



Contact Us
mburke@west-central-nebraska.com
308.284.6077



WCNDD Receives NADO Award for Videoconferencing System

WASHINGTON, DC – The West Central Nebraska Development District based in Ogallala, Nebraska has received a 2016 Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) for the Breaking the Barrier of the Road program.

The West Central Nebraska Development District (WCNDD) took the initiative to research and assist with implementation of a videoconferencing platform in its 18-county region. The program was kicked off in April 2016, which included live demonstrations, equipment recommendations, and on-site training and technical support. The platform gives WCNDD the capability to expand coverage and availability while providing cost savings to the community. Communities participating in the pilot program included the City of Arapahoe, Village of Bartley, Village of Brady, and City of Cambridge.

NADO is a Washington, DC-based association that promotes programs and policies that strengthen local governments, communities, and economies through regional cooperation, program delivery, and comprehensive strategies. The association's Innovation Awards program recognizes regional development organizations and their partners for improving the economic and community competitiveness of our nation's regions and local communities.

Award-winning projects were honored during NADO's 2016 Annual Training Conference, held October 15-18 in San Antonio, Texas. The 2016 class of award recipients consists of 96 projects spanning 28 states. These projects are presented in an interactive "Story Map" developed by NADO and Esri and include project summaries, funding information, and partners. The Story Map is available online at: <https://www.nado.org/innovation-awards/>.

“Since 1986 through its Innovation Awards program, NADO has recognized the transformative work regional development organizations perform every day. Award-winning projects showcase best practices across the country in regional development that support prosperous communities, stronger local economies, and improved quality of life for residents,” said 2015-2016 NADO Board President Jeffrey Kiely, Executive Director of the Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments, located in Gallup, New Mexico.

For more information about this award-winning project, contact CJ Poltack, 308-284-6077, cjpolmack@west-central-nebraska.com

Nuisance Abatement Program

As you ring in the New Year it is time to be thinking about community cleanup. We have written the book on a successful nuisance cleanup program and invite you to come on board. Our third party program works well because we take an independent look at your community, regardless of who lives where.

In fact, in the past we have mailed cleanup letters to governing board members, pastors, and business owners. No one is given a free pass, and that is what makes the program such a success!

We began this journey in 2007, and for the past nine years we have had the opportunity to work in thirteen communities within the District as well as train staff all across Nebraska. We have won a national NADO award with this program – because it will work.

Take a moment to browse our website at <http://west-central-nebraska.com/nuisance-abatement/>, scroll down on the page to open the sample nuisance ordinance. The first step in working a successful nuisance program is having a good nuisance ordinance in your tool box. We encourage you to take a moment and review the ordinance, and more importantly place it on your meeting agenda for a first reading.

Please give CJ Poltack a call at 308-284-6077 to answer any questions you may have or to schedule a presentation on the program.



Advantage of Energy Cost Savings Tools

With advances in today’s technology, it is easier than ever to analyze hidden business costs and find valuable solutions



that will be very profitable in the long run.

Analyzing your businesses day to day data, you can start to see exactly what resources you are overspending on and how you can begin to improve these conditions to lower expenses and raise profit margins. Technology helps you easily visualize the total effort required to implement these savings measures and the long term effects they will have on your businesses bottom line.

Energy conservation is a major opportunity for savings, whether it be installing smart windows or restructuring your lighting schedule during peak and non-peak hours. By utilizing the Internet of things (IoT), you can manage your efficiency, as well as find cost affordable solutions that will provide big payoffs down the road.

For more information, <https://www.score.org/blog/hidden-costs-your-business>



#whatshappeningWCNDD

What are you doing this fall? Send us your pictures to mburke@west-central-nebraska.com with the hashtag #whatshappeningWCNDD and we will share them on our Facebook page. Meanwhile, see if you can guess where this is ...

USDA Energy Efficient Loans and Grant Applications Still Available

Rural small businesses and agricultural producers are eligible to apply for loans and grants to support renewable energy and energy efficient projects.

Energy efficient investments can not only cut small business costs, but also provide opportunities to expand operations. The application deadline for energy audit and renewable energy development assistance grants is Jan. 31, 2017.

Applications for renewable energy system and energy efficiency grants of \$20,000 or less are due by

March 31, 2017, for the second funding cycle.

Applications for renewable energy system and energy efficiency grants of greater than \$20,000 and all combination grants and guaranteed loans are due by March 31, 2017. USDA will set aside 20 percent of the funds for grants of \$20,000 or less.

For more information contact Jeff Carpenter: (402) 437-5554 or jeff.carpenter@ne.usda.gov

Important Deadlines:

Scrap Tire Application

February 1, 2017

CDBG Pre-App Annual Cycle

March 3, 2017