

July 11, 2025

## Rural housing and economic development grant application opens

Townships can now submit [applications](#) for projects to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) [Rural Community Development Initiative program](#) to improve housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects in rural areas. Eligible communities with populations of 50,000 or below that are not adjacent to a local unit with 50,000 or more residents can apply. Proposals submitted [online](#) are due Aug. 7 and paper applications must be received by 4 p.m. on Aug. 12. The funds have a 100% match requirement and range from \$50,000 to \$500,000. Among the uses for funds are training sub-grantees to conduct homeownership or business entrepreneur education, or providing technical assistance on strategic plan development, finding alternative funding sources, board training, or creating training tools, such as videos, workbooks, and reference guides.



## Reminder: Join MTA Government Relations for mid-year Legislative Update

You don't want to miss MTA's next live webinar coming to a computer near you on July 16. Our [Now You Know](#) webinar series keeps you ahead of the curve with a [Mid-year Legislative Update](#). Join MTA's Government Relations team as they break down the latest developments from Lansing, including the state budget, road funding and what's ahead in the 2025 session. You'll get expert insights and answers to your questions—all in just one hour. It's a great way to stay ahead of the legislative tide. Can't make it live? You can still register and receive the recording to watch when it works best for you! [Learn more here](#) or [register online now](#).

## Staff Directory

One-stop location to manage your website's staff contact data



CiviClarity  
WEBSITE SERVICE

[Learn More](#)

## Upcoming MTA Training & Events

### [Now You Know lunchtime webinars](#)

July 16: [Mid-year Legislative Update](#)

### [MTA's Summer Academy](#)

Aug. 18: [Making Meetings More Effective](#)

Aug. 18: [Fundamentals of Assessment & Taxation](#)

Aug. 19: [Managing Your Township Team](#)

### [Professional Development Retreats](#)

Sept. 29-30: [Clerks](#)

Oct. 1-2: [Treasurers](#)

Oct. 14-15: [Supervisors](#)

Oct. 27-28: [Trustees](#)

Oct. 29-30: [Planning & Zoning Team](#)

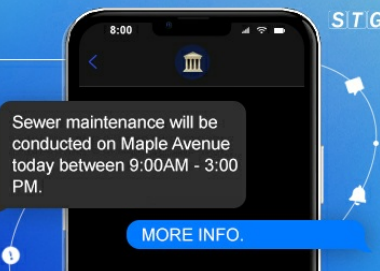
## MTA QUICK LINKS

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

## STGNOTIFY

### KEEP YOUR COMMUNITY CONNECTED

Send instant updates directly to your residents' phones



[MORE INFO.](#)

## UIA updates: MiWAM email reminders, July 16 webinar

- Employers can choose to receive email reminders for each

## ALLIED SERVICE

quarter—either 10 or 25 days in advance of the due date—through the Unemployment Insurance Agency, in the state Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. You can make this selection through your [Michigan Web Account Manager \(MiWAM\) account](#); click “Setup Email Reminders” on the MiWAM homepage. Using MiWAM, employers can also access the [Employer Help Center](#), and report fraud, identity theft and refusal of offer to work.

- UIA's Tax and Employer Services Division provides seminars to explain what employers and third-party administrators need to know about participating in Michigan's unemployment insurance program. There's still time to sign up for UIA's July 16 [webinar](#).

---

## Contaminated sites redevelopment assistance webinar

Containing environmental hazards and remediating contaminated sites can safeguard public health, prevent further contamination and rehabilitate unusable lots, but it comes with significant responsibilities under the law. Staff from the Remediation and Redevelopment Division at the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy will present a [webinar](#) on July 29 at 11 a.m. covering liability, due care and how to tap into brownfield redevelopment funding for contaminated properties.

---



RETURNING TO FRANKENMUTH

# MTA RETREATS

CLERKS | SEPT. 29-30  
TREASURERS | OCT. 1-2  
SUPERVISORS | OCT. 14-15  
TRUSTEES | OCT. 27-28  
PLANNING & ZONING | OCT. 29-30

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

---

## Hazardous Waste Management Program updates

Modified hazardous waste [administrative rules](#) went into effect earlier this year. These changes include an updated [Site Identification Form](#), a new 60-day deadline for electronic submission of all required environmental monitoring data to the Materials Management Division at [EGLE-MMD-HWS@Michigan.gov](mailto:EGLE-MMD-HWS@Michigan.gov), and several [updated environmental protection standards](#) (dated Oct. 12, 2023 on the criteria tables) that can be used for hazardous waste management as long as they are not less stringent than federal requirements.

