

Contact Information

Blackhawk Hills
Regional Council
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Upcoming Events

[Click event title for more information.](#)

Office Closed

May 25, 2015
Memorial Day

County Board Chairs Meeting

May 26, 2015
1:00 PM

Carroll County Courthouse
301 North Main
Mt. Carroll, IL 61053

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council Meeting

June 1, 2015
6:00 PM

Lanark Heritage Center
106 South Broad Street
Lanark, IL 61046

Zoning Administrators Meeting


June 3, 2015
9:30 AM

Ogle County Planning and
Zoning Department
911 West Pines Road
Oregon, IL 61046

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BLACKHAWK HILLS Regional Council



Jo Daviess • Stephenson • Carroll • Ogle • Whiteside • Lee

Thank you for your interest in Blackhawk Hills Regional Council. You are receiving this newsletter because we would like to keep you up-to-date on projects and initiatives in the six-county region of Blackhawk Hills. We serve Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, and Whiteside Counties in northwestern Illinois.

If you have a project that you would like our assistance with, please contact our office at 815-625-3854 or submit a [Project Proposal Form](#) on our website.

If you have news or upcoming events that you would like us to share in our newsletter, on Facebook, or our website, please contact us at 815-625-3854 or by email at info@blackhawkhills.com.

Highlights from Blackhawk Hills Regional Council's Spring Symposium and Annual Meeting

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council (BHRC) held its Spring Symposium and Annual Meeting on April 24, 2015, at Barnacopia in Polo, IL. The meeting was open to the public and nearly 60 guests from various local governments and organizations attended. The theme of the event was "What to Expect When You're Expecting Change: Taxes and Transformation in Illinois."

State Representative Tom Demmer provided a video greeting and update on our State's financial situation. Keynote speaker Carol Portman, Taxpayers' Federation of Illinois, presented on Illinois tax policy and what changes local governments should expect. Betty Steinert, Whiteside County Economic Developer and Enterprise Zone (E-Zone) Administrator, presented on Enterprise Zones in changes in general and new application process. All media from the Symposium are available at www.blackhawkhills.com.

Also at the meeting, BHRC presented two awards. The Volunteer of the Year award was presented to the Timber Lake Playhouse Board of Directors, while the Carson DeJarnatt Economic Development Award was presented to Betty Steinert. Mrs. Steinert has served as the E-Zone Administrator for Whiteside and Carroll Counties, the Whiteside County Economic Developer, and the Jo Carroll E-Zone Administrator for the past 16 years. She also served on BHRC's Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Committee.



Ron Colson, BHRC President, presenting Betty Steinert with the Carson DeJarnatt Economic Development Award.



Ron Colson, BHRC President, presenting the Volunteer of the Year Award to Dan Danielowski, Timber Lake Playhouse (TLP) Executive Director, on behalf of the TLP Board of Directors.

Annual Report Available

The 2014-2015 Blackhawk Hills Regional Council Annual Report is now available! You can view this document by visiting our website. To do so, please [click](#) here. Staff will once again present the report to the county boards, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and other stakeholders within our region in the coming months.

If you would like Blackhawk Hills Regional Council to present to your organization or would like to request a hardcopy of the report, please contact Julie Jacobs at 815-625-3854 or by email at julie.jacobs@blackhawkhills.com.

2015-2016 Officers Announced

The Blackhawk Hills Regional Council voted on its 2015-2016 officers at its March 23, 2015 board meeting. Ron Colson from Ogle County will remain President. Marvin Schultz from Jo Daviess County will serve as Vice President and Glen Kuhlemier from Whiteside County will remain Secretary-Treasurer.

CEO Team 2015 Trade Show

CEO students will host their 2015 Trade Show on May 6, 2015, at the Northland Mall in Sterling from 4:30-8:00 PM. CEO students will showcase their individual businesses. From men's accessories, to a book signing, to promotional products, to smoked meat - there will be much to see! Stop by to see the hard work of the Team CEO on display, pick up the CEO Board Annual Report, and register to win special door prizes.



Funding Deadline Reminder

Visit www.blackhawkhills.com/grants for more information on these and other funding opportunities.

- [Books for Children](#) - May 15, 2015
- [Youth Literacy Grants](#) - May 21, 2015 (11:00 PM CST)
- [Gladys Brooks Foundation](#) - May 29, 2015

Funding Opportunities

For more information on these and other funding opportunities, please visit www.blackhawkhills.com/grants or contact our office at 815-625-3854.

[The Walgreens Corporate Contribution Program](#) - This program primarily supports nonprofit organizations in local Walgreens communities throughout the United States. Walgreens provides grants to organizations that focus on improving: access to health and wellness in their communities; pharmacy education programs and mentoring initiatives; civic and community outreach; and emergency and disaster relief. Applications can be submitted anytime. Click [here](#) for more information.

[National PTA Healthy Lifestyles: Energy Balance 101 Grant Program](#) - National PTA's Healthy Lifestyles: Energy Balance 101 Grants provide local PTAs with tools to use in partnering with schools and engaging families in improving awareness of energy balance. Participating PTAs will use the Energy Balance Enrichment Zone curricula to educate families on the importance of energy balance, good nutrition, and physical activity in achieving an active, healthy lifestyle; empower families to partner with schools to advocate for and support the implementation of healthy changes around nutrition and physical activity; and provide families with tools to create an environment at home that supports the positive changes at school. Twenty-five grants of \$2,000 each will be awarded through the program to PTAs for grades K-5. Deadline: June 19, 2015. Click [here](#) for more information.

[Captain Planet Foundation Offers Grants for Hands-On Environmental Education Activities](#) - Grants of up \$2,500 will be awarded in support of high-quality educational programs that help children and youth understand and appreciate our world through hands-on learning experiences aimed at improving the environment in their schools and communities. Deadline: September 30, 2015. Click [here](#) for more information.
