



---

---

Michigan State University Extension

## *For Immediate Release*

Media Contact: Terry Gibb (586) 469-6053

Date: February 8, 2017

### **MSU Extension partners with Macomb County to offer Citizen Planner program**

MSU Extension, in partnership with Macomb County Planning and Economic Development, is sponsoring the Michigan Citizen Planner [Fundamentals of Planning and Zoning Classroom Program](#), a [seven-week training](#) (eight weeks for county scholarship recipients) which offers a convenient way for community leaders, appointed and elected officials, zoning administrators and interested citizens to obtain the latest technical knowledge and information needed to perform their duties effectively and responsibly.

Attendees will gain the knowledge needed to be part of the solution for challenges their communities face. Attendees 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 conflict resolution; and relevant tools and techniques to do their job well. The eighth week will cover county and other resources to assist officials with better planning and zoning in their respective communities.

This certificate-based course will take place from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, March 9, and continues through May 4 at MSU Extension assembly rooms A and B, 21885 Dunham Road, Clinton Township, 48036.

Cost to attend is \$295 per person, which includes registration, course materials and refreshments. During this pilot, Macomb communities can request one full scholarship to participate in this program. Additional scholarships also may be available from your community's liability insurance provider. Group rates are available.

The deadline to register is March 1. To register for the program or to learn more, visit <http://events.anr.msu.edu/CPMacomb17>. For questions about registration, contact Janean Danca at [cplanner@msu.edu](mailto:cplanner@msu.edu) or call (269) 657-8213. For general questions about the program, contact Terry Gibb at (586) 469-6440 or [gibb@anr.msu.edu](mailto:gibb@anr.msu.edu).

Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) brings educational programs to residents, empowering them to improve their lives and community. County-based MSUE staff, in concert with on-campus faculty members, serve residents with programming focused on agriculture, natural resources, children, youth, families, community and economic development.

###