---

---

## SEMCOG seeking input on transportation plan

The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) has opened the public comment period through July 25 for an amendment to the FY 2023-2026 [Transportation Improvement Program](#) and [Vision 2050 Regional Transportation Plan](#). Comments can be submitted through an [online form](#), the



## PROVIDERS



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



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

\* [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 Department of Transportation [portal](#), to [infocenter@semcog.org](mailto:infocenter@semcog.org) or mailed to SEMCOG Information Center, 1001 Woodward Ave., Suite 1400, Detroit, MI 48226. They may also be delivered in person at upcoming [meetings](#) on July 17 and July 25. The plans and public comment request are for SEMCOG member communities, which includes all townships in Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne Counties.

---

## LEO webinar series explores 'Building Respectful and Inclusive Organizations'

Join a [three-part series of webinars](#) from the state Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity on workplace mental health, where Drs. Michelle Kaminski and Tina Riley from Michigan State University explore how to recognize, respond to and prevent workplace mistreatment. Topics include addressing incivility and microaggressions, responding as a witness to mistreatment, and conducting respectful and effective workplace investigations. The [first session](#), on July 24 at 2 p.m., will cover incivility and microaggressions and the cumulative harmful impact they can have when experienced on a regular basis. The series will offer practical tools for individuals and leaders committed to creating more inclusive and supportive work environments.

---

## State transportation priorities public comment now open

The draft 2026-2029 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) [document](#) is available for public comment until Aug. 10. The STIP is a federally mandated planning document that outlines road, bridge and transit projects slated for funding under the Federal Aid Transportation Program for Fiscal Years 2026-2029. Comments can be submitted via [an online comment form](#), to [MonsmaM@Michigan.gov](mailto:MonsmaM@Michigan.gov), or to Monica Monsma, MDOT Environmental Services Section, 425 W. Ottawa St., P.O. Box 30050 Lansing, MI 48909.

---

## BOE reminders for clerks

- **Business reply permits.** The U.S. Postal Service is holding mail and requesting a fee payment for the State of Michigan Business Reply permits, even though base permits have been paid and renewed. Townships DO NOT have to pay this fee, and township mail should not be withheld. If the township's local post office says they cannot process township mail, instruct them to bypass the alert in their system that a fee is due and process at the standard rate. Also send post office contact information, along with any documentation received, to [BOEOperations@Michigan.gov](mailto:BOEOperations@Michigan.gov) to allow the state Bureau of Elections (BOE) to properly track and follow up with USPS leadership.
- **Public comment sought.** BOE is working to promulgate [Voter Registration Cancellation, Challenge, and Correction administrative rules](#) that will codify its [addendum](#) by the same name in the clerk accreditation manual. Public comments are accepted until 5 p.m. on Sept. 5; a public hearing will be held the same day at the Binsfeld Office Building in Lansing. All clerks are encouraged to submit any feedback regarding the rules. Public comment for the

proposed [Use of Electronic Pollbook](#) rule set may also be submitted until 5 p.m. on July 15. Submit any comments to [Elections-PublicComment@Michigan.gov](mailto:Elections-PublicComment@Michigan.gov).

- **Accessibility reviews.** BOE is looking to schedule accessibility reviews this summer, particularly in northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula. During the review, election officials have their polling places examined for accessibility issues while an ombudsperson provides guidance for fixing any issues observed. Email [ADAVoting@Michigan.gov](mailto:ADAVoting@Michigan.gov) to schedule a review.

---

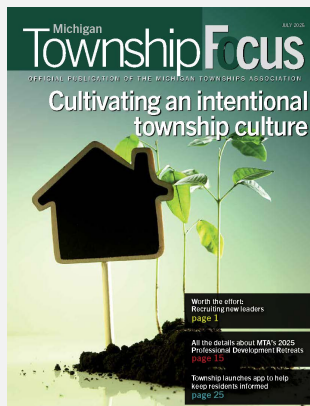
## DNR forest management plan delayed due to ice storm

Completion of the new, 10-year [State Forest Management Plan](#) will be delayed by at least a year following the devastating ice storm that struck northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula in late March. The state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will have to update harvest targets and volume estimations following the accounting of storm damage before presenting the revised plan for external and internal feedback. The projected final approval date is June 2026. Share input regarding what should be included in the planning process and the new plan to [HeckmanD@Michigan.gov](mailto:HeckmanD@Michigan.gov).

---

## Read the July issue of *Township Focus*—online now!

[Your July issue of \*Township Focus\* is available online](#), and hitting mailboxes soon! This month's cover story, *Cultivating an intentional township culture*, explores the role township leaders play in creating and sustaining their township culture—including how they lead, and their actions, interactions and conversations with each other, their township team and their community. In our feature story, read how one township is increasing community engagement and outreach by creating a township app. "Financial Forum" dives into effective filing of the Form F-65, while "Hello, MTA ... ?" discusses land use approvals and appeals. Don't miss all the details about MTA's upcoming [Professional Development Retreats](#), specifically designed for each elected office and the planning & zoning team.



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

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



Try email marketing for free today!