Statewide Residential Building Codes: Opt-outs Expire in 2015

State law was amended in 2009 to apply statewide residential building code standards (applicable to one-family and two-family dwellings) in jurisdictions that are not enforcing their own codes. This law also allowed counties to opt out of having the statewide residential standards apply in their jurisdictions regardless of whether they are enforcing their own codes.

The law allows counties to opt out by a 2/3 vote, but the opt-out is only effective until 180 days after the next local legislative body election occurring after adoption of the resolution (or at an earlier date set out in the resolution). If your county opted out of the statewide standards at any time prior to the last county election on August 7th, 2014, that opt-out resolution is set to expire February 3, 2015 (unless an earlier date was specified in the resolution).

If you wish to continue to opt out of the residential statewide building codes, you must pass another opt-out resolution by a 2/3 vote and forward that resolution to the state fire marshal’s office prior to the expiration of your current resolution. If you wish to have the statewide residential building codes apply in your county, you can do nothing and let your opt-out resolution expire. If you wish to have the codes apply in your county prior to when your opt-out resolution expires, you can opt-in at any time by a simple majority vote. Remember, all opt-out and opt-in resolutions must be sent to the state fire marshal’s office.

Click HERE for a link to a sample opt-out resolution.
CTAS TRAINING OPPORTUNITY!

COUNTY FINANCIAL ISSUES

Tuesday, October 28
10:00am-2:00pm EST
TCSA 61st Annual Fall Conference & Trade Show

Registration is REQUIRED. Lunch will be provided.
(COCTP Category B and/or Recertification credit available for 4 hours)

“The fall conference is a great opportunity for county officials to learn how to do their job more effectively, to become better informed about current issues affecting counties, and to network with their counterparts across the state who face the same challenges and responsibilities as they do.” — David Connor, Executive Director, TCSA

Upcoming Events

Oct 28-30—TCSA Fall Conference & Trade Show (Pigeon Forge)
Nov 5-7—COAT Annual Conference (Chattanooga)
Dec 11, 12, 15, 17, 18—Strength Based Leadership (various locations)
Dec 17-19—ACM Strategic Leadership Conference (Nashville)

Mark your calendar!

http://www.facebook.com/UTCountyTechnicalAssistanceService
County Spotlight

**Rhea County**

- **County Seat:** Dayton
- **Population:** 31,809
- **County Government Consultant:** Gary Hayes

Rhea County received national attention in 1925 when a local teacher, John Scopes, was tried for breaking the law by teaching evolution in his public school. The real story behind the now-famous Scopes trial is that the American Civil Liberties Union offered to defend anyone accused of teaching evolution. Several townfolk convinced Scopes to admit to teaching evolution as a means of garnering attention for Dayton. Scopes eventually lost the trial and was fined $100. His conviction was also eventually thrown out on a technicality.

For more information, visit: [http://www.tnhistoryforkids.org](http://www.tnhistoryforkids.org)

Workers’ Compensation and the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

If an employee is injured at work and that injury results in a serious health condition under the FMLA, the employer may count the time that the employee is out on workers' compensation toward the employee’s 12-workweek FMLA leave entitlement, as long as the employee meets the eligibility requirements for FMLA leave. All of the FMLA rules apply, and the employee must be given the required notices under the FMLA.

For more information on the notice requirements under the FMLA, see the CTAS Electronic Library, e-Li.

COAT 46th Annual Conference

**November 5-7, 2014**

Chattanooga Marriott Downtown
2 Carter Plaza, Chattanooga, TN 37402
(423) 756-0002

[Registration Form]
Local Government Insurance Pool

Presents

Jail Liability Seminar
Risk Assessment & Management

Plan to attend a session in one of the following Tennessee cities:

November 5, Wednesday - Knoxville

November 18, Tuesday - Columbia

November 21, Friday - Jackson

Click HERE for more information and the registration form!

A Tennessee County Services Association (TCSA) Sponsored Program

The University of Tennessee
County Technical Assistance Service
226 Capitol Blvd, Ste 400, Nashville, TN 37219 | 615-532-3555 |

County Officials E-News is published on a monthly basis by The University of Tennessee County Technical Assistance Service to bring important information to county officials across Tennessee. For any questions or comments about this newsletter, please email Liz Gossett, CTAS E-Media & Information Specialist, at liz.gossett@tennessee.edu.