

August 8, 2025



The Ninety-Three

Nebraska Counties No Longer on Department of Justice Sanctuary Jurisdiction List

On May 30, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) published a list of nearly 400 counties that they designated as “sanctuary jurisdictions,” as part of the implementation of the [Protecting American Communities from Criminal Aliens Executive Order](#).

In June, NACo, the International Municipal Lawyers Association, and the National League of Cities [sent a joint letter](#) to the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice urging clarity on how sanctuary jurisdictions are designated.

On August 5, the U.S. Department of Justice published an [updated list](#) of sanctuary jurisdictions and an [explanation of the criteria for inclusion](#). No counties in Nebraska are included on the updated list.

Lincoln County Commissioner Micaela Wuehler led the initial charge to assist Nebraska counties in being removed from the designation list. Commissioner Wuehler provides a more comprehensive breakdown of the year-long effort by NACO and county leadership to ensure accurate representation of Nebraska counties’ adherence to federal immigration policy in [a recent article](#) by the *North Platte Bulletin*.

Fall 2025 NACO District Meetings

[Southeast](#) - Thursday, September 11th - Peter Kiewit Lodge, Eugene T. Mahoney State Park, 28500 W Park Hwy, Ashland. Registration Deadline: 9/4/2025

[Northeast](#) - Friday, September 12th - Lifelong Learning Center, Northeast Community College - 601 E Benjamin Ave, Norfolk. Registration Deadline: 8/29/25

[Central](#) - Thursday, September 18th - The Leadership Center, 2211 Q St, Aurora. Registration Deadline: 9/11/2025

[Panhandle](#) - Wednesday, September 24th - Prairie Winds Community Center, 428 N Main St, Bridgeport. Registration Deadline: 9/17/2025

[West Central](#) - Thursday, September 25th - NACO West, 102 Diamond Springs Trail, Ogallala. Registration Deadline: 9/17/25

General Agenda for District Meetings

Full agendas to come.

- 8:00-9:00 AM - Registration
- 9:00-10:15 AM - Business Meeting
- 10:15 AM - 12:00 PM - Affiliate Breakout Sessions
- 12:00 - 1:00 PM - Lunch

District Meeting Registration



Save the Dates - 2025 Annual Conference

ANNUAL CONFERENCE IMPORTANT DATES

Aug. 18

Sponsor & Exhibit Hall Registration Opens - 8 AM CST

Sept. 10

County Official Registration Opens - 8 AM CST
Hotel Reservation Form Available - 2:30 PM CST

Oct. 10

Hotel Reservation Form Deadline

Nov. 21

County Official Pre-Registration Deadline - 11:59 PM CST
Registration Cancellation Refunds No Longer Available

Dec. 17

Conference Begins

Annual Conference County Official Hotel Reservation Information

The 131st NACO Annual Conference will be held December 17-19, 2025, at the Younes Conference Center North in Kearney, NE. We wanted to share the process of reserving hotel rooms for the conference with you. County officials who plan to attend the Annual Conference must complete the online form to request a room in the NACO block on the Younes Conference Center Campus. **The form will be available on Wednesday, September 10th at 1:30 P.M. MT/ 2:30 P.M. CT until Friday, October 10th at 5:00 P.M. CT.**

All hotel room requests must be made using this form. Reservations will not be accepted by calling the front desk. Please read over the following information carefully to ensure a smooth hotel reservation process. Please note that the hotel reservation form is NOT your registration as an attendee for the annual conference.

Hotel Reservations:

1) The reservation form will be emailed to ALL COUNTY OFFICIALS, made available on the NACO homepage and on the conference webpage on Wednesday, September 10th, at approximately 1:30 P.M. MT / 2:30 P.M. CT. To prevent any potential issues with double-booking hotels, please coordinate with your county regarding hotel arrangements before filling out the form.

