



WWW.MDCOUNTIES.ORG

The MACo website easily navigates visitors to find information about legislative affairs, conferences, events, services, and publications - all one click from the homepage. It features on-line conference registration, professional job listings, a bulletin board and updates on legislation of county interest.

INVOLVE YOURSELF IN MACo

- **Legislative Committee** - Each county board or council appoints an elected official or professional staff to serve as a member and as an alternate. It meets regularly on Wednesdays during the Legislative Session and three times during the Interim, setting MACo legislative initiatives and positions on relevant legislation.
- **Buddy System** - This grassroots system pairs county elected officials with state legislator(s) with whom they have a relationship. During Session, county "buddies" are asked to promptly contact state "buddies" to advocate MACo's positions.
- **Testifying** - County elected officials are frequently asked to testify on bills before General Assembly Committees on behalf of MACo.
- **Appointments** - County elected and appointed officials, based on interests, are considered to represent MACo on state task forces, committees and work groups.
- **Conference Planning Committee** - Meeting during the Summer Conference, this group reviews and approves staff theme and general topic recommendations for the conferences.

- **Academy Liaison Committee** - The staff liaison to the Academy for Excellence in Local Governance meets annually with this group to solicit guidance and input on Academy policy.
- **Website Advisory Committee** - This group of elected and appointed county officials provide insight and guidance to staff about the content and effectiveness of the MACo website.

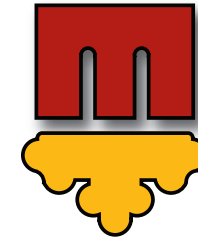
PUBLICATIONS

- *Courthouse News* - Newsletter published regularly during the General Assembly session and the Interim.
- *Directory of County Officials* - A 400-page comprehensive listing of county, state and federal government officials, published every two years.
- *Report of County Budgets, Tax Rates, & Selected Statistics* - Compiled by MACo with county budget and finance officials and published annually.
- *Legislative Summary* - Details legislation impacting county government as tracked by MACo and published following each legislative session.

AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

Ten organizations, representing professional county government officials, are affiliated with MACo. These affiliates work to enhance their members' effectiveness and assist the Association in formulating its legislative program and structuring conference presentations. They often meet at MACo and collaborate with staff on research and surveys.

MD Association of County Administrative Officers
 MD Association of County Agencies on Aging
 MD Association of County Civil Attorneys
 MD Correctional Administrators Association
 County Engineers Association of MD
 MD Conference of Local Environmental Health Directors
 MD Association of County Health Officers
 MD Association of County Human Services Administrators
 MD Association of County Park & Recreation Administrators
 MD Association of County Planning Officials



Maryland Association of
COUNTIES

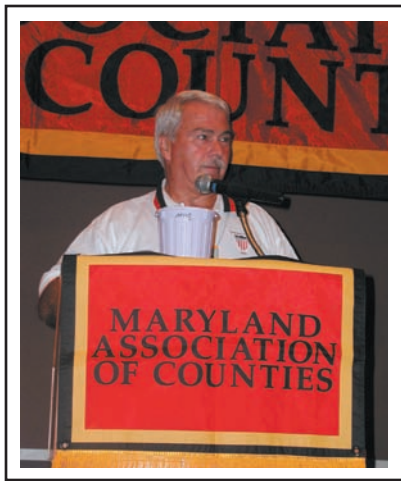
Welcome
 to
 MACo

Members of the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) are the elected officials of Maryland's 23 counties and Baltimore City, including the Baltimore City Mayor, county executives, council members, and county commissioners.

MACo's members determine Association policy and positions on executive and legislative proposals through an elected board and the Legislative Committee. Members attend MACo annual conferences to obtain timely information about relevant issues through continuing education and networking with peers.

The Association is committed to being non-partisan, promoting and advancing the general well being of Maryland's citizens through efficient, effective, and responsive county government.

Maryland Association of Counties
 169 Conduit Street, Annapolis, MD 21401
 (410) 269-0043 Local • (301) 261-1140 Washington • (410) 268-1775 Fax
 www.mdcounties.org



BOARD & OFFICERS

MACo is governed by a 16-member Board of Directors, including five officers, representing a cross-section of Maryland's subdivisions. The Board of Directors sets Association policy. Officers and Board members are chosen by a Nominating Committee and approved by the membership during the Winter Business Meeting. They are then installed at the Inaugural Banquet during the Annual Winter Conference and serve one-year terms.

HISTORY

As early as 1932, Maryland's county elected officials were meeting informally as two separate organizations whose areas were divided by the Chesapeake Bay. The year before the Bay Bridge opened, these groups united as the State Association of County Commissioners of Maryland. A permanent Annapolis office was established in 1973. While the name has changed several times, the mission and focus of the Association remains the same -- to provide counties with a unified, non-partisan voice in Annapolis.

"MACo - LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S VOICE HEARD LOUD, CLEAR & OFTEN IN ANNAPOLIS"

THE DAILY RECORD NOVEMBER 29, 1999

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

MACo provides a single, non-partisan voice for county government issues. It advocates the county position before the Governor, the General Assembly, executive branch officials, and federal decision-makers.

Every subdivision in the State designates a representative to the Legislative Committee, which determines positions on legislation impacting county government. The Committee meets often during the General Assembly session, reviewing and approving positions on legislation based on staff research and input. During the interim, the Committee devotes time to identifying MACo's legislative initiatives for the upcoming Session and staff conducts research on pending issues. Staff monitors State legislative workgroups and study committees.

INFORMATION & RESEARCH

MACo disseminates information through its website, publications, annual conferences, and legislative reports. Staff offers technical assistance, research support, and conducts surveys of county practices. The Association serves as a clearinghouse for issues pertaining to Maryland county government.

REPRESENTATION

The Association is diligent in ensuring that county government is represented on various commissions, task forces, and workgroups considering county government issues. MACo is regularly requested by the Governor and the General Assembly to nominate county officials to these groups.



CONFERENCES

The Annual Summer Conference attracts nearly 3,000 county, state and federal elected and appointed officials, exhibitors, and their families to Ocean City for three days of continuing education and networking. Sessions attract attendees interested in economic development, land use planning, transportation, finance, environment, human services, risk management and liability and more as determined by the Conference Planning Committee and staff. The conference features a 268-booth trade show, featuring commercial, state, and county exhibits.

The smaller, but more focused, January Winter Conference provides county officials with a preview of county issues likely to be debated during the upcoming General Assembly Session and continuing education. It includes a smaller technology showcase of exhibits for commercial vendors. The Winter Conference following a general election features a broad Newly Elected Officials Orientation.

The Administrators & Attorneys Annual Fall Conference provides a forum for discussion of legal and management issues for county administrators and attorneys.

