October is National Cooperative Month! As part of this month’s celebration, USDA’s Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS) is holding a series of training and informational webinars to showcase the many important ways cooperatives empower our daily lives. For the full calendar of events for Co-op Month, visit [http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/all-programs/cooperative-programs](http://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/all-programs/cooperative-programs), or to request special accommodations, please contact [rdced@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:rdced@wdc.usda.gov).

### October 11, 2016
**Cooperative Board Training 101**
- **Speaker:** Margaret Bau, RBS Cooperative Programs
- **Webinar/Audio:** [https://cc.readytalk.com/r/x3d3w44ec7ex&eom](https://cc.readytalk.com/r/x3d3w44ec7ex&eom)

### October 13, 2016
**Cooperative Legal Basics**
- **Facilitator:** Meegan Moriarty, RBS Cooperative Programs
- **Speakers:** Todd R. Eskelsen, Schiff Hardin, LLP and Marlis Carson, National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
- **Webinar/Audio:** [https://cc.readytalk.com/r/fjn0raup3sgh&eom](https://cc.readytalk.com/r/fjn0raup3sgh&eom)

### October 18, 2016
**When the Last Grocery Store Closes – Exploring Cooperative Options**
- **Facilitator:** Margaret Bau, RBS Cooperative Programs
- **Speakers:** Dr. David Proctor, Rural Grocery Initiative, Kansas State University and Marnie Thompson, Fund 4 Democratic Communities
- **Webinar/Audio:** [https://cc.readytalk.com/r/v92f7ysgo9k0&eom](https://cc.readytalk.com/r/v92f7ysgo9k0&eom)

### October 19, 2016
**Farm to School and the Role of Cooperatives – Producer and Buyer Perspectives**
- **Facilitator:** James Barham, RBS Cooperative Programs
- **Speakers:** Andrea Northup, USDA Food Nutrition Service, Jennie Rengert, Fifth Season Cooperative, Krista Garand, Durango School District, and Janet Fogel, Mancos School District
- **Webinar/Audio:** [https://cc.readytalk.com/r/jlm99m0d6tul&eom](https://cc.readytalk.com/r/jlm99m0d6tul&eom)

### October 25, 2016
**#CoopYouth: Telling our Stories**
- **Facilitator:** Scott Cessarich, RBS Cooperative Programs
- **Speakers:** Jesus Lucero, USA Cooperative Youth Council, Hnin Hnin, Cooperative Food Empowerment Directive, and Morgan Crawford, North American Students of Cooperation
- **Webinar/Audio:** [https://cc.readytalk.com/r/57tvjzrooxe4&eom](https://cc.readytalk.com/r/57tvjzrooxe4&eom)

### October 27, 2016
**Celebrating Diversity: Race and Ethnicity in the Cooperative Movement**
- **Facilitator:** Claudette Fernandez, RBS Cooperative Programs / Community Economic Development
- **Speakers:** Cornelius Blanding, Federation of Southern Cooperatives, Mai Nguyen, California Center for Cooperative Development, and Nikki Marin Baena, Southern Reparations Loan Fund
- **Webinar/Audio:** [https://cc.readytalk.com/r/8gjljuzevxt8&eom](https://cc.readytalk.com/r/8gjljuzevxt8&eom)