



July 28, 2016

Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties



Tri County Council
For Western Maryland

In This Issue

[DestinationNEXT Survey](#)

[Annual Transportation
Excellence Awards
Nominations Being Accepted](#)

Dates to Remember

August 30-31, 2016

"Aspire Appalachia
Collaborations in Rural
Development"
Johnson City, TN

September 26-29, 2016

TAM Conference & Expo 2016
Ocean City, MD

Thursday, September 29

Tour of EDA and ARC Projects
Washington County, MD



Complete Your DestinationNEXT Survey

DestinationNext is a web-based diagnostic tool measuring 20 variables related to destination strength and community support and engagement. By objectively measuring these factors, DestinationNEXT enables OTD, DMOs and their industry partners to identify strengths, priorities, areas for potential improvement, and to develop strategies for future growth. To accurately and efficiently utilize this powerful tool, OTD needs your help.

By completing your DestinationNEXT survey, you can better assess how you fit into the Maryland tourism scheme and OTD can better understand how best to help you reach the next level. To complete your survey, [follow this link](#) or, if you have further questions, please contact Heather Ersts, Outreach & Partnership Manager, OTD, at hersts@visitmaryland.org.





Join our mailing list

Notice of Funding Availability

K-12 Garden Programs Funded

[KidsGardening.org: Eat, Learn, Live, and Grow Grant Program](#) offers funding for schools seeking to enhance their curriculum and offer food and nutrition education through an edible garden program.

Rural Development Supported

[Rural Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing Grants](#) program provides support to undertake community development activities in rural areas. Application deadline is [September 13](#).

Annual Transportation Excellence Awards NOMINATIONS OPEN



Friend of Transportation
Driver of the Year
Outstanding Program
Unsung Employee of the Year
Business Partner of the Year

Nomination Deadline: 08/19
taminc.org/awards/2016

Do you know about an employee whose contributions go above and beyond the call of duty? A driver whose professionalism and service are an example to all? An outstanding transit program that improves community transit in Maryland? A business partner that has helped improve mobility for Maryland?

Nominate them for a TAM Transportation Excellence Award!

Every year at the Annual Conference & Expo (this year in Ocean City!) excellence in Maryland community transit is recognized. Nominations are solicited from Transportation Association of Maryland members to determine who deserves to be honored as making a difference in the past year.

This year, for the first time ever, the entire process of nomination can be completed online! Click the "Submit Your Nomination" link below to begin the nomination process!

[Submit Your Nomination!](#)

[Click here](#) for more information on the 2016 Transportation Excellence Awards