

**2016 NATIONAL RURAL ROUTE MAIL COUNT
STAND-UP TALK**

In accordance with Article 9.2.C.3.a. (4) of the 2010-2015 National Agreement between the United States Postal Service and the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association, a national rural route mail count will be conducted for twelve (12) working days beginning Saturday, March 12, 2016 and ending Friday, March 25, 2016, for all routes except those routes which both the regular carrier and management agree in writing not to count.

All vacant regular routes with no regular carrier assigned and all routes in an auxiliary route status as of Friday, February 19, 2016, will be scheduled for the national rural mail count and no option election is available.

During the period from Saturday, January 30, 2016 through Friday, February 19, 2016, regular rural carriers wishing to exercise their option out election should request a copy of the "2016 National Rural Mail Count Option Out Election Form" from their manager, complete the form, and return it to their manager no later than "Close-Of-Business" (COB) Friday, February 19, 2016. A copy of the completed form will be returned to the carrier as soon as practicable.

Local management will provide a copy of a completed "2016 National Rural Mail Count Option Out Election Form" to each regular rural carrier during the period from Saturday, January 30, 2016 through Friday, February 19, 2016. If the carrier is unavailable during this time period, a copy of the form will be provided upon the carrier's return to the office.

In order to ensure that all rural carriers are fully aware of these procedures for the 2016 National Rural Route Mail Count, this stand-up talk will be posted on the appropriate office bulletin board.