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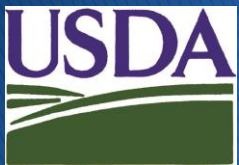   Little Rock, Arkansas

    arsl.info

Today's Presenter

Mary Louise Reynnells

Technical Information Specialist, USDA, Rural Information Center, Sustainable Systems & Communities Program, National Agricultural Library
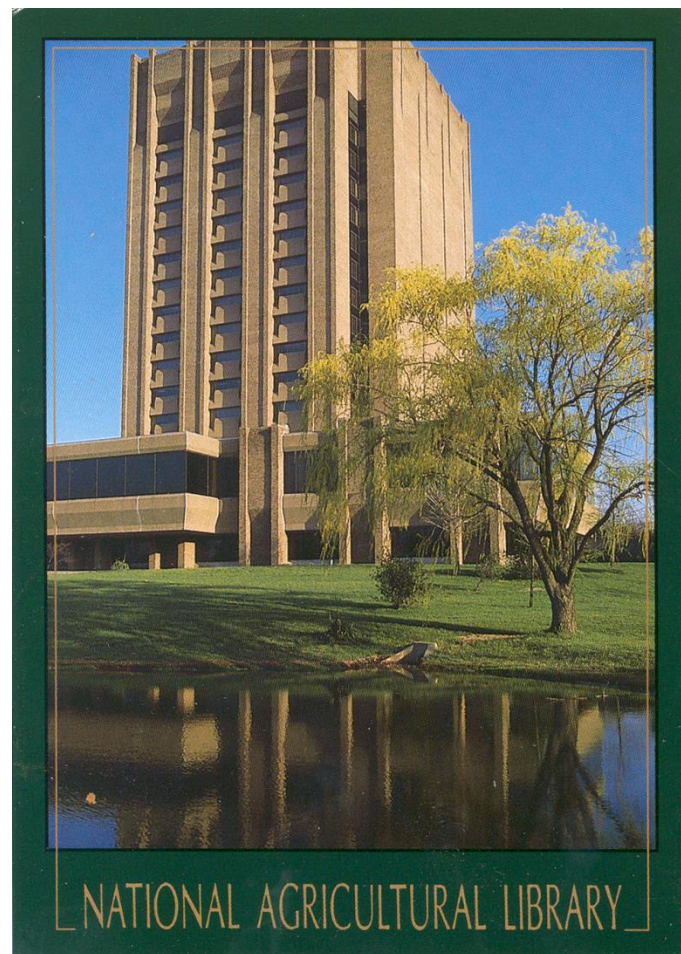
Rural Resources and Funding

Presented by Mary Louise Reynnells
Rural Information Center
a Service of the National Agricultural Library
Agricultural Research Service of the USDA

USDA

What is RIC?

- **The Rural Information Center (RIC) was established in 1987** by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

- **Added to the Farm Bill in 1990** and continue as a mandated service in the 2014 Farm Bill.

- **Located in Beltsville, Maryland** within the National Agricultural Library (NAL).

  - NAL is one of four national libraries of the United States and houses one of the world's largest collections devoted to agriculture and its related sciences.

  - NAL is a part of the Agricultural Research Service (ARS)

  - ARS is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific in-house research agency.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY

More about NAL

- USDA employees are our main lending audience and have additional services like desktop access to full-text journal articles.
- As a National Library we are a library of last resort when it comes to lending. That means an Inter-Library-Loan request would come to us if we were the only holders of the item.
- NAL acts as both a specialized library and a research library.

Some NAL Services

- The **Thesaurus and Glossary** are online vocabulary tools of agricultural terms in English and Spanish and are cooperatively produced by the [National Agricultural Library](#), [USDA](#), and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture.

- **AGRICOLA and in development, PubAg**
  - Searchable online citation Database (free)

- **LCA Commons and Big Data tools** – provides open access life cycle assessment (LCA) datasets and tools.
  - **I5k Workspace @ NAL: The 5,000 Insect Genome Project**

- **USDA Agency Field Libraries (26 US locations)**
  - **Ag Research centers**
  - **Forest Service labs**
  - **Nutrition labs**

NAL Information Centers

The National Agricultural Library's specialized information centers provide access to essential information focusing on specific aspects of agriculture.

