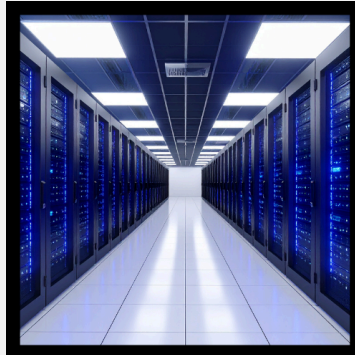


April 3, 2026

## MTA sample data center moratorium ordinances available

As township leaders, planning and zoning officials, and other stakeholders learn and weigh considerations and potential regulations for hyperscale data centers, townships may choose to enact a temporary moratorium on the receipt or processing of data center applications. Working with our Legal Counsel, MTA now has available two sample temporary moratorium ordinances: a regulatory ordinance and a zoning ordinance. The sample moratoriums are available on [MTA's "Data Centers" webpage](#), where you can also find additional information and resources (member login is required). Consideration and adoption of moratoriums should only be addressed in consultation with your township attorney. MTA is also working with its Legal Counsel to develop a sample data center ordinance. Watch *Township Insights* and other MTA communications for availability.



## Talk with legislators during spring legislative recess

With the current spring legislative recess, legislators are holding meetings and working in their district. MTA encourages township officials to utilize this time to talk with their lawmakers on key issues that will be at the forefront in the coming weeks—many of which will impact not only the funding for your township but also local decision-making. These include revenue sharing funding, housing reform, property tax reform and election law changes. Member engagement is critical in our efforts to retain local decision-making and funding.

While all agree affordable housing is essential across the state, it should not come at the expense of local input by requiring local governments to follow one-size-fits-all requirements from the state—which is what recent [pending legislation](#) will do. The bills would strip your township of your decision-making authority on key housing considerations, dismiss extensive community planning work and investment, and override local voices and voter-backed decisions. In addition to talking with your legislators while they are in district over spring recess, you can add your signature to [a joint letter of opposition](#), and ask your [state representative](#) and [state senator](#) to support Michigan's communities and oppose this legislation.

**CiviClarity**  
WEBSITE SERVICE

### Website Accessibility: More Than a Widget

Learn why Civic Clarity promotes manual review



Stop by Booth 102 at the Expo

**BLKRK** | **BLACK ROCK TECHNOLOGIES**  
MICHIGAN BASED IT TECH SUPPORT FOR TOWNSHIPS

**AFFORDABLE AND RESPONSIVE TECH SUPPORT FOR MUNICIPALITIES**



☎ (734) 338-8658  
✉ [info@black-rock.tech](mailto:info@black-rock.tech)

## UPCOMING MTA TRAINING

**April 8:** *Now You Know* lunchtime webinar [What Your Township Needs to Know About Franchises](#)

**April 20-23:** Register now 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.

**ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS**

Property tax revenue and revenue sharing are key to local government funding, and both funding items are also being discussed with the ongoing state budget process and property tax reform being a top issue in 2026. Share with your lawmakers that it is critical for any reform enacted to be revenue neutral for townships and for the Legislature to maintain stability in revenue sharing funding.



**BLKRK** **BLACK ROCK TECHNOLOGIES**

**AFFORDABLE AND RESPONSIVE  
TECH SUPPORT FOR MUNICIPALITIES**

(734) 338-8658 info@black-rock.tech

### Townships encouraged to review public water system settlement claims

Townships and other local governments are encouraged to carefully review the class-action settlements claims process designed to resolve allegations of PFAS contamination in public water systems' drinking water before entering into agreements with outside firms. The settlements, approved by the U.S. District Court as part of AFFF Multi-District Litigation No. 2873, involve four groups of settling defendants: 3M Company; E.I. Du Pont de Nemours and Company and affiliated entities; Tyco Fire Products LP and Chemguard, Inc.; and BASF Corporation.

The state Department of Attorney General has been made aware of law firms advertising their services to help municipalities obtain proceeds from these PFAS settlements. While municipalities may choose to retain legal support at their discretion, no separate legal representation is required to apply for settlement funds. The claims process is designed to allow municipalities to complete submissions directly through the claim's portal managed by a special master and a claims administrator on the [PFAS Settlement website](#). Eligible water systems are already included in the settlement class unless they previously opted out. [A list of eligible municipalities is available online](#), as are upcoming deadlines, FAQs, and contact information for the claims administrator, special master and class counsel who represent all eligible water systems. Formulas that determine exact distribution amounts to eligible water systems are pre-determined as part of the settlement's allocation procedures. The volume of impacted water and degree of impact are the main factors in calculating the cost of treating PFAS. There is no negotiation to increase an eligible water supply allocation.

Some law firms may charge a fee for their services or request a percentage of settlement proceeds as compensation. This may cause municipalities to incur unnecessary expenses and thus, municipalities are encouraged to review an agreement carefully before joining. Information on the basics of the settlements and key dates is available on the [PFAS Water Settlement website](#).



