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Applications for Funding

A number of grant and program announcements which may be of **interest to municipalities** have come past my desk since the July issue of The Northern Connection.

Urban Forestry – Due October 1

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources offers urban forestry grants to cities, villages, towns, counties, tribes and 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations in or conducting projects in Wisconsin. The 2016 Urban Forestry Grant application period opened August 1. Applications, resolutions and supporting documents must be **received on or before October 1**.

More information is available at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/urbanforests/grants/>. Questions can be directed to: DNRUrbanForestryGrants@wi.gov.

Broadband Expansion Grants – Due September 30

Governor Scott Walker announced the state Public Service Commission is now accepting applications for Fiscal Year 2016 Broadband Expansion Grants. The 2015-17 state budget tripled the local grants to extend broadband to underserved areas of the state more quickly. This program provides reimbursement for equipment and construction expenses incurred to extend or improve broadband telecommunications service in underserved areas of the state.

An application for a grant may be submitted by any of the following entities:

- An organization operated for profit or not for profit, including a cooperative.
- A telecommunications utility.
- A city, village, town, or county that has established a legal partnership or joint venture arrangement with an otherwise qualified organization or telecommunications utility.

Check <http://psc.wi.gov/utilityInfo/tele/broadband/grants/bbGrantApplicationPage.htm> for details.

Humane Officer Training – September 21-25

Many northern Wisconsin areas do not have an appointed humane officer, but it's in your best interest to consider appointing one. The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection will offer its annual humane officer training course September 21-25, 2015 in Madison. This 40-hour course teaches a special set of skills and a body of law that applies only to animal cases. The training makes the job of investigating these cases easier to handle and leads to a more enforceable case against the offender.

The curriculum covers a wide range of topics, and is conducted by veterinarians, attorneys and law enforcement officers with years of experience in investigating animal cases. Hands-on training at the University of Wisconsin-Madison barns is another highly rated feature of the class. You can get the details and download a registration form on the DATCP website:

<http://datcp.wisconsin.gov> under the "Animals" pull-down menu.

The Northern Office serves as a connection point between communities in Northern Wisconsin and the resources of state government. If you are looking for information, have a suggestion, or need assistance with problem resolution with a state agency, please contact me. I travel throughout the 40 county region north of U.S. Highway 10 and can be available, with 3 to 4 weeks notice, to attend your meetings and events. Keep in touch!

About the
Northern
Office