- Alternative Farming Systems Information Center
- Animal Welfare Information Center
- Food and Nutrition Information Center
  - Nutrition.gov
  - Healthy Meals Resource System
  - WIC Works Resource System
  - SNAP-Ed Connection
- Food Safety Research Information Office
- National Invasive Species Information Center
- Rural Information Center
- Water Quality Information Center

RIC, What we do & Why we do it

The Rural Information Center (RIC) provides information and referral services.

The Center's Congressional Mandate directs RIC to *"provide and distribute information and data to any industry, organization, or Federal, State, or local government entity"*. *7 U.S. Code § 3125b – National Rural Information Center Clearinghouse*

RIC is a part of the NAL, Sustainable Systems and Communities Program area within the National Agricultural Library. Our program area mission is to support agriculture and rural communities in acquiring knowledge to achieve a sustainable future.

We Provide...

- Information in all subject areas. Focusing on USDA priorities.
- A variety of resource information such as:

  ◦ Funding information
  ◦ Evidence-Based Research
  ◦ Data sources
  ◦ Case Studies & Promising Practices
  ◦ Planning Tools
  ◦ Definitions
  ◦ Citizen Services
  ◦ Referrals to Experts, Networks, and Organizations

- Information on how people, the environment, and communities interact.

Top Requests

Funding Requests

▶ Farming
  ◦ Small Farm Funding Resources – Online Guide and Screencast
  ◦ Start2Farm.Gov
  ◦ USDA Programs, Cooperative Extension Service and State & Local Services

▶ Housing
  ◦ Housing Repairs
  ◦ Housing Foreclosure
  ◦ Purchasing a Home

▶ Emergency Responder (Fire & Police) Departments
  ◦ USDA Programs
  ◦ Fire Department Online Guide
  ◦ Emergency Responder Web page – Portal to resources

Other Top Requests

▶ What is Rural?
  ◦ Research Definitions
  ◦ Health Definitions
  ◦ Purchasing a rural home eligibility definitions
  ◦ Frontier and Remote

RIC as a Funding Expert

▶ ## Who is linking to and citing RIC?

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
TODD STAPLES, COMMISSIONER

National Network of Libraries of Medicine
nnlm.gov

Bringing Health Information to the Community (BHIC) Blog Post
Rural Federal Funding Database
by Monica Rogers
Rural Information Center – Database for identifying funding assistance programs offered by the federal government that rural areas can apply for. http://1.usa.gov/17M1zp4
This entry was posted on Friday, **April 19th, 2013 at 3:12 pm**

Funding from Other Organizations
Funding Information from Federal Agencies
Rural Federal Funding Database
Health Resources and Services Administration
USDA Rural Development
Centers for Disease Control
National Institutes of Health (Research)
Department of Labor (Workforce Development)

RAC
Rural Assistance Center

Rural Federal Funding Database
Link: view tool http://ric.nal.usda.gov/Rural-Federal-Funding-Database
Type: Website
Description: Database for identifying funding assistance programs offered by the federal government that rural areas can apply for.
Organization: Rural Information Center
Tagged as: Grantwriting
Also listed on the RSS Feed
• **Tool/website: Rural Federal Funding Database**
Published: Monday April 15th 2013 2PM
Link: http://ric.nal.usda.gov/Rural-Federal-Funding-Database
Description: Database for identifying funding assistance programs offered by the federal government that rural areas can apply for. -- Rural Information Center read more »
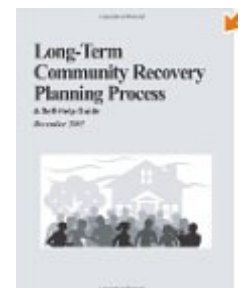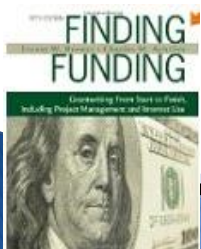
Research Development & Grant Writing News
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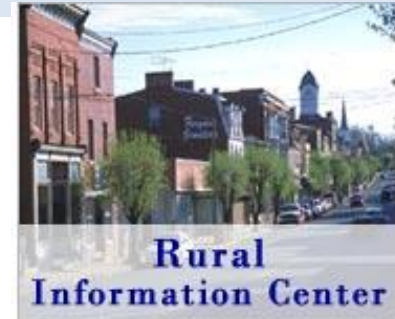Mike Cronan & Lucy Deckard, co-Publishers Copyright 2013
Volume 3, Issue 9: May 15, 2013
Under Topics of Interest: **"Search the Rural Federal Funding Database"**

How RIC can help Rural Libraries

- Identify rural resources

- Information guides and tools on our website

- Specific USDA funding program information

Rural Information Center

Services for Citizens

Conference Calendar
Events focused on rural areas

USDA

USDA Library Funding

Yes, USDA does have funding programs that can be used for rural libraries.

