

# Media Advisory

Office of Macomb County Executive  
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Michigan State University - Extension

## For Immediate Release

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### Smart community planning can bring economic prosperity

Local appointed and elected officials, zoning administrators and interested citizens in Macomb County are encouraged to attend the Michigan Citizen Planner's "Fundamentals of Planning and Zoning" program this fall. Co-sponsored by MSU Extension and Macomb County Planning & Economic Development Department, this seven-week course will teach participants how to manage the impact of economic change and be part of the solution to the challenges their communities face.

Participants will also learn:

- job basics for community planning, zoning and economic prosperity;
- ethics and conflicts of interest;
- land use laws and court decisions;
- plan implementation and development controls;
- best practices and smart growth;
- how to conduct effective meetings, deliberations and resolve conflict; and
- relevant tools and techniques to do their job well.

This certificate-based course begins Wednesday, September 21, 2011 and continues through November 2, 2011. It will take place at MSU Extension Assembly Room in the VerKuiilen Building, 21885 Dunham Rd., Clinton Township from 6 to 9 p.m. Cost to attend is \$350 per person, which includes registration, course materials and refreshments.

**Group rates** are available. **Scholarships** may also be available from your community's liability insurance provider.

- For PAR-Plan members, contact Barb Callahan at 800.783.1370 for more information.
- Grants for education and training may be available through the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA) Risk Avoidance Program. For MMRMA members, contact Cara Ceci at 800.234.1324.

To register for the Program and learn more, visit: [www.citizenplanner.msu.edu/classroomschedule.html](http://www.citizenplanner.msu.edu/classroomschedule.html). For questions about registration, contact Jessica McFarland at [housej@msu.edu](mailto:housej@msu.edu) or call 517.884.3957. For general questions about the program, contact Terry Gibb at 586-469-6440 or [gibb@anr.msu.edu](mailto:gibb@anr.msu.edu)

Michigan Citizen Planner is an MSU Extension program within the [School of Planning, Design and Construction](#)

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