2) For your preparation, the form will include the following questions:

Contact Information

Date of Arrival

Date of Check Out

Total Number of Sleeping Rooms

Method of Payment

Preferred Choice of Hotel #1

Preferred Choice of Hotel #2

Preferred Choice of Hotel #3

Preferred Choice of Hotel #4

Preferred Choice of Hotel #5

Preferred Choice of Hotel #6

Preferred Choice of Hotel #7

Preferred Choice of Hotel #8

Preferred Choice of Hotel #9

Preferred Choice of Hotel #10

Hotels on the Younes Conference Center campus include Crowne Plaza, Hampton Inn, Holiday Inn, LaQuinta, Comfort Inn, Fairfield Inn, Holiday Inn Express, Candlewood Suites, Tru & Home2 Suites.

3) After you submit the form, the contact person listed on the form will receive an email in return with a copy of their submission.

4) Reservations will be made based on the order of form submission by the Younes Center. The hotel's front desk staff will then contact the contact person listed on the form by email to inform them which hotel your county has been placed in to take care of billing information, rooming lists, and confirmation numbers. Please note that your preferred hotel is not guaranteed.

5) If you are reserving multiple rooms for your county, you must provide a rooming list with guest names and stay dates to the Younes Team by October 10th. Any unclaimed rooms after October 10th will be placed back into the general NACO block for other attendees/counties to reserve.

Again, please be sure to coordinate hotel arrangements with your county. **If you have questions about hotel reservations, please call 308-237-8813 or email youneshotels@gmail.com.**

Annual Conference Registration:

Conference registration will also open for county officials on September 10, 2025, at 8:00 AM CST. The cost is \$160 per attendee and \$100.00 per guest. A spouse is considered a guest. The registration deadline is November 21, 2025, at 11:59 PM CST. All cancellations after November 21, 2025, are subject to a \$75.00 administrative fee.

The Nebraska Broadband Office Needs Your Help!

Applications are now open for broadband providers to apply for new funding opportunities aimed at expanding service to Community Anchor Institutions (CAIs) through the BEAD program.

The Nebraska Broadband Office has identified 722 eligible CAI locations across the state. The application window is open now through August 15th.

We encourage you to:

- Review the list of CAIs in your county
- Connect with your local broadband providers
- Urge them to apply for this important funding opportunity

Together, we can help ensure our courthouses, area agency offices, fire departments, health centers, and other essential institutions have access to reliable, high-speed internet.

For more information on possible eligible CAIs: <https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/k6kq2/3/>

Visit: <https://broadband.nebraska.gov/nbead/cais/>

Register for the 2025 NACO Legislative Conference

NACO LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025
9AM-3PM

VINTAGE VENUE, 620 COURT STREET
BEATRICE, NE

Mark your calendar for the 2025 NACO Legislative Conference!

If you have a suggestion for a legislative change that impacts your county, please reach out to Beth Ferrell or your NACO [Board of Directors representative](#) prior to the Legislative Conference.

[Register here](#). A full agenda will be available soon.

[Register for the Legislative Conference](#)

NACo - "The Big Shift: An Analysis of the Local Cost of Federal Cuts"

The recently enacted legislation, the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* (OBBBA), and President Trump's Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 budget request signal significant changes to the federal, state, and local government partnership. While counties collaborate with federal and state partners

to deliver essential services, several changes — aimed at reducing federal costs — will shift financial and administrative costs onto subnational levels of government.

In a complex intergovernmental structure, these subnational governments, including counties, could see a downstream effect approaching \$1 trillion over ten years. This removal of longstanding federal funding sources and federal cost shift represents a fundamental swing in the intergovernmental partnership, potentially pushing counties to choose between cutting services or raising local taxes.

