



from your Associate Director

By Jerry B. Crabtree

TOI Associate Director / Education Coordinator

OUR NEW NORMAL IS HERE. How are you adjusting? The way we manage our day to day environments is forever changed as we look for acceptance of our new operational home and work challenges in response to COVID-19. It is not the last time we will be doing such things but hopefully we are all better prepared should this happen again in the future.

I have spent numerous hours watching news networks and reading internet interpretations of the pandemic, attempting to find our new normal is what we are all attempting to do in all our environments. The full 100 percent opening of our state, our communities and our township is not going to be done as soon as we all want. There are many things that need to be accomplished with reducing the spread before we can return to normal.

So, like everyone across the country even the Township Officials of Illinois, we are hoping that our events from June to the end of the year (2020) are not negatively impacted as we continue to be optimistic toward having these events. As new updates to the current orders issued by Governor Pritzker are available we will update everyone through email notifications as well as on our website at www.toi.org.

A few reminders and suggestions for your new normal:

Disinfect your daily spaces! Viruses live for many hours and we are encouraging everyone to become educated on how simple steps can aid in depleting the virus on solid surfaces. Disinfection of all of your environments is important to combat the possibility of spreading the virus. Remember to include your home, car, and office space. All high traffic areas should be addressed daily especially those areas and surfaces that are highly touched. Sure, store-bought disinfectants are great. However, remember that plain old soap and water is very effective.

The TOI staff are exploring new ways to reach out members with educational opportunities online. We continue to explore topics and would welcome suggestions for webinar topics. Please forward any suggestions to me at the TOI office (jerry@toi.org)

The March events in Rockford and Bloomington/Normal were cancelled. I recently contacted the speakers from the canceled events, and they have all agreed to have a virtual meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2020. This event will be FREE and is available utilizing ZOOM software. Log in information is provided on our website at www.toi.org as well as our Facebook page.

The event is scheduled for June 17, 2020 from 9:00AM to 12:00PM. The agenda is below:

9:00 AM	Opening Remarks Welcome and Opening Remarks <i>Bryan E. Smith, TOI Executive Director</i> <i>Danny Hanning, TOI President</i>
9:15-9:30 AM	TOIRMA Report <i>Jim Donelan, TOIRMA Executive Director</i>
9:30-10:30 AM	Media and Township Government <i>Ryan McLaughlin, Mac Strategies</i>
10:30-11:00 AM	Census Program 2020: How Townships Can Get Involved <i>Caryl J. Riley, Census Bureau</i>
11:00 AM-12:00 PM	Preparing for the Next Township Election <i>Greg Moredock, Jeff Jurgens, Attorneys</i>
12:00 PM	Final Comments/Questions/Adjourn

It is our hope that this event is well attended and will provide a sample opportunity to review an online platform and its response to future similar platform offerings.

CENSUS REMINDER (REMEMBER TO BE COUNTED)

The 2020 census has sort of taken a back seat to the pandemic. I want to emphasize again the importance of completing the 2020 censuses. Our website (www.toi.org)

has many resources to help generate support for the 2020 census completion. Please promote completion in your township when possible. The CENSUS staff are tracking the response rate for townships across Illinois. You can view your ranking at the link below. I have copied the top 12 Township Responders to date.

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/us.census.bureau#!/vizhome/2020CensusSelf-ResponseRankings/Rankings-Dashboard>

The CENSUS timeline has changed and now Self-Response is extended to August 11th. This is the date that we anticipate releasing enumerators to the field to go to households that have not yet responded.

You can still reply at my2020census.gov, even if they do not have their 12-digit code. If you prefer you may call us at 844-330-2020 and someone can take the info over the phone.

If you have questions about how we can assist YOUR township in getting back to the new normal, please do not hesitate to contact me. We are updating our members on a regular basis through the email address we have included in your membership file. If you are not currently receiving updates via email and would like to,

Ranking by Township

1	Florence township (Stephenson Co.)	84.2%
2	Phenix township, Illinois	83.6%
3	Ball township, Illinois	83.5%
4	Boynton township, Illinois	82.7%
5	Old Town township, Illinois	82.4%
6	Grafton township, Illinois	82.3%
7	Coe township, Illinois	82.0%
8	Jubilee township, Illinois	81.8%
9	Cruger township, Illinois	81.7%
10	Southwest township, Illinois	81.6%
10	Roscoe township, Illinois	81.6%
12	Wallace township, Illinois	81.3%
12	Pleasant Ridge township, Illinois	81.3%
12	Hudson township, Illinois	81.3%

please forward your preferred email address to me at jerry@toi.org. Remember that we are all Illinois and we will get through this together. If you have any questions, remember you can reach the Association's office toll-free at 866-897-4688. 



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