LEARN TO LEAD

MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS ASSOCIATION
PUBLICATIONS & PRODUCTS
CATALOG
Authorities and Responsibilities of Michigan Townships
2020 edition
Known as MTA’s “little red book,” this primer for township board members and officials includes terms of office, vacancy, recall, meeting notices, minutes, elections, ordinance publication, investments and tax collections, in addition to the statutory duties of each elected official and township boards and commissions.
Member: $52.50
Non-Member: $76

Board of Review Guide
Revised 2020
Describes the duties and structure of the board of review, the role of the assessor and the state Tax Tribunal, and the equalization process. With tabbed chapters for easy reference, this publication includes information on other topics such as principles of value, hints for successful meetings, principal residence and agricultural property exemptions, poverty exemptions, and statutory reasons for holding July and December meetings.
Member: $38.50
Non-Member: $56

Building a Better Budget
Revised 2008; minor revisions 2013 (Includes CD)
Addressing issues from budgeting basics to projecting future financial trends, this book includes sample general fund budget worksheets and formats to provide users with the foundation that townships need to create their township’s budget. Includes a CD of Microsoft Word® and Excel® versions of several of the appendices to customize for your township’s use.
Member: $35
Non-Member: $51

Good Press, Bad Press, Depressed
2008 edition
This book serves as a roadmap for public officials who want to do a better job of dealing with the media in all its forms, from getting the word out when good things happen to avoiding becoming a media casualty when something bad happens.
Member: $20
Non-Member: $29

Introduction to the Freedom of Information Act
Revised 2015
A must-have for all members of the township board, as well as employees responsible for fulfilling FOIA requests, this easy-to-understand, user-friendly handbook will help township officials learn more about public records, as well as how to handle FOIA requests.
Member: $27.50
Non-Member: $40

Introduction to Fund Accounting
1997 edition
This manual provides an introduction for those with no prior accounting experience, or serves as a reference for quick review. With topics ranging from basic accounting concepts to financial statements, this text presents the subject matter in a straightforward manner and offers useful examples.
Member: $45
Non-Member: $65

Introduction to Township Board Meetings
Revised 2016
All township board members are “local legislators,” and have important roles to carry out at board meetings. This publication is a handy reference to some of the most common questions or issues that arise in scheduling, conducting and participating in township board meetings.
Member: $14
Non-Member: $21

Managing the Modern Michigan Township
Revised 2002 (Includes CD & 2006 update supplement)
This 500-page reference provides a historical perspective on townships, policy-making issues, administrative procedures, financing/tax/budgeting concerns, discussion on public safety and other services provided through townships, planning and zoning issues, and information on capital improvements.
Member: $35
Non-Member: $51

Michigan Township Officials Directory
2019 edition
Updated annually to include the names and contact information of each township officials in Michigan, the Directory divides each township office in a separate section, along with a separate listing for townships’ general contact information. This is the perfect tool when looking to network and partner with local officials from your region, putting names and numbers at your fingertips.
Member: $33
Non-Member: $49.50
Municipal Civil Infractions—The Process
2008 edition
Developed to help alleviate the confusion that often surrounds the civil infraction process, this reference supplies information regarding the adoption of a municipal civil infraction procedures ordinance, the issuing of tickets and the handling of court proceedings. Samples are also included.

Member: $33
Non-Member: $48

Officials’ Guide to Township Government
(Supervisor, revised 2016; Clerk, revised 2016; Treasurer, revised 2016; Trustee, 2016 edition)
These handy references to township authorities and statutory responsibilities provide practical tips and techniques for township administration. A separate manual is available for each elected township office, offering insights on township governance and meetings, and additional sections detailing office-specific duties.

Member: $38.50
Non-Member: $56

MTA members may also purchase an Officials’ Guide Bundle—which includes all four books, one for each township office—for the discounted price of $137.50 (no substitutions, please).

On-Call Fire Departments: The Township Board’s Responsibilities
Revised 2005
Written by MTA Executive Director Larry Merrill, this book delves into the township board’s responsibilities for fire protection, evaluation of your township’s fire protection, and emergency and disaster planning, and also provides information on motivating and retaining personnel and financing the fire department.

Member: $27.50
Non-Member: $40

Policy Matters! Using Board & Administrative Policies to Manage Your Township
2010 edition; minor revisions 2014 (Includes CD)
In this hands-on book, township board members and staff will find sample policies, practical commentaries and expert tips to get your township started using a policy approach to board governance, ethics, financial procedures and controls, office and facility administration, personnel issues, purchasing, public information, records, using technology, and minimizing risk.

Member: $38.50
Non-Member: $56

Special Assessments: A Technical Manual for Townships
2003 edition; minor revisions in 2013
This manual provides discussion on how to use special assessments as a financial tool and explains the administrative process; provides a reference chart of recommended special assessment statutes for various improvements; and includes sample forms that illustrate the administrative process for creating a special assessment district.

Member: $38.50
Non-Member: $56

The Township Guide to Planning & Zoning
Revised 2019
A comprehensive guide to planning and zoning from the township perspective, this resource provides a detailed look at the planning process and outlines elements of a successful planning program. Also included is information on the statutory authority for township planning, legal influences and limitations on zoning.

Member: $49.50
Non-Member: $71.50

Township Cemetery Management
2018 edition (Includes CD)
From a review of statutes that govern township authority over cemeteries to the financial aspects of this valuable service, Township Cemetery Management serves as a guide to assist local units of government carry out this important function. Includes a CD of samples, including a cemetery ordinance, to customize for your township’s use.

Member: $38.50
Non-Member: $56

Township Planning & Zoning Decision-making
Revised 2019
Covering issues from the technical to the ethical and from day-to-day actions to those that are lasting, this handbook is intended to be at the fingertips of the township’s planning and zoning officials, as a means to help them reach defensible, effective decisions and build a strong community based on sound planning principles and procedures.

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Member: $35
Non-Member: $51
Township Essentials Collection
Round out your township reference library with our Essentials Collection, which includes all resources offered in the Basic Starter Kit PLUS Building a Better Budget (includes CD), Introduction to FOIA, The Township Guide to Planning & Zoning; and Policy Matters! (Includes CD).
Member: $218
Non-Member: N/A

MTA Padfolio
As a township official, you’ll find yourself at meetings taking notes and referring to important documents at a moment’s notice. The MTA-logo Padfolio assists in preparing for those meetings with a notepad ready for your use and pockets to hold those important documents. And let’s not forget those numbers that need to be taken into consideration—a handy calculator comes in the padfolio! Also included is a clear pocket for your business card, a pen holder, and an outside zipper to hold everything in place.
Member: $20
Non-Member: $29

MTA Window Cling
(Set of two)
Pick up your very own “Townships—Neighbors Serving Neighbors” static cling. Clear with dark green text, it will look great on the rear window of your car or on the door as people enter the township hall. Don’t miss your chance to help residents understand why township government is so special.
Member: $2
Non-Member: $3

How to Order
Visit our online store, www.michigantownships.org/mta_store.asp.
(Only MTA-member officials and Allied Service Providers may place online orders. Non-members may order by downloading a publication order form. To receive member rates, you must be logged in to the MTA Store.)

Print an order form from the MTA Store, and fax to 517.321.8908, or mail to MTA, P.O. Box 80078, Lansing, MI, 48808-0078.

Note: Member rates apply only to MTA member township officials and employees, member counties and Allied Service Providers.

Michigan state sales tax applies, unless tax exempt. Shipping & handling charges apply; see order form for rates.

For additional assistance, contact the MTA Office at 517.321.6467.