Community Facilities (grant/loans)

Funds may be used to construct, enlarge, or improve public libraries. This can include:

▸ Costs to acquire land needed for a facility

▸ Pay necessary professional fees

▸ Purchase equipment required for operation
  ◦ shelving
  ◦ furniture
  ◦ computers
  ◦ audio-visual equipment
  ◦ distance learning equipment
  ◦ bookmobiles

USDA, Rural Development office and the Community Facilities Program
http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/SupportDocuments/PA-2041.pdf

Distance Learning & Telemedicine (grant)

Fund Uses:

▸ Acquisition of eligible capital assets:
  ◦ Interactive video equipment
  ◦ Audio and video equipment
  ◦ Terminal equipment
  ◦ Data terminal equipment
  ◦ Inside wiring
  ◦ Computer hardware and software
  ◦ Computer network components
  ◦ Other facilities that further DLT services

▸ Acquisition of instructional programming that is a capital asset

▸ Acquisition of technical assistance and instruction for using eligible equipment

USDA, Rural Development Distance Learning Program
http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/UTP_DLT.html

RIC Tools

RIC's Rural Federal Funding Database

- Our current database is in Drupal http://ric.nal.usda.gov/Rural-Federal-Funding-Database
- Simple Key Word searching
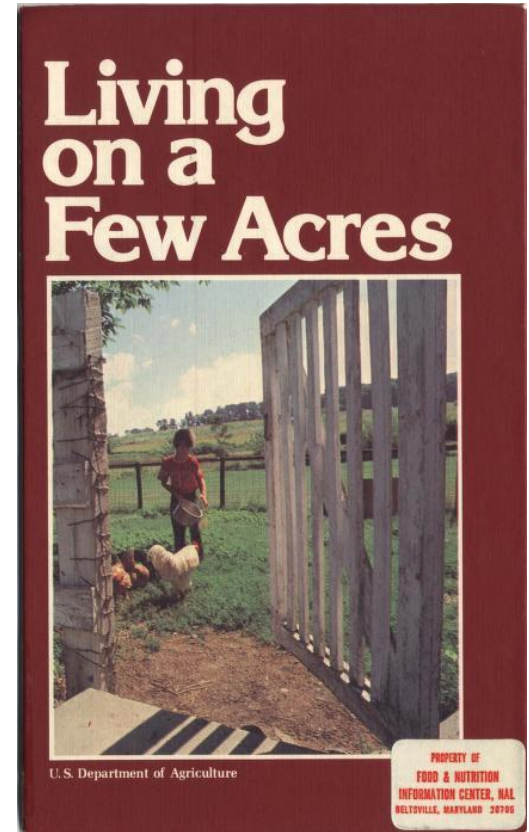- Or browse by Department
- RIC updates the data quarterly

Rural Calendar & RSS Feed

- Calendar is updated on an as needed basis with "rural" related events: conferences, webinars, workshops
- RSS Feed: Is an aggregated USDA feed.

Rural Development Publications Digital Collection

- [Rural Development Publications Collection](#)
  - This collection includes publications that relate to rural development in America, including from such series as Rural Development Research Reports, Rural Development Perspectives, Agricultural Economic Reports, and Agriculture Information Bulletins, as well as selected Economic Research Staff Reports, Yearbook of Agriculture and the first 300 volumes of Agriculture Handbooks.
  - A collection within the NAL Digital Collections.
  - Mainly historical in nature, but does have some new agricultural research articles being added.

Small Farm Funding Resources

- Online Guide
  - Contains information about grant and loan funding programs for beginning and experienced farmers, technical assistance contacts, disaster assistance, and organizations with additional resources.

- Screencast
  - This video navigates the Small Farm Funding Resources online guide
  - Joint Project with Alternative Farming Systems Information Center and Start2Farm.Gov

How do People Find RIC?

- **Toll-Free Telephone:**
  - 1-800-633-7701
- EMAIL: ric@nal.usda.gov
- FAX: 301-504-5181
- Mail: Rural Information Center
    10301 Baltimore Ave., Room 132
    Beltsville, MD 20705-2351
- WEB: http://ric.nal.usda.gov
- RIC staff also attend, exhibit and present at national, regional and local meetings.

Thank You

Questions?

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