Council Connections
Bridging Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties

Appalachian Regional Commission
Releases Year-in-Review Investments Summary

In partnership with the State of Maryland, ARC is supporting 21 projects in Maryland (Garrett, Allegany, and Washington counties) totaling nearly $2.6 million in fiscal year 2019.

Click the image below to view the full summary.

Click here to view the full ARC Investment Summary
USDA Announces Second Round of USDA ReConnect Program; $550 Million in Funding Available to Deploy Broadband in Rural Communities

USDA will make up to $200 million available in grants; up to $200 million available in low-interest loans; and up to $200 million in 50/50 grant/loan combination funds. The Application window will open on January 31 and will close no later than March 16.

USDA Announces Rural Energy Funding for Ag Producers and Small Rural Businesses

Upcoming Deadline for REAP Applications March 31, 2020

USDA Rural Development has rural energy funds available for small rural businesses and agricultural producers to improve energy efficiency systems or install renewable energy systems under the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP).

The REAP grant can provide up to 25% of the project costs for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy systems. The application deadline is March 31, 2020. Contact Bruce Weaver at Delaware Rural Development for information at (302) 857-3628 or at bruce.weaver@usda.gov

Recipients can use REAP funding to install renewable energy systems such as biomass, geothermal, hydropower and solar. The funding can also be used to increase energy savings by making improvements to heating, ventilation and cooling systems; insulation; and lighting and refrigeration.

8 Ways to Step Up Your Marketing Game

It's not only the start of a new year, but the beginning of a new decade. So, it's the perfect time to re-examine your marketing efforts and resolve to shake it up - at least a little - and try some different marketing tactics.

Click here to learn more.