



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service

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SUBJECT: FNM – Annual Training of  
The Asian Pacific Islander  
Organization (APIO) Conference

DATE: JAN 27 2011

TO: Regional Assistant Chiefs  
Deputy Chiefs  
Associate Deputy Chiefs  
State Conservationist  
Directors of Pacific Islands Area &  
Caribbean Areas  
National Headquarters (NHQ) Division  
Directors and Above

FILE CODE: 250-13-15

**EXPIRATION DATE: July 25, 2011**

**Action Requested By: July 18, 2011**

The APIO will host its annual training conference August 8-12, 2011 in Providence, Rhode Island. The conference will take place at the Providence Marriott Downtown Hotel. This year's theme will be "Technology and Outreach for a Diverse World."

Rhode Island has a wealth of topics to offer including successful outreach to small scale diverse farmers, programs for urban farmers, working waters, and subaqueous soil mapping. Special Emphasis Training will be provided on Monday. Technical, professional development, outreach and programmatic workshops will focus on small scale and diverse initiatives in the New England States and around the country. General sessions will also be offered to highlight the Asian Pacific Islander White House Initiative Action Plan, Women Issues and updates from National Headquarters (NHQ) and guest speakers from Congress and the Administration.

Other co-sponsoring organizations for this conference includes the AAPI Special Emphasis Managers (SEPMs), the Federal Womens Programs Managers (FWPMs), the National Organization of Professional Women In NRCS (WIN), the North-East (NE) Technical Group, and the state Outreach Coordinators, along with the other New England States.

This will serve as a unique opportunity to bring together a diverse group of organizations who all have the same goals to better serve our diverse customer base, and to recruit and retain the best possible NRCS workforce.

Attendance will be limited to employees who are presenting, speaking, members of the Chief's staff, training, or for purposes of satisfying professional certification requirements per GM Title 250 Part 406.13.

NRCS encourages its employees to take advantage of career development and professional enhancement opportunities through training subject to the availability of agency funds and work priorities.

You should submit one composite form SCS-FNM-72 Meeting Attendance Approval with attendees name, position title, estimated cost, and appropriate attendance justification by the deadline date of July 18, 2011 to: Deanna Smith-Queen/Financial Specialist /USDA / NRCS, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 6839-South, Washington, DC 20250 or fax to (202) 720-2177.

The early registration fee of \$425.00 for APIO and WIN members and \$450.00 for non-members is available for those who register and pay before **July 15, 2011**. Registration will increase to \$450.00 and \$475.00 respectively after this date. Registration forms and other conference information are available and can be printed from the APIO website at [www.apio.org](http://www.apio.org).

Reservations can be made at the Providence Marriott Downtown Hotel, One Orms Street, Providence, RI 02904. To make your reservations call (401)-272-2400. A block of rooms has been reserved under "APIO" for the lodging rate of \$122.00 per night. **Reservations must be made on or before July 22, 2011 to guarantee this rate.**

Questions regarding the training conference should be directed to Peter P. Bautista, APIO President, at (509) 323-2941 or email [peter.bautista@wa.usda.gov](mailto:peter.bautista@wa.usda.gov). Questions regarding the SEPM training should be directed to either Kurencio Ngowakl, National AAPI Program Manager at (671) 472-0198 or email [kurencio.ngowakl@pb.usda.gov](mailto:kurencio.ngowakl@pb.usda.gov) or Sharyn Alvarez, National Women's Program Manager at (301) 504-2284 or email [sharyn.alvarez@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:sharyn.alvarez@wdc.usda.gov). Questions regarding attendance approval, should be directed to the Management Services Division, Deanna Smith-Queen, Financial Specialist, at (202) 720-0429 or [deanna.smith-queen@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:deanna.smith-queen@wdc.usda.gov).



Dave White  
Chief

Attachment