historic properties. The Act established the National Register of Historic Places to recognize, identify and evaluate significant historical properties. The federal government provides funding for the listing and federal review process and provides incentives to encourage reuse of income-producing historic properties.
Historic Preservation - Private Groups

The **Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation** provides a forum for communication and exchange of information among its varied members and promotes the preservation and conservation of historic landscapes in all their variety. The Alliance publishes a newsletter and a members’ directory and is working with the National Park Service on standards and guidelines for landscape preservation.

Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation
82 Wall Street, Suite 1105
New York, NY 10005
(617) 491-3727

The **American Historical Association** (AHA), a professional association for historians, has as its mission the advancement of historical scholarship. The AHA brings together nearly 5,000 institutions and 14,000 individuals, including university faculty, public historians, independent scholars, archivists, librarians, and secondary school teachers. AHA members receive The American Historical Review, Perspectives and the AHA Annual Meeting Program.

American Historical Association
400 A Street, S.E.
Washington, DC 20003
(202) 544-2422
chnm.gmu.edu/aha/index.html

The **American Society of Civil Engineers** (ASCE) established the Committee on History and Heritage of American Civil Engineering (CHHACE) in 1964, with the purpose of furthering preservation, knowledge, and appreciation of engineering history and heritage. The committee administers the Historical Civil Engineering Landmark Program to identify and give recognition to historically significant engineering projects. It also sponsors the publication of an historical series.

American Society of Civil Engineers
345 East 47th Street
New York, NY 10017
(212) 705-7671
www.asce.org

ASCE - Committee on History and Heritage of American Civil Engineering
1015 15th Street, N.W., Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 789-2200
The National Alliance of Preservation Commissions serves as an alliance of local preservation commissions that provides information regarding historic preservation law, local ordinances, design review, and local preservation planning. The alliance maintains a speakers' bureau and publishes the periodic Alliance Review.

National Alliance of Preservation Commissions

c/o School of Environmental Design
609 Caldwell Hall
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30620

The National Alliance of Statewide Preservation Organizations is the clearinghouse for information about statewide preservation organizations.

National Alliance of Statewide Preservation Organizations c/o Historic Hawaii Foundation
P. O. Box 1658
Honolulu, HI 96806
(808) 537-9564

Heritage Preservation (formerly The National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property, Inc) serves as a national forum for conservation and preservation activities in the United States. It provides leadership and coordination in national efforts to promote and facilitate the conservation of the nation’s patrimony, which includes cultural property, architecture, and natural history specimens in both public and private collections. NIC provides coordination in identifying issues and needs, in formulating strategies and solutions, and in initiating programs to ensure the preservation of the nation’s cultural property. The Institute publishes Council Update and the Save Outdoor Sculpture! Update, as well as other publications.

Heritage Preservation
1730 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 632-1422 FAX: 202-634-1435
www.heritagepreservation.org

The National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) is a nonprofit organization chartered by Congress to foster an appreciation of the diverse character and meaning of America’s cultural heritage. The National Trust publishes Historic Preservation magazine, Historic Preservation News, and Preservation Forum, as well as numerous books through its Preservation Press. NTHP acts as a clearinghouse for information on all aspects of preservation, assists in coordinating efforts of preservation groups, provides professional advice on preservation, conducts conferences and seminars, and maintains historic properties.

National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 588-6000
www.nthp.org

The National Trust operates a number of special programs at its headquarters in Washington, DC Among them are:
Public Policy Center: (202) 588-6255
Historic District Commissions: (202) 588-6255
National Main Street Center: (202) 588-6219
Rural Heritage Program: (202) 588-4037
Heritage Tourism Program: (202) 623-1504

Preservation Action (PA) is a national grassroots citizen lobby, with lobbying coordinators in each state. PA assists in drafting legislation, monitors proposed legislation, provides expert testimony, and works with federal agencies that administer preservation programs.

Preservation Action
1350 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 401
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 659-0915 FAX: (202) 296-2705

The Society for American Archaeology (SAA) is a nonprofit, international scholarly and professional association comprised of avocational archaeologists concerned about the discovery, interpretation, and protection of the archaeological heritage of America. While SAA boasts an active grassroots network throughout the country, it also maintains an office of Governmental Relations that works closely with...
Congress and federal agencies. The society has initiated a major public awareness project called Save the Past for the Future.