[www.Acrisure.com/GreatLakes](http://www.Acrisure.com/GreatLakes)



[www.theparplan.com/](http://www.theparplan.com/)



[www.mersofmich.com](http://www.mersofmich.com)

[\\* Adna Technologies](#)

[\\* Bauckham, Thall, Seeber  
Kaufman & Koches PC](#)

[\\* Consumers Energy](#)

[\\* Fahey Schultz Burzych Rhodes  
PLC](#)

[\\* Foster Swift Collins & Smith, PC](#)

[\\* Hartleb Agency](#)

[\\* ITC Holdings Corp.](#)

[\\* Rosati, Schultz, Joppich &  
Amtsbuechler, P.C.](#)

[\\* Mika Meyers, PLC](#)



Michigan Township Participating Plan  
**2026 MTA Conference**  
Grand Traverse Resort

**Par Plan Derby  
FUN NIGHT**

**Register to Ride!**  
The legendary horses from the Par Plan Olympics are making their return at the Par Plan Derby. They need names and jockeys!  
Use the QR Code to register to ride!

April 21, 2026  
7 p.m.  
[theparplan.com](http://theparplan.com)

### MTA QUICK LINKS

- [Answer Center](#)
- [Training](#)
- [Advocacy](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [Community Connection](#)
- [Webcasts](#)
- [Store](#)

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!**

### **Public comment sought on proposed Treasury ADA document conversion tool**

The Michigan Department of Treasury is seeking public comments on its [proposal](#) to add technology to its website that will convert documents to make them compliant with the new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements. The technology, called [DocAccess](#), converts PDF content into screen-reader-friendly transcripts and allows users to view, access or print the original PDF submitted to the department by a local unit or the converted, accessible transcript. Audits could be submitted using the current submission process for one more year, though CPAs are encouraged to begin transitioning their reports for long-term compliance. Treasury is seeking comments on the proposed DocAccess implementation, particularly about the technology's feature that displays the original audited financial report PDF alongside the accessible transcript. A [demonstration](#) is available on the DocAccess website to show how the interface works. Email comments to [LAFD\\_Audits@michigan.gov](mailto:LAFD_Audits@michigan.gov) with the subject line "Exposure Draft for Public Comment—Proposed Use of DocAccess" by April 16.

### **New MI BEAD Breakdown episode**

The Michigan High Speed Internet Office (MIHI) is continuing its [MI BEAD Breakdown](#) web series with a [new episode](#). The series provides clear updates on the federal Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program in Michigan and what it means for communities across the state. MIHI shares various broadband technology types available to Michiganders in the BEAD program, from fiber to fixed wireless.

### **Hate Crimes Program grants available**

Local law enforcement agencies can seek funding through the [FY 2025 Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Program](#) to support efforts to prevent hate crimes. Funding may be used to provide technical, forensic, prosecutorial or any other form of assistance in the criminal investigation or prosecution of such crimes, and can also be used to address serial violent hate crime offenses by the same person(s). Total funding of \$13 million is available, with applications due by April 20, 2026 ([Grants.gov](#)); April 27, 2026 ([JustGrants](#)).

- 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 webinar introduces updated environmental justice screening tool

[MiEJScreen](#) is an interactive environmental justice screening tool that identifies a variety of stressors and demographics within communities impacting environmental conditions or the public health of residents. On April 15 at 3 p.m., the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy will host a webinar covering how to use the tool, which recently launched a new version 1.5 with new features. [Register online](#) for this free webinar.

## Adopt-a-lake monitoring program seeking volunteers

Michigan has more than 11,000 inland lakes, and state agencies rely on a network of volunteers to monitor water quality and provide decision-makers with up-to-date data on the state of Michigan's lakes. The [MiCorps Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program](#) offers detailed instructions, training and equipment to volunteers who get involved at their favorite lake by sampling the water for nutrients, surveying for invasive species, and monitoring native plants and shoreline conditions. [Free training](#) for those interested in getting involved in the program is available both in person in Muskegon on May 1 and online on May 7.



**STG**  
SHUMAKER TECHNOLOGY GROUP

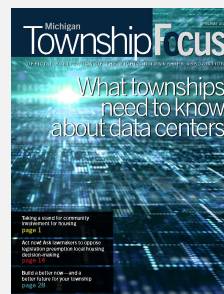
**CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE PORTFOLIO!**

MICHIGAN'S EXPERTS IN WEB DEVELOPMENT

## Read the April/May Township Focus online now!

[Your April/May issue of Township Focus](#)

is online and hitting mailboxes soon. In this issue, read about **legislation that would preempt critical local zoning decisions**—and how you can [join MTA efforts](#) to protect local voices and oppose this one-size-fits-all state mandate for certain housing and land use requirements. Our cover story delves into another timely topic, sharing **What townships need to know about data centers**. The feature article offers insights from **2026 MTA Conference Keynote Speaker Greg Bennick**, including his



reflections on how local leaders can build a better now—and a better future—for their communities. It's not too late to hear Bennick live at our Annual Conference on April 22! [Learn more about MTA 2026 here](#) or get a sneak preview in this issue. “**Hello, MTA...?**” explores township expenditures to celebrate America's 250th birthday, while “**Financial Forum**” explains GASB 103 and how it impacts your township. *Note:* This is a combined issue. The next *Township Focus* you will receive will be in June.



**BLKRK** | **BLACK ROCK TECHNOLOGIES**

**AFFORDABLE AND RESPONSIVE  
TECH SUPPORT FOR MUNICIPALITIES**

☎ (734) 338-8658 ✉ info@black-rock.tech

The advertisement features a black background with a glowing green map of Michigan on the right side, overlaid with a circuit board pattern. The text is in white and yellow-green.



Michigan Townships Association | 512 Westshire Drive | Lansing, MI 48917 US



[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!