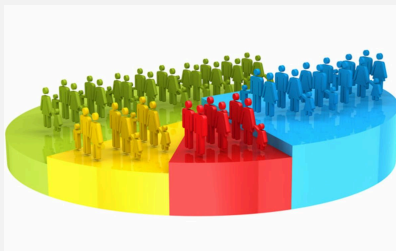


April 10, 2026

Help ensure an accurate 2030 Census count for your township

The [2030 Census](#) count will direct billions of state and federal dollars to local governments and determine political representation. An accurate Census count is critical for every township and for our state. To help ensure an accurate count, officials can submit comments on the U.S. Census Bureau's proposed 2030 plan for the [Local Updates to Census Addresses \(LUCA\) program](#). The deadline for public comment is April 20, and [a template letter](#) is available. Through the [LUCA operation](#), local governments can update the 2030 Census address list. This helps the Census Bureau identify where people live, where to send census forms, and where to conduct non-response follow-up and data operations for a complete count. Remember, an accurate census count depends on an accurate address list.



Federal Safe Streets and Roads for All grants available

Local governments are among the eligible applicants for [Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\)](#) grant program from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT). The [FY 2026 Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) has been released for the program, which will provide almost \$1 billion in funding for planning, infrastructural, behavioral and operational initiatives to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. In addition to local governments, eligible applicants also include metropolitan planning organizations, federally recognized Tribal governments and multi-jurisdictional groups made up of the eligible entities. The program provides funding for [planning and demonstration grants](#) and [implementation grants](#). Applications are due by 5 p.m. May 26 via [Valid Eval](#), an online application portal used by USDOT. An April 14 webinar, held at 1:30 p.m., will offer an overview of the program and the grant application process, with particular focus on funding for supplemental planning and demonstration activities. [Register in advance for the webinar](#), find details on the [SS4A Webinar Series page](#), or submit questions to SS4A@dot.gov.

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WEBSITE SERVICE

Stop by Booth 102
at the Expo

UPCOMING MTA TRAINING

April 20-23: Spots still open for [MTA's 2026 Annual Educational Conference & Expo](#) at the Grand Traverse Resort.

This May: [Planning & Zoning Primer](#) in three locations, 4-8 p.m.

May 13: *Now You Know* lunchtime webinar [Dig up Your Township's Cemetery Ordinance](#)

Coming in June: [Election Ready](#) afternoon workshops, in-person or online.

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Hazard mitigation grant opportunity

The Michigan State Police, Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division (MSP/EMHSD) has announced the opening of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's [Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities \(BRIC\) grant program](#) for fiscal year 2025 and is seeking project proposals from eligible applicants statewide. The BRIC program provides federal funding for hazard mitigation projects aimed at reducing property damage and loss of life from natural disasters like floods, tornadoes and severe storms, with a focus on infrastructure and construction projects that deliver measurable risk reduction. Examples of typical projects include, but are not limited to, relocating critical facilities out of flood-prone areas, securing pump stations, evaluating and implementing hazard-resistant building codes, constructing tornado safe rooms, supporting wildfire mitigation efforts and protecting utility infrastructure. The MSP/EMHSD serves as the applicant for the state coordinating proposals from eligible subapplicants, including local governments. Interested townships should review the MSP/EMHSD [informational bulletin](#) on BRIC eligibility and the application process as soon as possible. Key dates for applicants include:

- **April 29**—[Notice of Intent \(NOI\) form](#) must be submitted
- **June 10**—Full applications due for MSP/EMHSD review
- **July 8**—Completed final applications due

**State Treasury 'Internal Controls' webinar
scheduled for April 23**

[Register today](#) for the state Department of Treasury's next [Fiscally Ready Communities](#) webinar, "Internal Controls," held April 23 at 10 a.m. The webinar will include a deep dive into internal controls, what they are, why you need them, how they help your community, how to implement them, and where to start. Participants will learn how to build a culture of fiscal sustainability and how they help strengthen your community. Questions can be submitted in advance to TreasLocalGov@michigan.gov, with the subject line "Fiscally Ready."



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Michigan Township Participating Plan
2026 MTA Conference
Grand Traverse Resort
All Attendees – Place Your Bets!

Par Plan Derby FUN NIGHT **April 21, 2026**
7 p.m.
Par Plan members are invited to arrive at 6:30 p.m.

Horse Racing
Wagering
Lawn Games
Raffle Prizes
Best Dressed Awards

See You at the Derby!

MTA QUICK LINKS

- [Answer Center](#)
- [Training](#)
- [Advocacy](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [Community Connection](#)
- [Webcasts](#)
- [Store](#)
- [Township Governance](#)
- [Academy](#)
- [Allied Service Providers](#)
- [NATaT](#)

AN AFTERNOON CLASS OFFERING EXPERT GUIDANCE & PRACTICAL INSIGHTS

**ELECTION READY:
THE TOWNSHIP TOOLKIT**

- June 4 | Kalamazoo
- June 16 | Marquette
- June 17 | Gaylord
- June 23 | Frankenmuth
- June 25 | Online (via Zoom)

CLICK TO REGISTER!