The Society for American Archaeology
Office of Governmental Relations
1333 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 293-1774 FAX: (202) 293-1782
www.saa.org

The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) is an international, nongovernmental professional organization composed of 60 national committees which form a worldwide alliance for the study and conservation of historic buildings, districts, and sites. The United States Committee of ICOMOS (US/ICOMOS) helps to exchange technical preservation information and expertise, and highlights the American preservation system. US/ICOMOS Newsletter is published monthly, ICOMOS Information quarterly, and publications are updated regularly in the US/ICOMOS Booklist.

United States International Commission on Monuments and Sites
1600 H Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 842-1866
www.icomos.org

Rural Development

The Center for Rural Affairs works to help low-income people, is concerned about the well-being of small, moderate-sized, and beginning farmers, and particularly focuses on Nebraska and neighboring states. The center publishes Small Farm Advocate, a quarterly newsletter, and Center for Rural Affairs, a monthly newsletter.

Center for Rural Affairs
P.O. Box 405
Walthill, NE 68067-0405
(402) 846-5428
www.cfra.org

The Heartland Center for Leadership Development is an independent, nonprofit organization developing local leadership that responds to the challenges of the future. A major focus of the Center’s activities is practical resources and policies for rural community survival. Programs and publications stress the critical role played by local leadership in facing challenges, and to that end the Center’s practical programs include training communities, businesses, and organizations in developing the capacity for locally directed strategic planning, helping policy-makers clarify key questions in the future of communities and states, and conducting field-based research related to leadership and its potential impact.

Heartland Center for Leadership Development
941 O Street, Suite 900
Lincoln, NE 68508
(402) 474-7667 FAX: 402-474-7672
Internet: http://www.4w.com/heartland/

The Highlander Research and Education Center, an adult education center, has been developing curriculum materials for adults on economic development and the changing economy of the Appalachian region. The Highlander Economics Education Project was developed to help people in rural Appalachian communities understand the changing economy and develop ways of dealing with the economy and community economic development. The project has included developing resource materials, conferences, and community workshops.

The Highlander Center
1959 Highlander Way
New Market, TN 37820
Tel: (423) 933-3443 Fax: (423) 933-3424
hrec@igc.apc.org

The Institute for Community Economics (ICE) has a range of programs which assist the efforts of community residents to gain control over and benefit from local economic development. ICE has developed the community land trust and loan fund models to address the problems of lower-income communities suffering from limited access to land, housing, and capital. ICE also provides community organizational and development assistance to community groups and public agencies around the country. The Institute is responsible for Community Economics, a quarterly newsletter, as well as other publications.

Institute for Community Economics
151 Montague City Road
Greenfield, MA 01301
(413) 774-7956
The National Association of Counties (NACo) represents the more than 3,000 county governments in the United States. Its goals are to improve county government, act as a liaison with other levels of government, serve as a national spokesperson for counties, and advance public understanding of the role of counties.

National Association of Counties
440 First Street, N.W., Eighth Floor
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 393-6226
www.naco.org

The National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), a national grassroots network, promotes locally based economic development organizations in America’s small cities and rural areas. NADO members include multi-county planning and development organizations, state, county and city agencies, educational institutions, and private businesses. Member organizations engage in activities designed to create and maintain private sector jobs. For up-to-the-minute information, NADO publishes special reports and NADO News, a weekly newsletter, and conducts an annual conference and regional training workshops.

National Association of Development Organizations
444 North Capitol Street, N.W., Suite 628
The Hall of the States
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 624-7806 FAX: (202) 624-8813
www.nado.org

The National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) is a membership organization for regional councils across the country, with affiliate membership for other public and private organizations with an interest in planning, development, and governance at the regional level. Representing the nation’s more than 500 regional councils, NARC serves as the national source of information for and about regional councils. NARC holds an annual conference which provides a forum for information exchange and an annual Washington Policy Conference in Washington, D.C. Among the several publications produced by the association are weekly and bi-weekly newsletters and special reports.

National Association of Regional Councils
1700 K Street, N.W., Suite 1300
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 457-0710
www.narc.org

The National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) is a nonprofit organization composed of commissioners, secretaries and directors of the Departments of Agriculture in the fifty states and four trust territories. NASDA’s purpose is to provide a voluntary, nonpolitical organization to promote unity and efficiency in administration of agricultural statutes and regulations, to develop cooperation between departments of comparable agencies with the United States Department of Agriculture and with persons interested in agriculture, and to establish federal-state cooperative programs to promote agricultural interests.

National Association of State Departments of Agriculture
1616 H Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 628-1566 FAX: (202) 628-9461

The National Association of Towns and Townships (NATaT), a membership organization, offers technical assistance, educational assistance, and public policy support to local government officials. The association publishes ten issues per year of NATaT’s Reporter.

