

News & funding opportunities from northwest Illinois' regional planning commission. Geared towards public and non-profit sectors, focused on community & economic development and natural resources conservation. Contact us at [info@blackhawkhills.com](mailto:info@blackhawkhills.com) or (815) 625-3854.

## BLACKHAWK HILLS Regional Council

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

### NEWS & GRANTS

November 2016



*BHRC Executive Director Daniel Payette speaking at the 2016 Fall Development Summit*

### 2016 Fall Development Summit

Thank you to those who joined us at last Friday's Fall Development Summit. There were sixty-two attendees, four speakers, and a panel discussion. We want to thank the Lake Carroll Clubhouse for hosting us, our speakers (Victor Narusis of the DCEO, James Marks & Anthony Troxell of Wipfli, & David Marcouiller of UW-Madison) and panelists, as well as our sponsors (MSA Professional Services and Community Funding & Planning Services).

To access the speakers' PowerPoint presentations, click [here](#).

### BHRC Quick Links:

[Project proposal](#)  
[Newsletter sign up](#)  
[Facebook page](#)

### BHRC Events:

November 28  
BHRC Council Meeting  
Mon, Nov 28, 2016, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Heritage Center, 106 S Broad St, Lanark, IL  
61046, United States

November 29  
County Board Chairs Meeting  
Tue, Nov 29, 2016, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

## GRANTS & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### Museums for America Program (MAP) (Institute of Museum & Library Services)

MAP supports projects that strengthen the ability of individual museums to serve the public. Project categories include providing meaningful learning experiences, developing museums as community anchors, and supporting collections stewardship.

*The application deadline is December 1.*

Click [here](#) for more information.

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### Farm to School Grant (United States Department of Agriculture Food & Nutrition Service)

The Farm to School grant support efforts that improve access to local foods in schools. Applicants may apply for a planning, implementation, support service or training grant.

*The application deadline is December 8.*

Click [here](#) for more information.

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### School Library Grant for Low-Income Neighborhoods (Laura Bush Foundation)

The school library grant provides funds to our nation's neediest schools so that they can extend, update, and diversify the book and print collections in their libraries with the goal of encouraging students to develop a love of reading and learning.

*The application deadline is December 12.*

Click [here](#) for more information.

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### Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service)

The purpose of the GLFWRA is to provide assistance to states, Indian tribes, and other interested entities to encourage cooperative conservation, restoration and management of the fish and wildlife resources and their habitats in the Great Lakes Basin. Interested entities may submit restoration, research and regional project proposals for the restoration of the Great Lakes Basin fish and wildlife resources.

*The application deadline is December 12.*

Click [here](#) for more information.

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### Community Forest Program (CFP) (U.S. Forest Service)

CFP protects forests that are important for people and the places they call home.

*The application deadline is January 13.*

Click [here](#) for more information.

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### Shell Science Lab Challenge (National Science Teachers Association)

The Challenge recognizes outstanding middle and high school programs for their exemplary approaches to science lab instruction. The Challenge will showcase the work of teachers who submit innovative, replicable strategies to deliver quality lab experiences to their students utilizing limited school and laboratory resources.

*The application deadline is January 23.*

Click [here](#) for more information.

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### NEA Big Read (National Endowment for the Arts and Arts Midwest)

NEA Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. Showcasing a diverse range of contemporary books that reflect many different voices and perspectives, the NEA Big Read aims to inspire conversation and discovery.

*The application deadline is January 26.*

Click [here](#) for more information.

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### Environmental Justice Small Grant (Environmental Protection Agency)

The Environmental Justice Small Grants program provides financial assistance to community-based organizations, and local and tribal governments working on projects to

address environmental and public health concerns.

*The application deadline is January 31.*

Click [here](#) for more information.

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#### **Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program (Nat. Fish & Wildlife Foundation)**

The Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Program seeks to develop nation-wide-community stewardship of local natural resources, preserving these resources for future generations and enhancing habitat for local wildlife. Projects seek to address water quality issues in priority watersheds, such as erosion due to unstable streambanks, pollution from stormwater runoff, and degraded shorelines caused by development.

*The application deadline is January 31.*

Click [here](#) for more information.

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#### **Groundwork USA Program**

Funding is available to select up to two new communities for the Groundwork Program. They will be eligible for up to \$200,000 in funding and technical assistance from the National Park Service, US Environmental Protection Agency, and Groundwork USA to plan, establish, and build the capacity of Groundwork Trust organizations in their communities.

*The application deadline is February 1.*

Click [here](#) for more information.

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#### **Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) (USDA Rural Development)**

REAP aims to help small business reduce energy costs and use. The program offers two funding opportunities: 1) Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Assistance and 2) Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Grants.

*The application deadline is March 31.*

Click [here](#) for more information.

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#### **Blackhawk Waterways Convention & Visitors Bureau (BWCVB) Tourism Grant**

The purpose of the BWCVB Grant Program is to assist their tourism partners in the promotion of tourism related businesses, attractions and events/festivals located within the 4 county (Carroll, Lee, Ogle, Whiteside) region.

*No deadline to submit an application but funds will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis, until the grant budget is depleted.*

Click [here](#) for more information.

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#### **Thriving Culture Program (Surdna Foundation)**

The Thriving Culture Program provides grants to nonprofit organizations that address one of the following four categories: Teens Artistic Advancement, Artists Engaging in Social Change, Artists and Economic Development, or Community Engaged Design.

*Applications are accepted throughout the year.*

Click [here](#) for more information.

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## **NOTEWORTHY**

#### **Fair Labor Standards Act**

The U.S. Department of Labor's final overtime rule "updates the salary level required for the executive, administrative, and professional... exemption to ensure that the FLSA's intended overtime protections are fully implemented..." For more information for local governments, please visit [here](#). Non-profit information is available [here](#). The new rule takes effect Dec. 1.

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#### **Small Business Saturday (American Express)**

Small Business Saturday is on November 26th. The deadline to register as a Neighborhood Champion is November 11th. As a Neighborhood Champion, you'll receive a Small Business Saturday Event Kit with Shop Small® merchandise to support the event you plan for your community.

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### [Grant Accountability and Transparency Act \(GATA\)](#)

If you are a public body (including schools and libraries), non-profit organization, or other entity that receives grant funding from the State of Illinois, you will need to register for GATA.

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### [Certified Local Government Program](#)

Through the program, local, state, and federal governments work together in the federal preservation program to help communities save the irreplaceable historic character of places. Once certified, a community can access funding and technical assistance.

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### [Brownfields National Conference](#)

Cosponsored by the U.S. EPA and the International City/County Management Association, the conference is December 5-7, in Pittsburgh, PA. Offered every two years, it's the largest gathering of stakeholders focused on cleaning up and reusing formerly utilized commercial and industrial properties. Registration opens June 1.

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