



NREDA News Brief | August 2025

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Invest in Yourself, Invest in Rural: Join Us at the NREDA Annual Conference



Can anyone else believe how fast this summer is flying by? Between projects, community events, and the day-to-day whirlwind of rural development work, it feels like we just blinked, and here we are in the heart of the season. I hope you've been able to carve out a little time for rest, family, and recharging; because we all know you can't pour from an empty cup (and I promise your community won't collapse if you take a long weekend... probably).

As rural economic developers, we know that growth doesn't just happen — it's cultivated. The same is true for our own professional development. That's why I'm personally inviting you to join me at the 2025 NREDA Annual Conference. This year's event promises to be an energizing experience filled with practical insights, transformative strategies, and opportunities to connect with peers who share your passion for strengthening rural communities. [Learn more and register here.](#)

[Click Here to read more about why you should attend the NREDA conference, how to get involved, and why membership matters!](#)

Join one of NREDA's Committees

If you have any interest in being a part of an NREDA Committee, please complete the Committee Interest Form below and select one committee from the options listed below, and the committee chairperson will reach out to you for further discussion.

[Committee Interest Form](#)

NREDA Committees

- Annual Conference Planning Committee
- Awards Committee
- Membership Committee
- Professional Development Committee
- Publications & Marketing Committee
- Rural Issues Committee
- Sponsorship Committee

To learn more about each committee, please [CLICK HERE](#)

Downloadable eBooks: Free Resources for Economic Developers

Stay on top of economic development trends with Golden Shovel Agency's Resource Learning Center. Their team researches, tests, and compiles strategies into eBooks, whitepapers, guides, and toolkits for economic developers! Each Golden Shovel whitepaper includes original research, data on hot topics, best practices that are working, and strategies you can implement immediately.



[Download Free eBooks Here](#)

New Member Spotlight

Learn more about NREDA's new members, and welcome Lisa Kremer to the NREDA community!

I'm Lisa Kremer, Executive Director of the Buchanan County Economic Development Commission (BCEDC), serving over 20,000 Buchanan County residents in Eastern Iowa's Cedar Valley Region. Buchanan County supports a diverse, multi-generational industrial base. Celebrating 30 years of service, BCEDC focuses on fostering economic and community growth, and I have led these efforts since 2020. I have heard consistently positive feedback about NREDA from colleagues and see membership as a valuable opportunity to both share insights from Buchanan County and learn innovative strategies and best practices from rural economic development professionals nationwide.



[Register Now for the NREDA 2025 Annual Conference!](#)



Join your rural economic development peers in Nashville to “Kick Up” your skills, knowledge and networking for success! We've put together a great slate of learning opportunities and dynamic speakers for this year’s conference. In addition to the always popular site selection panel, we will tackle new challenges and opportunities facing rural developers and their communities including crisis communications, policies and geopolitics, cyber security, applying AI, next generation board development/leadership, future utility needs and issues (e.g. grid security, generation, politics). That’s not all! Our mobile classrooms will have opportunities for every interest, from manufacturing to downtown development to entrepreneurship.

Registration is now open, and Early Bird pricing ends October 13th. Find more information about registration, pricing, and hotel reservations below. Visit the Conference Webpage for partnership opportunities, the conference agenda and additional conference resources.

[Register Here](#)

[Hotel Reservations](#)

[2025 Conference Webpage](#)

Upcoming Webinars

August Webinar

Join Jenn Gregory, President of Downtown Strategies at Retail Strategies for insightful webinar on revitalizing downtowns in rural America.

Webinar

Revitalizing Rural America Empowering Downtown Entrepreneur Development

Register Here

Webinars are a member benefit to current NREDA members and \$25 for non-members.

[Learn about other upcoming webinars here](#)



1 PM ET / 12 PM CT

August 26, 2025



nreda.org/webinars



Jenn Gregory

Job Listings

Did you know you can view and post job listings right to the NREDA website?

- Chief Executive Officer - Lake to River
- Economic Development Director - Wright County Economic Development
- President/CEO - Forge ECI
- Regional Director - Kansas Department of Commerce
- President – Regional Development Association of East Central Kansas

[View NREDA Job Postings](#)

Newsletter Submissions

Call for Newsletter Articles

NREDA would love to share your unique stories, industry trends, best practices, white papers, and - of course - your successes in our bi-monthly e-newsletter!

Guidelines:

- You must be a current NREDA member to submit an article.
- Please email your article to Sydney Spears at sydney@assnoffices.com by the 15th of each e-newsletter month. Please include the subject line **NREDA Newsletter Article Submission**
- Please submit your article in an editable format (Microsoft Word or text in the body of an email preferred). Feel free to include a photo with your article.
- Please send information, educational, and/or newsworthy items. Please no ads or sales/marketing articles. NREDA reserves the right to exclude submitted articles as deemed necessary by the leadership.

[Submit a Newsletter Article](#)

Connect with Us

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#NREDA Don't forget when posting on social media to use the hashtag #NREDA when sharing your stories! This way we can spread it to all of our members!



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