



April 23, 2014

## Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties



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### Frostburg Business Forum

Business Planning | Tax Credits | Loans | Grants Permits

Existing and prospective business owners in Frostburg are invited to attend to learn about various programs and services available for expansion, reinvestment, and start-ups.

Wednesday, April 23, 2014, 7:00 to 9:00pm  
City Place- 14 S. Water Street, Frostburg

MD Department of Business and Economic Development  
Tri-County Council for Western Maryland  
Small Business and Technology Development Center  
City of Frostburg

Sponsored by the City of Frostburg and the Frostburg

Business and Professional Association

Questions? Please contact Elizabeth at 301.689.6000 or  
[estahlman@allconet.org](mailto:estahlman@allconet.org)



**Title VI Program Training Meeting  
Friday, May 16, 2014  
9:30am - 3:00pm  
7201 Corporate Center Drive  
Hanover, MD**

What is the Title VI Program?

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) issued new guidance, effective October 1, 2012, to help recipients of FTA grant funding to better understand and comply with federal civil rights requirements. The new guidance, in the form of a revised circular, helps funding recipients to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which protects people from discrimination based on race, color or national origin in programs or activities that receive federal financial assistance. Civil rights compliance is central to the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) mission and a condition of grants assistance from the MTA.

Who Should Attend?

- Non-profit agencies who have received operating and/or a vehicle(s) funded by one of the MTA's grant funding programs (S. 5310, Job Access and Reverse Commute or New Freedom).
- Non-profit agencies who have been awarded a vehicle(s) for the first time and are awaiting delivery of the vehicle(s).
- NO MORE than two staff members from each non-profit agency who are responsible for grant program compliance.

All attendees must register for the training by Wednesday,

May 7, 2014.

If you have any questions regarding the registration process, please contact Mathilda Ross at 410-767-3790.



### **Spring - A Good Time for Home Repairs**

Homeowners in rural areas who need repairs to their home but can't afford regular loans may be eligible for a USDA Rural Development loan at only one percent interest. Seniors, age 62 and older, may qualify for free home repairs up to \$7,500 through the USDA Rural Development grant program.

Bill McGowan, Delaware and Maryland Director for USDA Rural Development, says there is a narrow window of opportunity to receive these funds. "We are looking for lower income homeowners that need help fixing or replacing a roof, installation or repair of a septic system, replace storm doors and windows, or other repairs to correct or remove existing health, safety, sanitary, and accessibility issues," McGowan said.

Interested persons may apply at any time for this program but funding may become limited after June 30, 2014.

To be eligible to participate in the home repair program, applicants must own the home, be located in a small town or rural area with a population of 10,000 people or less. USDA must determine that the household is unable to repay a loan at regular rates and terms.

For more information, contact the Rural Development Offices at 301-797-0500

Additional information on rural programs is available by visiting [www.rurdev.usda.gov/md](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/md).

[www.tccwmd.org](http://www.tccwmd.org)

301-689-1300