[**Read NACo's full analysis here.**](#)

Elite Business Member Spotlight: Ash Grove Cement

[Ash Grove](#), a CRH Company, is a leader and pioneer in the cement industry. For over 142 years, we have provided cementitious materials to construct the highways, bridges, commercial and industrial complexes, homes, and other structures fundamental to the nation's economic vitality and quality of life. Ash Grove ships cement from twelve cement plants and its network of 41 terminals located throughout the Midwest, Texas, and the Western United States, and is one of the largest cement producers in North America with the addition of operations in Florida, the US Great Lakes and Canada. At Ash Grove, we stand together to reinvent the way our world is built.

Our Louisville, Nebraska plant is the sole remaining cement plant in the state of Nebraska. We have operated in this location since 1929 and currently produce about 1 million tons of cement each year. We supply cement, the primary ingredient in concrete, to ready mix concrete producers, precast and concrete products producers, and heavy highway contractors across Nebraska and western Iowa.

LOUISVILLE, NEBRASKA

Ash Grove Louisville Plant

- Production began: 1929
- New kilns added: 1980 and 1973
- Administrative building opened: 2009
- Plant production capacity: 1.1 million tons of cement produced per year



Local Economic Impact

- Number of employees: 138
- Approximate Annual payroll: \$11.4M
- Annual property taxes paid: \$1.3M
- Annual permit fees: \$345,000
- Approximate number of additional local jobs supported by plant operation: 1,300



Contact Information

16215 Highway 50
Louisville, Nebraska 68037
Tel.: 402.234.2415

Cody Hawley
Plant Manager

Safety Recognition

- Portland Cement Association Innovations in Safety award: 2017, 2014, 2011, 2008, 2001, 2000, 1997
- Portland Cement Association Chairman's Safety Performance award: 2015
- Ash Grove Presidents Gold Safety award: 2021, 2018, 2016, 2014, 2013
- Ash Grove Presidents Silver Safety award: 2020, 2019, 2017, 2015, 2012, 2008
- Ash Grove Presidents Bronze safety award 2011, 2010, 2003
- Milestone Membership in the Nebraska Chapter of the National Safety Council since 1913
- April 2022 CRH Eagle Award for 1,000 man-hours without a lost time accident
- November 2021 recipient of MSHA TRAM 1st place award "Having Difficult Conversations"
- November 2021 recipient of MSHA TRAM blue ribbon award "MSHA Annual Refresher using Gamification"

Environmental Leadership

- Environmental management system certified under ISO14001:2004
- Over \$30 million has been invested since 2013 in state-of-the-art emissions control equipment
- Ash Grove Energy Management (AGEM) projects over the last five years include high-efficiency motors and drives, LED lighting, motion detectors, and more, which have resulted in more than two megawatts per hour power reduction
- Continued relationship with Keep Cass County Beautiful and sponsor of household waste cleanup days
- New state-of-the-art burner and coal mill installed on the ACL kiln system to decrease fuel consumption and lower emissions
- New state-of-the-art finish mill separators installed on both finish mills to improve energy efficiency and dust collection on these systems

Commitment to Our Community

- Business Recognition Award from the Cass County Economic Development Council for its long history of employing Cass County residents and its contributions to the community
- Cass County Agricultural Society recognition for contributions to Cass County Fair
- Freedom Team Salute Award from Army Reserves
- Patriotic Employer award by the U.S. Secretary of Defense

Charitable Contributions

- Louisville Care Center
- Cass County Fair
- Elmwood/Murdoch
- Sarpy County Economic Development Council
- Cass County Board for Chemical Disposal
- Weeping Water School
- Boy Scouts of America
- Louisville Athletic Boosters
- Cass County Economic Development Council

Making Louisville More Livable

- Lease of land to the city of Louisville for a new baseball field
- Donations for projects at the Louisville Care Center
- Ongoing donations to the Louisville Public Schools for playground, shop class, and event sponsorships
- Lease historic former administration building to Nebraska Wild Rehab for a nominal fee

20 BUSINESS 25 MEMBERS



ELITE MEMBERS



PREMIUM MEMBERS



RESOURCES

Legislative Newsletter

County Employment Opportunities

Legal Calendar



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