

AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS

- **Maintain Funding for Rural Infrastructure:** NACo supports federal funding for critical infrastructure such as water, waste water, roads and bridges, and broadband deployment for rural communities. The cost of building and maintaining these assets are a challenge for many rural counties.
- **Oppose Particulate Matter Regulation:** NACo opposes any attempts by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to impose additional regulation of particulate matter (PM or dust) at levels more stringent than current standards.
- **Protect County Interests in “Waters of the U.S.” Rulemaking:** NACo believes that local streets, gutters and human made ditches should be excluded from the definition of “Waters of the U.S.” (WOTUS) under the federal Clean Water Act. NACo calls on Congress to require the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to withdraw the new WOTUS rule and rewrite it in consultation and collaboration with state and local governments.
- **Modernize Biotechnology Policies:** NACo supports a comprehensive plan to address the co-habitation of genetically engineered and non- genetically engineered crops to provide a strong and robust agriculturally-based economy. NACo calls on Congress and the Administration to provide policies that standardize or unify the regulation of genetically engineered crops which alleviate the need for county or municipal governing bodies to regulate, investigate or enforce regulation or related ordinances or laws.