



Ohio Township Association Programs & Services

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Background on Townships



- 1,308 townships in Ohio
- Governed by 3 Trustees and 1 Fiscal Officer (all locally elected)
- Maintain over 41,000 miles of roads in Ohio
- Manage approximately 2,400 cemeteries in Ohio
- Other services can include police, fire, EMS, parks, zoning, waste disposal, street lighting

OTA Background



- Formed in 1928 to promote and preserve township government in Ohio (2013 is our 85th Anniversary)
- Over 5,200 members and over 4,000 associate members statewide
- OTA is governed by 4 Officers (President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, and Secretary Treasurer) elected by membership and Board of Directors (16 township officials elected by Executive Committee of entire membership)

Legislation



- Every two years the OTA Board of Directors adopts a set of legislative priorities for the next session of the Ohio General Assembly
- The OTA generally seeks legislation that will enable townships to function more efficiently and resists unfunded mandates and efforts to deprive townships of rights, duties, and privileges they currently possess
- The OTA tracks hundreds of bills, testifies on bills, and meets frequently with legislators to share our views, and keeps our members informed of legislative developments

Amicus Curiae Briefs



- The OTA participates in cases with issues of importance to townships as an amicus curiae or "friend of the court"
- Amici point out policy considerations involved in important issues under consideration by the court (Supreme Court of Ohio or appellate courts)
- Recent cases have involved issues concerning impact fees, zoning authority over landfills, liability for injuries sustained by park users, annexation and taxation, and liability for flood damage

OTA Affiliated Groups



- CLOUT (Coalition of Large Ohio Urban Townships)
- OTAN (Ohio Townships Administrators Network)
- Law Directors Group
- Zoning Officials Group
- National Association of Towns and Townships (NATaT)

Ohio Township Association Leadership Academy

- 2 year continuing education program
- Working with Miami University's Center for Public Management and Regional Affairs and Ohio State University's Extension Services
- Must complete 7 courses including the General Workshop and 6 out 11 electives and attend one NATaT conference or federal program in 2 years.
- We currently have over 1,300 people participating in the Leadership Academy.
- We had our first graduate at the Winter Conference in January of 2006.

OTARMA (Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority)

- Originated in 1987 out of need for available and affordable property and liability insurance coverage
- Over 900 townships are covered under OTARMA today
- Offer a wide range of coverage options to fit the needs of any size township
- OTARMA's rates have not increased since its inception
- 99% membership retention annually
- Instituted MORE Grant program in January 2013 (up to \$500 for OTARMA members for qualifying risk management and loss control expenditures)

Public Employee Benefits Association of Ohio PEBA

- The OTA Health Plan program began in the mid 1990's. PEBA now offers benefit programs to all public entities in Ohio.
- Medical and Prescription coverage
- Group Dental and Vision coverage
- Group Life, Disability coverage
- Wellness Initiatives
- Absence Management Solutions
- Employee Benefit Administrative Services
- Plan is tailored to the need of the public employer

Workers' Compensation



- Group Rating Program and Group Retro Program offered through York/Frank Gates for over 1260 townships
- Formed in early 1990's, has saved townships over \$150 million in workers compensation premiums
- Managed Care services are provided to about 900 townships by Careworks, which has saved townships over \$39 million in medical costs since 1997

Ohio Township Association Master Leasing Plan



- Established in 2003, this program allows townships to lease, lease purchase or lease with an option to purchase real and personal property
- Competitive interest rates
- Does not apply to township's debt limit
