

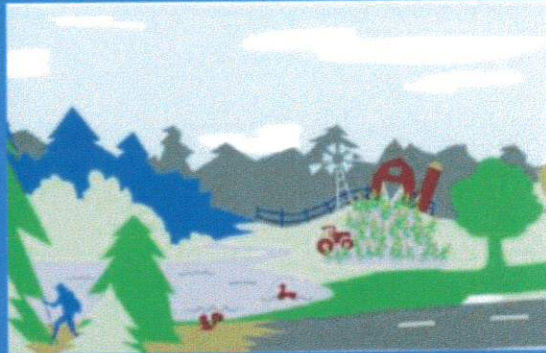


MICHIGAN STATE University

Upcoming Programs and Events

Location:

Brown Township Hall
8233 Coates Highway
Manistee, MI 49660



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY | Extension

CITIZEN PLANNER

Manistee County

[Learn More and Register](#)

Location:

James Township Hall
6060 Swan Creek Rd
Saginaw, MI 48609



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CITIZEN PLANNER

Saginaw County

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An advertisement for the Citizen Planner Online course. It features a map with a red pushpin and the text: "Become a Master Citizen Planner", "SELF-PACED COURSE", "CITIZEN PLANNER ONLINE", "Enroll any time at citizenplanner.msu.edu", and "MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension".

Become a Master Citizen Planner

SELF-PACED COURSE

CITIZEN PLANNER ONLINE

Enroll any time at citizenplanner.msu.edu

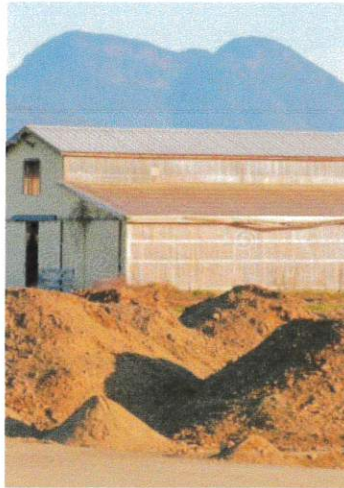
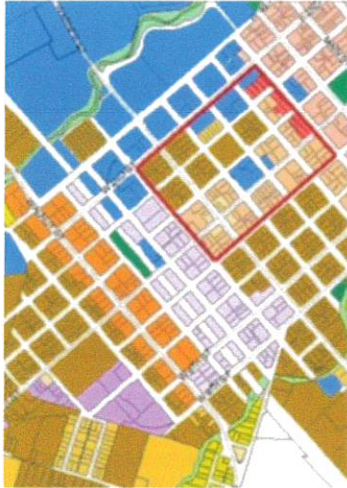
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Do you have fellow planning commissioners that have yet to take Citizen Planner? Citizen Planner Online is a completely online, self-paced version of the program designed for individuals who can't fit a six-week course into their schedule or who prefer this style of learning. It takes approximately 15 hours or so to complete, and can be accessed 24/7 so that individuals can do as much or as little at one time as fits their schedule.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Master Citizen Planner Corner

[Submit 2024 MCP Credit Requests](#)



2024 MASTER CITIZEN PLANNER WEBINAR SERIES

Cost per Webinar: \$20 (\$10 for MCPs)

<https://events.anr.msu.edu/2024MCPWebinar/> **MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY** | Extension

[Learn More and Register](#)

MCPs in Action

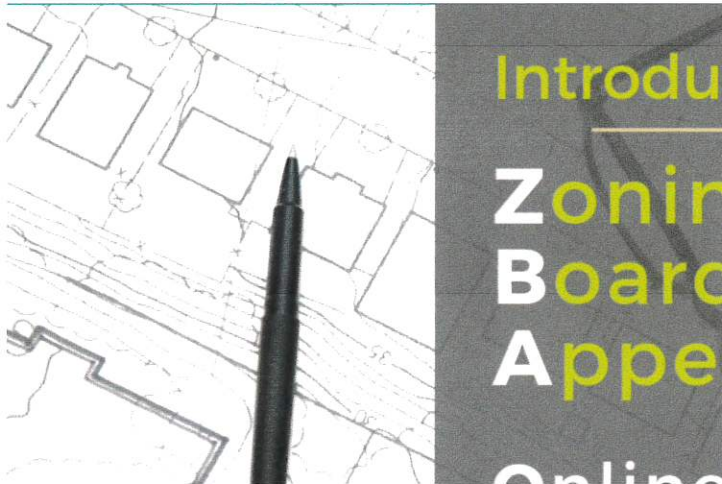
Our Spotlight on a MCP who is moving the needle in their community!

Fred Strich, Zoning Administrator, Moran Township

When Fred Strich started his position as Zoning Administrator for Moran Township, he quickly realized the job was more than just enforcing the zoning ordinance's and issuing permits. After attending his first Planning Commission and ZBA meetings, he realized that the members were looking to him for additional

guidance in understanding their zoning ordinances, as well as the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act and Michigan Planning Enabling Act to reach decisions that were fair, reasonable, and sound. By attending trainings and becoming a Master Citizen Planner, Strich was able to provide the township with the best information and resources available to make those decisions. It also gave him understanding in dealing with members of the township who want to utilize their property, as to what they can and can not do, and what options are available so they can achieve their objective. Becoming a MCP also allowed him to make sure the goals of the Master Plan are being followed, and identifying areas that need to be amended or addressed. It has been a lot of information to cover and learn, but it has given him a good foundation to start with, and the training received thus far has been top notch.

Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) Online



The ZBA Online Certificate Course is a self-paced online training designed for members of the local government Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), local government staff who work alongside the ZBA, and local government managers and attorneys.

The ZBA Online Certificate Course teaches the latest concepts on ZBA roles and responsibilities, effective decision-making, and

protecting due process. The curriculum is based on the award-winning [Citizen Planner Program](#) and features ZBA-specific content, engaging activities, case studies, and the latest Michigan case law. Course completion includes an MSU Extension certificate.

[Learn More and Register](#)

Citizen Planner Monthly Read

How Spot a Spot Zoning

Planning commissions are occasionally presented with requests to change the current zoning of a parcel or parcels to a different zoning district. Sometimes, it is the planning commission that proposes a rezoning of one or more parcels. A rezoning is an amendment of the zoning map and it requires a specific set of steps to be followed in

How to spot a spot zoning

Brad Neumann | Michigan State University Extension | April 13, 2023

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When considering a rezoning, remember four key criteria to avoid creating a spot zone.

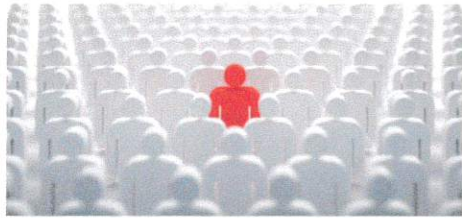


Photo via iStock.com

order to ensure due process (see "[For Adoption of a Zoning Ordinance Amendment](#)"). It is the same process for amending the text of the zoning ordinance.

[CLICK HERE to continue reading](#)

For all general Citizen Planner questions:

Email: cplanner@msu.edu Phone: (517) 353-6472

Mailing Address: 446 W. Circle Dr, Ag Hall Room 11, East Lansing, MI 48824

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