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## Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission

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### News & Updates: October 1, 2013

#### **OVRDC Draft Annual CEDS Performance Report**

The Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission has completed a draft Annual Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Performance Report. A thirty-day comment period commences on Tuesday, October 1, 2013, and will end Wednesday, October 30, 2013. The CEDS Performance Report documents OVRDC's progress on the goals and objectives identified in the 2012 revised CEDS. OVRDC's 12 county region includes: Fayette, Highland, Clermont, Ross, Pike, Brown, Adams, Scioto, Vinton, Jackson, Lawrence, and Gallia.

Anyone desiring to review the document may do so at the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission's office located at: 73 Progress Drive, Waverly, Ohio 45690 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, or on the web at [www.ovrdc.org](http://www.ovrdc.org).

Further information may be obtained by contacting Kara Willis or Jason Gillow at 740-947-2853 or toll-free in Ohio (800) 223-7491.

#### **Deadline: October 4th for Letters of Interest for EPA/ARC Appalachian Technical Assistance**

Appalachian communities interested in revitalizing their downtowns, promoting local food systems, and using other smart growth approaches to improve human health and the environment are invited to apply for technical support and implementation assistance through the Sustainable Communities in Appalachia partnership. The partnership is a program of EPA and the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). EPA and ARC have committed up to \$200,000 for technical assistance and implementation in four Appalachian communities. Funds will be used to develop action plans and provide small cash grants for first-step implementation efforts. Learn more on [the ARC website](#).

Interested communities in the [ARC-defined Appalachia region](#) should submit a letter of interest, no more than two pages, describing the needs and goals of the community as they pertain to the description above. The selection process will take into account:

- Community interest in food systems, including the production and distribution of healthful local food as a means of boosting economic competitiveness and economic diversification;

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- The potential to address the community's development challenges through the strategies described in the Partnership for Sustainable Communities 2011 publication [Supporting Sustainable Rural Communities](#);
- Support from community leaders and community members;
- Interest by the Local Development District or a local university or community college in playing an active role in the technical assistance and potentially replicating such efforts in other communities;
- Potential for the community to receive public or private investments to implement strategies identified through the technical assistance program; and
- The extent of social and economic needs of the Appalachian community as measured by per-capita market income, poverty rate, and unemployment rate.

Submit letters of interest to Wilson Paine at [wpaine@arc.gov](mailto:wpaine@arc.gov) by **October 4, 2013**. Letters of interest should indicate a primary point of contact and, if possible, other members of the community who will participate in the technical assistance process. Questions about this solicitation may be addressed to Wilson Paine at [wpaine@arc.gov](mailto:wpaine@arc.gov) or Ed Fendley at [Fendley.Ed@epa.gov](mailto:Fendley.Ed@epa.gov).

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### **Response to the 2012 Economic Census is Past Due**

The 2012 Economic Census, the U.S. Government's official five-year measure of American business and the economy, is entering its final days of data collection.

Many businesses have shared with us the challenges of responding with fewer resources. We have listened, and have provided time extensions and other considerations in allowing businesses additional time to respond. **For businesses that received Economic Census forms but have not yet responded, it is very important to do so now.** Keep in mind that the Economic Census is required by law.

In this economic climate, it is necessary to have the most accurate measure of our economy. Response to the Economic Census allows us to provide exactly that. Thank you very much for your participation.

To assist you, the Census Bureau is prepared to discuss your compliance via phone. Please call the Census Bureau at (877) 790-1876. Due to timing, we also encourage you to use electronic reporting available at: [econhelp.census.gov](http://econhelp.census.gov). We look forward to helping you respond to the Economic Census. Your response makes a difference.

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