

# Michigan Township **INSIGHTS**

August 12, 2022

## Reminder: Internet for All: Michigan Local Coordination workshop next week

You can still register for the Michigan High-Speed Internet Office's [Internet for All: Michigan Local Coordination Workshop](#) held on Aug. 18 to learn about critical programs to expand broadband infrastructure and digital equity throughout your community and the state. **You can attend this free event in person (Detroit) or virtually** —simply indicate your preference on the [registration form](#) . During this day-long summit (8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.), discussions will include local government and community needs, legislative and program updates, working with industry, data collection and mapping, and supply chain and talent needs, among others. This event will provide an opportunity to discuss ways locals and the state can work together to efficiently and effectively utilize broadband funds from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and other federal broadband dollars to the maximum extent. The event is hosted by the state Department of Labor and Economic Development and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

## Safe Drinking Water Act stakeholder meetings—Aug. 17 and 23

The state Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) and the state Department of Health and Human Service (MDHHS) will be hosting virtual roundtable discussions on **Aug. 17 and 23** to solicit input from stakeholders and the public on the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act as it relates to the protection of public health. The roundtables will be facilitated by a neutral third-party and will provide EGLE and MDHHS valuable feedback on the regulatory responsibility of the agencies regarding:



## MTA Training Opportunities

### [Hot Topics in Planning and Zoning](#) Attend in-person on:

**\*\*August 16** [in Mt Pleasant](#)

**\*\*August 24** [in Gaylord](#)

**\*\*August 31** [in Lawrence](#)

**\*\* Or attend [online](#)**

(includes access to live stream on Aug. 31 & recorded version )

### [Emerging Issues in Emergency Services](#)

**\*\*September 12** [Bavarian Inn Frankenmuth](#)

## MTA QUICK LINKS

[MTA COVID Relief Webpage](#)

[Members-only Website](#)

[Answer Center](#)

[Training](#)

[Advocacy](#)

[Classifieds](#)

[Community Connection](#)

- Public notice, education, outreach and transparency
- Interactions with the Public Health Code
- Addressing infrastructure concerns for public water suppliers
- Water quality standards, monitoring and testing procedures
- Mitigating water quality concerns
- Oversight activities

The topics will be covered in two meetings— **Aug. 17 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and Aug. 23 from 1 to 3:30 p.m.** The meetings will be held virtually to accommodate as many individuals as possible. RSVP your attendance to Kelsey Smith at [ksmith@publicsectorconsultants.com](mailto:ksmith@publicsectorconsultants.com) .

### Register for Safe Streets grant webinar

Townships wishing to apply for grants through the [Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\) program](#) can participate in a webinar on **Aug. 15** from 1 to 2 p.m. that will offer expert advice in completing the application. The grants are for planning and implementation of comprehensive safety plans for “safe streets,” and applications are due **Sept. 15, 2022** . This [link](#) provides more information about the grants. While the webinar is sponsored by the National League of Cities, the grants are available for townships as well. Register [here](#).

### FREE online federal grant training

You can gain a basic understanding of the federal grants process and how to prepare for the grant solicitations—particularly now that we are in the first of five years of grant programs funded through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. A two-part, free online training program, sponsored by the National Association of Towns and Townships (NATaT), will be available live on **Aug. 24 and Aug. 25 at 1 p.m.** and include 60 to 75 minutes of training. Click on the following links at 1 p.m. to access via Microsoft Teams the [Aug. 24 session](#) , which will provide grants basics and identification, an overview of the federal grants landscape, required registrations, and how to search for federal grants and strategically position projects ahead of a solicitation. The [Aug. 25 session](#) will offer an overview of common grant narrative elements with tips and tricks for writing and submitting a competitive grant application. The sessions will also

[Webcasts](#)  
[Store](#)  
[Township Governance Academy](#)  
[Allied Service Providers NATaT](#)

#### ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS



\* [Asphalt Materials, Inc.](#) .

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

\* [Consumers Energy](#)

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

\* [Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, P.C.](#)

\* [Hartleb Agency](#)

\* [ITC Holdings Corp.](#)

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

\* [Mika Meyers, PLC](#)

be recorded and available on [NATaT's website](#) and MTA's website for those unable to participate on those dates.



An advertisement for STG Shumaker Technology Group. It features the STG logo in white on a blue background, with the text "SHUMAKER TECHNOLOGY GROUP" below it. Three service icons are listed: "Website Development", "Paperless Solutions", and "Aerial Drone Photo &amp; Video". The background of the ad is an aerial view of a town with a river and trees, with a blue map of Michigan overlaid. The text "Michigan's Experts in Municipal Web Development" is prominently displayed, along with a "VIEW PORTFOLIO" button.