Forestry grant opportunity for local governments

Applications for the next round of the [Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program](#), which aims to expand the tree canopy across the state, are due May 18. Local units of government can apply for grants up to \$75,000 with no match requirement through the [Michigan Department of Natural Resources MiGrants](#) portal. Eligible activities include tree inventories and management plans, tree planting and maintenance, engagement and outreach, training, wood utilization and more. More information on the program is available in the [grant handbook](#) and [program website](#).



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CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE PORTFOLIO!

MICHIGAN'S EXPERTS IN WEB DEVELOPMENT

DNR updates burn permit webpage ahead of spring cleanup season

Spring cleanup season is here, and many Michigan residents are preparing to burn yard debris. To simplify the burn permit process the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has updated its [burn permit webpage](#) to be more user friendly. You can now select your county using a dropdown menu (*on the right side of the screen for desktop users or below the map on mobile devices*) after tapping "Can I burn today?" Once a county is selected, users can view township-specific information, including whether burning is permitted that day and any restrictions in place. The site no longer supports clicking directly on the map. Those who prefer not to use a computer or mobile device can still check burn conditions by calling (866) 922-BURN. DNR-issued burn permits apply only to the Upper Peninsula and northern Lower Peninsula. Those in the southern Lower Peninsula should contact their local fire department or township office for guidance.

EGLE webinars explores 'What Local Leaders Need to Know about Asbestos'

The next Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) [Local Leaders webinar series](#) event will take place on May 6 at 10 a.m., focusing on asbestos safety during renovation and demolition projects. "[What Local Leaders Need to Know about Asbestos](#)" will feature insights from an EGLE Air Quality Division asbestos inspector and staff from the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health

Administration highlighting how asbestos regulations are enforced statewide to protect public health and the environment. Register for the webinar [here](#).

MECC

2026 MICHIGAN ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE CONFERENCE

**JUNE 9-10
LANSING CENTER**

Attend the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's (EGLE) premier environmental compliance assistance event!

- Choose from more than 70 concurrent technical sessions
- Check out services from exhibitors
- Get one-on-one assistance from EGLE staff
- Network with hundreds of environmental professionals

EGLE

Register by May 20 at Michigan.gov/MECC

2026 Adopt-a-Highway pickup launches April 11

The first Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) [Adopt-a-Highway program](#) pickup of 2026 will take place April 11-19 in the southern Lower Peninsula. The first pickup in the northern Lower and Upper Peninsula will take place May 9-17 to ensure volunteers work in warmer and drier conditions. If any communities are interested in adopting a section of highway, many are still available. Participating communities are asked to make a two-year commitment to keeping Michigan's roadsides clean by participating in three pickup events (spring, summer and fall) per year. Interested communities should review MDOT's [interactive map](#) to identify sections of highway available for adoption. There is no fee for participation and MDOT provides safety vests and trash bags for volunteers, as well as arranging for the disposal of collected trash.

Help observe National Work Zone Awareness Week

As road construction season ramps up, drivers can expect to encounter temporary adjustments to traffic patterns and speed limits that require greater vigilance while traveling Michigan highways. National Work Zone Awareness Week is a nationwide campaign focused on prioritizing safety for workers and travelers in highway work zones that will be observed April 20-24. The 2026 theme, *Safe Actions Save Lives*, centers on the role drivers play in protecting roadway workers and fellow motorists. Access the [program website](#) to learn more about 2026 events and view resources for supporting safer work zones.



Reminders for clerks

- **April 14** is deadline for election inspectors for the May 5 election to be appointed by your election commission.
- **April 20** is the deadline for registering to vote in any manner other than in person at the local clerk's office to be eligible to vote in the May election. After April 20 and through Election Day, Secretary of State offices and state agencies that offer voter registration services will provide customers who register with a [0-14 Day](#)

[Registration - County and Agency Notice to Voter](#)

informing them that they need to take additional steps to vote in the upcoming election.

- **April 27** is the deadline for township clerks to forward names and addresses of partisan candidates to county clerk.
- **Check/update AV drop box locations in QVF.** Jurisdictions who have installed absent voter drop boxes must provide the location to the Bureau of Elections so that voters can find their locations at Michigan.gov/Vote. Please check your jurisdiction's drop box locations in the Qualified Voter File (QVF) and update as needed, which will automatically update Michigan.gov/Vote.

MTA's May workshop offers 'next step' planning and zoning training

Whether you're fairly new to the process or in need of a practical refresher, MTA's [Planning & Zoning Primer](#) workshop, coming to three locations this May, offers a clear roadmap for anyone involved in your township's land use decisions. Led by MTA Legal Counsel, this evening class takes a deep dive into the "step by step" of both a special land use permit at the planning commission and a variance request at the zoning board of appeals (ZBA). Space is limited, so [click here](#) for more details or [register online now](#) to secure your seat!

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