

May 23, 2025

## New MTA fact sheet explores Earned Sick Time Act, township compliance

A [new MTA fact sheet](#) is now available exploring the [Michigan Earned Sick Time Act](#) (ESTA) and how it applies to townships and township-specific roles, including deputies, on-call fire departments and election workers. All townships are employers, and even the smallest township likely has at least some employees subject to compliance with the act, which requires employers to provide employees with certain guaranteed paid sick leave time. The June *Township Focus* magazine will also include an article on ESTA, and MTA is hosting four in-person [Earned Sick Time & Your Township workshops](#) in June, allowing you to hear more and get your questions answered. Note that this is an introduction to the new act to help township boards understand this new requirement and how it may apply to different township positions. Each township board should work with its attorney for specific direction. Member township officials can [view or download the fact sheet here](#).



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## Reminder: Still time to file, correct required annual ARPA report

If your township has not yet completed its required [2025 American Rescue Plan Act \(ARPA\) "Project and Expenditure Report,"](#) the township must still complete its report. The U.S. Department of Treasury has reached out to any ARPA recipients **whose report is noncompliant**. Those townships **must file their 2025 annual report** or—if they did file a 2025 report—review their report to ensure compliance. Some communities have also received initial recoupment notices from the U.S. Treasury, which will “claw back” any ARPA funds not fully obligated by Dec. 31, 2024, or for communities not up to date with reporting requirements (a sample recoupment reconsideration letter from the state Department of Treasury is available [here](#)). MTA’s Member Information Services staff can help answer questions or walk you through the reporting portal. Call (517) 321-6467 (press option 1) for assistance.

## FEMA opens applications for two fire services grant programs

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is accepting applications for two fire services grant programs through July 3. The [Staffing For Adequate Fire and Emergency Response \(SAFER\) program](#) directly funds fire departments to help increase capacity and comply with staffing, response and operational standards established by the National Fire Protection Association. [The Fire](#)

## Upcoming MTA Training & Events

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

June 11: [Preventing Chaos: How to Manage Records](#)

### [Introduction to Planning and Zoning](#)

May 28: [Kalamazoo](#)

June Double Header: [Earned Sick Time Act \(morning\) and Cemetery Challenges & Solutions \(afternoon\)](#)

June 10: [Jackson](#)

June 17: [Marquette](#)

June 18: [Gaylord](#)

June 24: [Mt. Pleasant](#)

## MTA QUICK LINKS

[Answer Center](#)

[Training](#)

[Advocacy](#)

[Classifieds](#)

[Community Connection](#)

[Webcasts](#)

[Prevention and Safety \(FP&S\) program](#) grants can be used to fund research and implementation of practices that reduce injury and death and enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire. Guidance documents for communities interested in applying to the [SAFER](#) and [FP&S](#) programs are available.

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## Bill allows oversight for water supply systems in mobile home parks

Legislation was approved by a Senate committee this week to allow the director of the state Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) to investigate complaints of unsafe water for waterworks systems of mobile home or seasonal mobile home parks. [Senate Bill 46](#), sponsored by Sen. Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor), would allow EGLE to regulate waterworks systems according to state drinking water standards for customer site piping at a mobile home park or seasonal mobile home park. The bill will next be considered by the full Senate.

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**CEMETERY CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS** + **EARNED SICK TIME ACT & YOUR TOWNSHIP** 

## TWO CLASSES ONE DAY

ATTEND ONE OR BOTH | JUNE 10, 17, 18, 24  
[CLICK HERE FOR LOCATIONS & DETAILS](#)

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## House passes frost law exemptions

Wreckers traveling to and from a disabled vehicle would be exempt from seasonal frost laws under legislation approved unanimously by the House this week. [House Bill 4203](#), sponsored by Rep. Gina Johnsen (R-Lake Odessa), mirrors an existing exemption for emergency public utility work by allowing wreckers to use a weight restricted road in the course of removing a vehicle that is disabled, impounded or involved in an accident, as long as the driver's speed does not exceed 35 miles per hour. The House also passed [HB 4343](#), introduced by Rep. Ken Borton (R-Hayes Twp.), which states weight restrictions do not apply to trucks traveling to assist during a declared state of disaster or state of emergency. The bill arose from the late March ice storm, when trucks carrying supplies across the U.P. from outside the disaster zone were found to be violating the restrictions. The bills move to the Senate for consideration.

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## Tool to empower municipalities, modernize financial reporting

A free, open-source tool designed by the University of Michigan's Ford School of Public Policy is now available to help local governments make financial data more accessible. The [Excel to iXBRL Conversion tool](#) is designed for smaller local governments with relatively simple finances. Users can download an Excel template, input their financial data and upload it to the online tool. The tool will convert the information. Tagged data can then be used to generate government reports, create interactive dashboards, benchmark against peers, or build a database to support research and transparency. To learn more, the Ford

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### ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS



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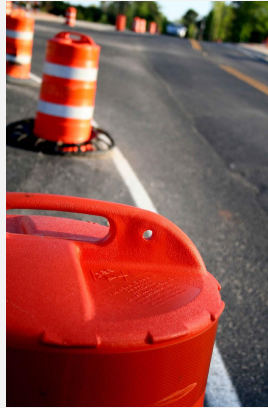


School's Center for Local, State and Urban Policy will host a free webinar to demonstrate the tool at 3 p.m. on June 4. [Registration](#) is required.

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## **MDOT lifts traffic restrictions to ease Memorial Day travel**

More than 1.3 million Michigan residents are expected to travel 50 miles or more over the holiday weekend. Beginning at 3 p.m. **today** and continuing until 6 a.m. Tuesday, May 27, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is removing lane restrictions on nearly 60% of road and bridge projects across Michigan to ease traffic delays for holiday travelers. Equipment, temporary shifts and shoulder closures may remain in place throughout the weekend, and drivers should continue to use caution and follow the law in construction zones. Up-to-date project information is available on the [Mi Drive website](#).



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## **June MTA webinar reviews record management strategies**

Whether you're new to the field or looking to refine your skills, you'll gain practical tips on improving efficiency, ensuring compliance and safeguarding your township's records—all in just one hour! Join us June 11 at noon for *Preventing Chaos: How to Manage Records*. You'll hear directly from state expert and senior records analyst Caryn Wojcik from Records Management Services as she reviews essential strategies for organizing, storing and maintaining records effectively. You can watch live, catch a recording later, or both. [Click here to register online now](#). *This is the last in our three-part series with the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Did you miss parts one and/or two? We recorded them! Both are available for on-demand viewing in our [Online Learning Center](#).*

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## **Federal updates for week of May 19**

Check out the National Association of Towns and Townships [Weekly Legislative Update](#) for the latest on federal actions impact townships.

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## **MTA offices closed on Monday, May 26**

The MTA Offices will be closed on Monday, May 26 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday. We will reopen at 8 a.m. on May 27.

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