

March 24, 2016

## Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties



Tri County Council  
For Western Maryland

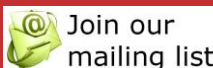
### In This Issue

[USDA Seeks Applications to Help Grow Rural Businesses](#)

[Allegany Mountain Fresh Farmers Market CSA](#)

### Dates to Remember

**Wednesday, April 20, 2016**  
TCCWMD Business Meeting  
Tour of EDA and ARC Allegany  
County Projects



**Notice of Funding  
Availability**



### USDA Seeks Applications for Loans and Grants to Help Grow Rural Businesses and Spur Economic Development

The [Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant \(REDLG\) Program](#) provides zero-interest loans and grants to local utilities, which use the funding to create revolving funds for projects that will create or retain jobs in rural areas.

- **Funding Amounts:** Recipients may receive a loan of up to \$1 million or a grant of up to \$300,000.

#### Application Deadlines:

- Third Quarter Applications due March 31, 2016
- Fourth Quarter Applications due June 30, 2016

For information on how to apply, visit the [REDLG Program page](#).

**Allegany Mountain Fresh Farmers Market**

**Funding Opportunity for  
Research Projects to  
Address Opioid Injection  
Use and Its  
Consequences in the  
Appalachian Region**

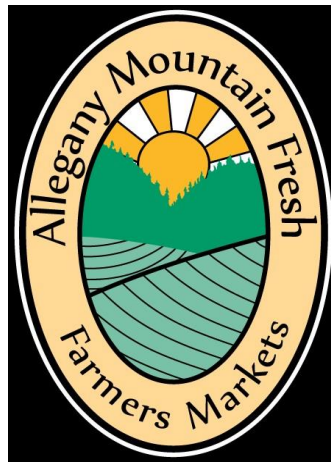
NIDA and ARC Grants will help  
develop an epidemiologic  
understanding of drug use in  
any of the 420 Appalachian  
counties.

**Announcing the 2016  
Innovations in Rural  
Health Award**

The 2016 New Rural:  
Innovations in Rural Health  
Award is seeking original,  
innovative solutions that have  
the potential to drive health  
improvement in rural  
communities.

**National Environmental  
Education Foundation:  
Greening STEM  
Integration Grants for  
Educators**

Environmentally Focused K-12  
STEM Projects  
Supported Grants are provided  
to K-12 teachers, after-school  
programs, and nature  
organizations throughout the  
United States.



The Allegany Mountain Fresh Farmers Markets are accepting applications for their cooperative CSA.

Thinking about signing up for a CSA but want to learn more about the idea before you commit?

For over 25 years, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) has become a popular way for consumers to buy local, seasonal food directly from a farmer.

Here are the basics: a farmer offers a certain number of "shares" to the public. Typically, the share consists of a box of vegetables, but other farm products may be included. Interested consumers purchase a share (aka a "membership" or a "subscription") and in return receive a box (bag, basket) of seasonal produce each week throughout the farming season. This arrangement creates several rewards for both the farmer and the consumer.

For complete details, email [walnutridgefarm@yahoo.com](mailto:walnutridgefarm@yahoo.com) for an application or visit the website at [alleganymountainfresh.weebly.com](http://alleganymountainfresh.weebly.com).

Deadline to sign up is **Wednesday, April 20, 2016** but don't wait; available slots will fill up fast. Visit and Like the full farmer's market Facebook page at Allegany Mountain Fresh Farmers Markets for updates on all of the farmer's markets.

[www.tccwmd.org](http://www.tccwmd.org)

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