National Association of Towns and Townships
1522 K Street, N.W., Suite 730
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 737-5200
www.natat.org

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) represents the national interests of rural electric systems. NRECA provides legislative services and programs in management training, insurance, public relations, and advertising. Two major publications of NRECA are Rural Electrification magazine and the Rural Electric Newsletter, which reports mainly on legislative and governmental matters. The association and its members also support supplemental energy and environmental research and administer a program of technical advice and assistance in the development of rural electric systems in 37 countries.
The Small Towns Institute is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to collecting and disseminating information on new and innovative ideas concerning the issues and problems facing small towns and non-urban areas. The institute publishes Small Town, a news journal containing perspectives from a variety of sources that share a common interest in enhancing the future of small communities.

Small Towns Institute
P.O. Box 517
Ellensburg, WA 98926
(509) 925-1830

The Townscape Institute, Inc. is a nonprofit public interest organization concerned with increasing the livability of cities, towns, and neighborhoods through the conservation, interpretation, and enhancement of the man-made environment. Program areas include townscape planning and interpretation, urban design and public art, preservation education, and environmental advocacy through lectures, publications, films and exhibits.

The Townscape Institute, Inc.
Two Hubbard Park
Cambridge, MA 02138
(617) 491-8952

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) works to support the American agricultural economy to strengthen rural communities; to protect and conserve our natural resources; and to provide a safe, sufficient, and nutritious food supply for the American people. The Department's wide range of programs and responsibilities touches the lives of every American every day. The USDA's Rural Development program is committed to helping improve the economy and quality of life in all of rural America by providing financial programs to support essential public facilities and services as water and sewer systems, housing, health clinics, emergency service facilities and electric and telephone service. Rural Development promotes economic development by providing loans to businesses through banks and community-managed lending pools, while also assisting communities to participate in community empowerment programs.

Rural Development (USDA)
1 (800) 670-6553
Internet: www.rudev.usda.gov

The Yellowstone Business Partnership promotes community vitality, a prosperous economy and a sustainable environment throughout the Yellowstone region. It does so by serving as a progressive voice for businesses that value each of these elements in making decisions with a long-term view.

Yellowstone Business Partnership
P.O. Box 7337
Bozeman, MT 59771

Funding

The Council on Foundations, a nonprofit membership organization for grantmakers, promotes and strengthens organized philanthropy. The Council represents grantmakers, their concerns, and their interests to public policymakers, the media, and the general public. Membership includes almost 1,200 independent, operating, community, public and company sponsored foundations, corporate giving programs, trust companies and international foundations. Council programs help members achieve their charitable goals. The Council publishes Foundation News and Council Columns, bi-monthly and bi-weekly publications, respectively.

Council on Foundations
1828 L Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 466-6512 FAX: (202) 785-3926
www.cof.org

The Foundation Center, a service organization, functions as a source of information on foundations, their patterns of giving, and their fields of interest. The center maintains offices and libraries open to the public in New York, Washington, DC, San Francisco, and Cleveland and collections in nearly 150 cooperating libraries throughout the country. It also provides a toll-free number for information of services and publications.
Independent Sector (IS) is a nonprofit coalition of over 650 corporate, foundation, and voluntary organization members. The mission of IS is to create a national forum capable of encouraging giving, volunteering, and nonprofit initiative. Members receive information via Memo to Members, UPDATE, and the Government Relations Information and Action Bulletin. The IS Associates Program is a special category of affiliation for executives of local, state-wide, and regional organizations and active volunteer leaders.

Independent Sector
1828 L Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 223-8100
www.indepsec.org

Other Federal Programs

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), in the U.S. Department of the Interior is responsible for the management of 341 million acres of public lands located primarily in the West and Alaska, in addition to scattered parcels in other states. BLM manages this land for multiple use and sustained yield. Land use plans are developed with public involvement to provide orderly use and development while maintaining and enhancing the quality of the environment.

Bureau of Land Management
18th and C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-5717
www.blm.gov

The National Council of State Housing Agencies (NCSHA), a national, nonprofit organization, assists its members in advancing the interests of low- and moderate income persons through the financing, development, and preservation of affordable housing. NCSHA acts as a national clearinghouse for information on state housing finance agencies (HFAs) and their programs and the use of the Low-Income Housing Credit. The Council holds an annual meeting and numerous workshops and publishes Washington Update and HFA Update.

National Council of State Housing Agencies
444 North Capitol Street, N.W.
Suite 118
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 624-7710 FAX: (202) 624-7719
www.ncsha.org