

Michigan Township **INSIGHTS**

Feb. 23, 2024

Bill modifying designated assessor requirements passes

For counties that have struggled to find a designated assessor required by law, [House Bill 4979](#) will provide an opt out provision. Sponsored by Rep. Jenn Hill (D-Marquette), the bill will allow a county to opt out of the requirement to have a designated assessor—which a county currently must have for the purpose of correcting assessing districts that have fallen out of compliance with state assessing requirements. The bill will require the State Tax Commission to appoint an individual to serve as a designated assessor when an assessing district is not in substantial compliance and its county did not have a designated assessor. Due to the expense and the fluctuation in work required, this measure will provide an additional option to remain in compliance with state requirements.

Increased penalties and fines for unlawful dumping signed into law

Fines and penalties will be increased for illegally dumping of trash under [Public Act 6 of 2024](#) signed into law this week. The measure, sponsored by Rep. Helena Scott (D-Detroit) and supported by MTA, will become effective 91 days after the end of the 2024 legislative session. The law increases fines to \$2,500 (with subsequent violations increased by \$2,500) for illegal dumping of more than three cubic yards, and establishes fines at \$5,000 (with subsequent violations increased by \$5,000) for dumping over five cubic yards. The new law creates a cause for action for property owners to attempt to recoup clean-up costs.

Michigan Township Participating Plan

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Applications Due
March 15, 2024



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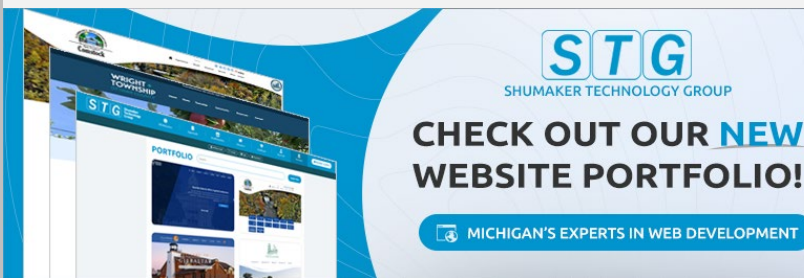
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Upcoming MTA Training & Events

Throughout February—
[Board of Review
Training](#)

March 22 *Now You
Know* lunchtime
webinar: [Legislative
Insights](#)



Assessors review and comments sought on draft DNR PILT Roll

Assessors are asked to review and provide comments on the [Draft 2024 Department of Natural Resources Payment in Lieu of Taxes Roll \(Tax Roll\)](#) to the State Tax Commission (STC) by **March 22, 2024**. The STC annually determines the valuation of DNR PILT property and furnishes those valuations to local assessing units where the property is located. The *2024 DNR PILT Roll (Tax Roll)* is scheduled for final approval at the April STC meeting. Comments may be emailed to Treas-DNRPILT@michigan.gov.

STC approves 4th Quarter Certified Interest Rates & Millage Requests and Rollbacks

[Bulletin 1 of 2024 - 4th Quarter Certified Interest Rates](#) and [Bulletin 2 of 2024 - Millage Rollback](#) were approved by the State Tax Commission at their meeting this week. Bulletin 1 addresses the certified prevailing institutional lending rates of interest for the period October 2023 through December 2023, and Bulletin 2 provides the 2024 millage rollback procedures for ("Headlee") millage reduction fractions, "Truth in Assessing," "Truth in County Equalization," and "Truth in Taxation."

April 22-25: [Annual Educational Conference & Expo](#)

[April 22 Pre-Conference sessions:](#)

**Assessor's Renewal:
[March Madness](#)
**[Understanding Assessing Basics](#)
**[Defining Your Township's Land Use Future](#)
**[Show Me the Money](#)
**[Legal Institute for Township Attorneys](#)

MTA QUICK LINKS

[Answer Center](#)
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[Webcasts](#)
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[Township Governance](#)
[Academy](#)
[Allied Service Providers](#)
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ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS



Election reminders

Notice of precinct canvass location and time—Today, Feb. 23, is the deadline for clerks to post on their municipal website, if available, where the precinct canvass of early votes for their municipality will take place and the time the canvass will begin. Even if a municipality is participating in a combined site, it is still responsible for informing voters of certain election-related activities.



Saturday and/or Sunday office hours, AV ballot issuance and voter registration—Local clerks or authorized personnel appointed by the clerk must be available in the clerk's office for at least 8 hours, offered in some combination on Saturday, Feb. 24 and/or Sunday, Feb. 25. The hours do not need to be the same hours as early voting hours. On Saturday and/or Sunday, voters may register to vote with residency verification and/or request an absentee ballot in person.

Mental Health in the workplace

To assist in building more resilient workplaces, you can view a recent webinar hosted by the state Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity on mental health first aid training opportunities and how they can benefit both employers and employees. [The importance of mental health first aid training](#) is now available to view along with the [presentation](#). The state also has a centralized hub—Michigan.gov/WorkplaceMentalHealth—to share resources and strategies aimed at helping employees and employers across the state address mental health in the workplace.



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



Free trainings on reducing threat of violence & managing the aftermath of workplace shootings

Funded in part by MIOSHA, two free workplace violence trainings will be held on **Tuesday, March 12** in Shelby Township that will focus on helping organizations to understand best practices and develop strategies to prepare, train and survive active shooter and workplace violence incidents. [Reducing Violence during High-Risk Terminations/Implementing Threat Assessment Program](#) will be held in person from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and [Managing the Aftermath of Workplace Shootings and Mass Casualty Events](#) will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Both sessions will be held at Lakeside Assembly of God, 46155 Schoenherr, Shelby Township. Register at the links above. For additional information, contact Shelby Township Police Department Sgt. Mark Benedettini at (586) 731-2121 ext. 358 or email: mbenedettini@shelbytp.org.

Join MTA this April for deep dive into managing township money

Every township board member is a trustee when it comes to the fiduciary duties of your township. Let MTA show you the way! Join us **April 22** for the full-day class ***Show Me the Money: Township Board Primer on Raising, Spending and Reporting Township Money***. We'll review revenue sources, lawful expenditures and reporting requirements, and explore budgeting, capital improvements and borrowing options. Get the knowledge you need to make informed financial decisions on behalf of your community. [Download the registration form here for the full details](#) or [register online now](#).

Federal update for week of Feb. 20

Check out the National Association of Towns and Townships [Weekly Legislative Update](#) for an update of federal actions impacting townships.