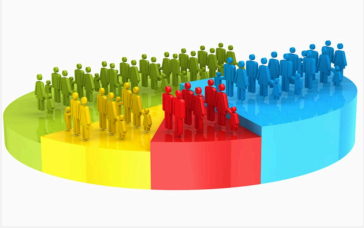
Michigan Township INSIGHTS

Oct. 16, 2026

Help your township prepare for the 2030 Census



Township officials play a vital role in ensuring their communities are accurately counted in the 2030 Census. In May 2027, the U.S. Census Bureau will begin its first major operations with the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA)—the only opportunity for local governments to review and correct the Census Bureau's residential address list before the census begins. Participating in LUCA helps ensure residents are counted and their communities receive their fair share of funding resources and representation.

Start preparing now! Register for the Countdown to LUCA webinar on Oct. 28 at 1 p.m. to learn practical steps your township can take to prepare for LUCA and help ensure an accurate count for your community in 2030.

MTA-member input sought for 2027 legislative issues

MTA-member township officials are encouraged to review and provide input on the MTA legislative policy platform. The legislative policy objectives—reviewed, updated and approved annually—guide the Association's government relations efforts and reflect emerging issues and goals. MTA members are encouraged to review the current 2026-2027 Policy Platform and share any proposed additions and revisions by Monday, Nov. 23. Member-proposed policy changes will be reviewed by MTA policy committees and will be presented at the 2027 MTA Annual Meeting in conjunction with our 2027 Annual Educational Conference in April. Contact legislation@michigantownships.org with questions, comments or suggestions.



Brownfield updates

Changes are coming to the state Transformational Brownfield Program. Join several state agencies for a Brownfield



UPCOMING MTA TRAINING

Nov. 18: *Now You Know* lunchtime webinar Drawing the Lines: Inside the Land Division Act

Nov. 24 & Dec. 2: Treasurers' Guide to Tax Collection
- **Nov. 24**, Gaylord
- **Dec. 2**, Lansing

Dec. 8 & 9: Winter Academy, Bay Pointe Inn, Shelbyville
- **Dec. 8**, Township Finances
- **Dec. 9**, Fundamentals of Assessment & Taxation

ALLIED SERVICE PROVIDERS

ACRISURE
www.Acrisure.com/GreatLakes

MI Par Plan
MICHIGAN TOWNSHIP PARTCIPATING PLAN
www.theparplan.com/

MERS
Municipal Employees' Retirement System
www.mersofmich.com

* Adna Technologies

Update webinar on Nov. 5 at 11 a.m. Content will include new guidelines and law changes, a new brownfield renewable energy grant program, and updates on reporting.

Dam safety webinar for local leaders

Michigan has over 2,600 dams across all 83 counties owned by public and private entities, including townships. Many dams have retired from their original function and now primarily serve recreational purposes. As they age, it is important to monitor dam conditions, perform on-going maintenance and repairs, and plan for long-term solutions. The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's Dam Safety Program is hosting a webinar for local leaders on Nov. 17 at 10 a.m. Register online to ensure your community is prepared for a dam safety incident and meet with staff administering the state's dam safety laws.



Webinar series covers new operator certification systems

The state Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) has a new operator certification system, EGLE OpCert, coming soon for drinking water, wastewater and stormwater. This new system will allow users to manage operator certifications and apply for exams all in one location. EGLE is hosting several webinars to cover the changes, beginning with an overview session on Oct. 19 at 1 p.m. and a second session focusing on exams, renewals and public search on Oct. 26 at 9 a.m. Each webinar qualifies for 0.2 continuing education credits in the "Other" category for drinking water and wastewater operators.

MiUI implementation rapidly approaching—Are you ready?

The Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) is transitioning to a new unemployment tax and benefits system called MiUI, which will fully replace MiWAM on Nov. 9. It is critical that employers initiate their own MiUI unemployment account even if your township is using a third-party administrator. **Accounts should be created ahead of a scheduled downtime period from Nov. 2-9, at which point MiWAM will be permanently offline**. During this downtime, the Office of Employer Ombudsman and Customer Service phone lines will be unavailable and local UIA offices will be closed. MiUI's full tax and benefit functionality will be available on Nov. 9 at 8 a.m. For more information on the transition, establishing accounts and delegating third-party administrators visit MiUI University.

* 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

MTA QUICK LINKS

Answer Center
Training
Advocacy
Classifieds
Community Connection
Webcasts
Store
Township Governance Academy
Allied Service Providers
NATaT

Reminders for clerks

- **Extended phone/email hours for early voting**—State Bureau of Elections (BOE) staff will be available from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Oct. 14-16 to support clerks as they complete early voting setup.
- **Review online voter registrations**—State law allows individuals who do not possess a Michigan driver's license or state ID to register online using the last four digits of their Social Security number along with an uploaded signature. Clerks should review and approve the signature of such applications in the Qualified Voter File (QVF). If your township has any such application, a banner should appear when you log into QVF. For more information, visit the Online Registration Guide in BOE's eLearning Center.
- **Adjust tabulators and voter assist terminals (VAT) for return to standard time**—Most tabulators and VATs require a manual time adjustment to reflect the end of daylight saving time on Nov 1. Review the step-by-step time adjustment instructions for each vendor's system to confirm the procedure for your equipment.



Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicle Grants available

Up to $4.9 million in grant funding is available through the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicle Program to replace diesel-powered garbage and recycling trucks with zero-emission battery electric vehicles. Grants require a 50% match and may be used for vehicle purchase, charging infrastructure, and workforce development and training. Grant applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until available funds are expended.

Energy affordability mini-series

A June 2026 order from the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) established a goal to reduce the energy burden of income-constrained residential customers to not more than 6% of household income. On Oct. 26 at 1 p.m., the MPSC is hosting a webinar in its new energy affordability mini-series to discuss how the order will reshape energy assistance programs, insights on utility pilot programs and affordable payment plans, and a roadmap for implementation through January 2027, when as many as 150,000 Michigan households could become eligible for assistance for the first time.



Seasonal closure of MDOT roadside parks begins in late October

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) operates 82 roadside parks statewide. Most of these parks will close for the season on Oct. 29 and are set to reopen in April 2027. A small number of parks will remain open throughout the winter months. MDOT has developed a map of all roadside parks, which includes real-time updates as to which parks are available for public access.



MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS ASSOCIATION

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