



Teton County to Participate in 2024 Operation Green Light for Veterans

DRIGGS – In advance of the upcoming Veterans Day holiday, Teton County plans to illuminate the county courthouse green from November 4th – 11th as part of Operation Green Light for Veterans, a nationwide effort uniting counties to support military veterans. The initiative, led by the National Association of Counties (NACo), raises awareness about the unique challenges faced by many veterans and the resources available at the county, state, and federal levels to assist veterans and their families.

Now in its third year, Operation Green Light is spearheaded by NACo and the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers, building upon successful efforts by the New York State Association of Counties and the NYS County Veteran Service Officers' Association in 2021. In 2023, over 300 counties participated in Operation Green Light.

“On November 11th we celebrate Veterans Day, a day of remembrance to honor and thank those who have served in our armed forces in defense of our nation and our freedoms. Many Teton Valley men and women of today deserve our respect for their proud legacy of loyalty and service to America. Teton Valley veterans, dating all the way back to the Civil War, are interred in our cemeteries. Imagine yourself as a 19-year-old in the trenches of World War 1 or marching up the beaches of Normandy into the teeth of Hitler’s army on D-day 1944. We owe our veterans a debt of gratitude that can never be fully repaid. To all who have served, thank you.” -- Michael Whitfield, Teton County Commissioner

In addition to lighting the county courthouse, residents, businesses, and other organizations are encouraged to participate by simply changing one light bulb inside or outside their home to a green bulb. By shining a green light, we let our veterans know that they are seen, appreciated, and supported, and we open up conversations about the needs of veterans and the services that support veteran communities.

“Operation Green Light is a gesture of support and appreciation for the public service of our veterans,” said NACo Executive Director Matthew Chase. “With hundreds of counties coming together to light everything from bridges to courthouses, we know veterans across the country will see and feel the gratitude we all hold for their service and sacrifices.”

Counties and residents across the country are sharing their participation on social media using the hashtag #OperationGreenLight.

For more information on Operation Green Light, visit www.naco.org/program/operation-green-light-veterans.

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The National Association of Counties (NACo) strengthens America’s counties, including nearly 40,000 county elected officials and 3.5 million county employees. Founded in 1935, NACo unites county officials to advocate for county government priorities in federal policymaking; promote exemplary

county policies and practices; nurture leadership skills and expand knowledge networks; optimize county and taxpayer resources and cost savings; and enrich the public's understanding of county government. www.naco.org