



MICHIGAN TOWNSHIPS ASSOCIATION

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## Spring Lake Township honored as ‘Township of Excellence’ for second time

**Delta Charter Township, Mich.**—Spring Lake Township (Ottawa Co.) was recently recognized for the second time as a “Township of Excellence” by the Michigan Townships Association (MTA). Township officials were presented with the award at the MTA Educational Conference & Expo on April 24 in Acme Township (Grand Traverse Co.).

Spring Lake Township is the first township to have twice earned this comprehensive, impressive distinction. Townships receive this designation after meeting a series of demanding, high-level criteria, as defined by the Association and its members. Spring Lake Township’s recognition is for its achievement in the 2016-2020 township board term.

“It is very easy to have a vision that states you want to be the best possible place to live, work, learn, recreate and worship—it is another thing to be sincerely dedicated to that vision,” Township Supervisor John Nash said. “We have a very special team of elected officials, staff and many volunteers who are committed to our vision. The MTA Township of Excellence standard was an opportunity for us to see if we could achieve such a high standard and be evaluated by an outside source on that basis. It took a lot of work but we achieved that standard in 2014, and we are very proud to have achieved it again in 2018.”

MTA defines a “Township of Excellence” as a strong, vibrant community governed by a township board that adheres to best practices to deliver quality programs and services to accomplish community-driven goals. Spring Lake Township board members and staff have demonstrated a willingness to distinguish the township through consistently meeting the highest standards of policy-driven governance; the board’s commitment to making decisions that are knowledge-based; practicing accountable delegation of responsibilities and evaluation of results; assurances of responsive constituent service; adherence to strong fiscal management; and delivering high-quality township services.

“The Michigan Townships Association is proud of Spring Lake Township for achieving the ‘Township of Excellence’ designation for the second time,” MTA Executive Director Larry Merrill said. “The criteria to achieve this award is extremely rigorous and reflects that the elected board members, along with the township manager and the entire township staff, are reaffirming their commitment to excellence and implementing best practices within the entire spectrum of their programs and services.”