## Property tax exemption program application deadlines

To ensure processing and certification for the following tax year, local units are reminded that the deadline for submitting applications for Industrial Facilities Exemptions, Neighborhood Enterprise Zone Exemptions, Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Exemptions, Commercial Rehabilitation Exemptions, New Personal Property Exemptions, Charitable Nonprofit Housing Exemptions, and Commercial Facilities Exemptions is **Oct. 31, 2022**. Completed exemption applications should be submitted as soon as possible to [pte@michigan.gov](mailto:pte@michigan.gov) or P.O. Box 30760, Lansing, MI, 48909. Questions should be directed to the Property Tax Exemption Section at [pte@michigan.gov](mailto:pte@michigan.gov). Assessors are also reminded that the deadline for submission of the 2022 Annual Assessing Officer Reports for local units that have Industrial Facility Exemptions, Commercial Rehabilitation Exemptions, Commercial Facilities Exemptions, and Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Exemptions is **Oct. 15, 2022**. Completed reports should be submitted as soon as possible. Industrial Facility Exemptions Assessor Officer Reports electronic spreadsheets should be emailed to [Treas-StateSharePropTaxes@michigan.gov](mailto:Treas-StateSharePropTaxes@michigan.gov). Assessing Officer Reports for Commercial Rehabilitation Exemptions, Commercial Facilities Exemptions, and Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Exemptions should be emailed to [pte@michigan.gov](mailto:pte@michigan.gov).





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## October MCAT course offered

The State Tax Commission is now accepting applications for the October [2022 Michigan Certified Assessing Technician \(MCAT\) program](#) to be held **Oct. 13 and 14** at Okemos Conference Center in Meridian Charter Township (Ingham Co.) with the exam scheduled on Oct. 17. Your completed [MCAT application form](#) must be received **no later than Sept. 23, 2022**, to be considered for the October 2022 MCAT Program. Questions can be directed to Will Gast at [GastW@michigan.gov](mailto:GastW@michigan.gov).

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## Southeast Michigan Resilience Fund is accepting grant proposals

Townships in seven counties—St. Clair, Macomb, Oakland, Wayne, Washtenaw, Livingston, and Monroe—are invited to apply for a new grant opportunity focusing on expanding green infrastructure and enhancing public space or improving habitat quality, connectivity and accessibility. A total of \$1.7 million is available and grants are expected to range from \$150,000 to \$350,000. Pre-proposals must be submitted **by 11:59 pm on Aug. 30, 2022**. For more information and to apply, please visit the [grant webpage](#).

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## EGLE offers virtual and in-person Water Operator training

Several water operator courses are being offered this summer and fall that offer continuing education credits for water operators. The first is a free virtual training on **Sept. 1 from 10-11:15 am** on Rapid Rate Filtration systems. The session will cover the basics of filter operation and how to do various filter



studies. There will also be a virtual course series on the Michigan Lead and Copper Rule, taking place on **Sept. 13, 20, and 27** at a cost of \$25 for this series. This course will work through the requirements for sampling plans and implementation. Registration is available online for both the [Rapid Rate Filtration](#) and the [Michigan Lead and Copper Rule Series](#).

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## Road to Zero Coalition offers webinar on safety interventions in underserved and vulnerable communities

The Road to Zero Coalition is offering a webinar on **Aug. 24 from 3 to 4 p.m.**, "Putting it to Work: Strategies and Interventions in Traditionally Underserved and Vulnerable Communities." The webinar will share opportunities and challenges to strategies and interventions that are currently being deployed in communities to reduce transportation deaths and opportunities to improve safety and overcome challenges to creating change. Registration is [available online](#).

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## Community Forestry grant applications are available

Townships can apply for grants from \$1,000 to \$25,000 with a 1-to-1 match, for projects that increase urban forest cover or improve forest care management. Projects should align with the goals outlined in the Michigan Forest Action Plan and pledge to plant 50 million trees by 2030. Applications are **due by Sept. 23** and projects must be completed by Sept. 1, 2023. An informational [webinar is available on Aug. 25](#). Find more information and [apply online](#).

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## State asks residents to watch for Asian longhorned beetle

The United States Department of Agriculture has declared August as “Tree Check Month” to help protect trees from the invasive Asian longhorned beetle. This non-native beetle attacks 12 types of hardwood trees, killing infested trees over time. None have been discovered in Michigan at this time, but early identification can help mitigate the spread and damage to forests, urban landscapes, and maple syrup production. Signs to look for include:

- Round exit holes the diameter of a pencil
- Shallow oval or round scars
- Wood shavings lying on the ground or in branches
- Dead branches or limbs falling from otherwise healthy trees

The beetle is about an inch long without counting the distinctive long antenna and is shiny black with white blotches or spots. People observing the beetle itself or damage by it are asked to report the sighting, capturing the beetle, if possible, to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD). For more information and how to report, visit [MDARD's Asian longhorned beetle webpage](#).

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## Local zoning issues keeping you up at night? MTA can help!

Join us (in person or online) for our ever-popular *Hot Topics in Planning & Zoning*



class. You'll get insights into “hot potato” land use issues and tips for matching your township's planning and zoning with the character of your community. Learn what to do when your current approach to an existing use isn't working, tips for handling conflict of interest, short-term rentals, solar energy and more. Space is still available, but time is running out! [Learn more here](#) or [register online now](#).

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## Federal update for week of August 8

Check out the National Association of Towns and Townships' [e-newsletter](#) for an update of federal actions impacting townships.