



Note: the links within this e-Newsletter contain outdated information and have been removed.

MNLA e-Newsletter

June 3, 2020

MNLA's Mission:
United to advocate professionalism, integrity and growth for Michigan's Green Industry

On behalf of the MNLA Board of Directors and Team we hope that you, your families, and your team are staying healthy. We're pleased to provide you with this information to keep you and your employees working safely, your business in compliance, and keep you up-to-date on pertinent items and issues.

A Message from MNLA's President

By Zachary Armintrout, Armintrout's West Michigan Farms, Allegan, MI

Between COVID-19, Tiger King and Murder Hornets this has been a remarkably interesting Spring 2020. While all industries have been hit hard, I am thankful for how committed our association was in getting us back to our jobs. While most industries were not allowed to start work early or are still waiting to get back to work, growers for the most part were able to keep producing and landscapers were in the first wave of businesses allowed to provide their services.

Through these stressful times our members have represented our industry greatly and we have been able to prove that we can keep our employees and customers safe while providing our services. As we see COVID-19 cases in our state drop, I am hopeful that this is a sign that we will soon settle into our new normal - whatever that may look like.

I am still looking forward to a great year. As we move into summer, there will be challenges still ahead for our industry, our state and our country. But I am optimistic that our situation will continue to improve, and we will finish 2020 on the upswing. Stay safe, stay healthy, and stay positive.



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TODAY »**



Institute of
Agricultural Technology
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

1. COVID-19 Updates

National Level:

- a. [SBA and Treasury Release Paycheck Protection Program \(PPP\) Loan Forgiveness Application](#)
- b. [OSHA COVID-19 Standards](#) (as reported by the National Association of Landscape Professionals)
- c. [Disaster Relief-Industry Comments Needed NOW!](#) (as reported by the AmericanHort)
- d. [HEROES Act COVID-19 Relief Bill Clears House](#)
- e. **EPA Releases Temporary Guidance on Respiratory Protection for Agricultural Pesticide Handlers During COVID-19**

The temporary guidance outlines approaches to address the unavailability of required respiratory protection and respiratory fit testing that should first be exhausted before considering any alternative options. [Read more...](#)

State Level:

- a. [Executive Orders - June 1 Deadline to have a COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan!](#)
- b. [Treasury Postpones Sales, Use and Withholding Tax Filings](#)
- c. [Secretary of State Services](#)
- d. [MDARD Temporary Pesticide Applicator Program/Guidance Document By John Stone, Pesticide Safety Education Program, Michigan State University](#)

2. Additional Regulatory Updates

- a. [Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administrations Announces Trucking Hours of Service Drivers Final Rule](#)
- b. [OSHA Considering Tree Care Safety Standards](#)

3. Events, Education & Programs

- a. [2021 Great Lakes Trade Exposition](#)
- b. [MNLA 30th Annual Golf Classic - Thursday, August 13th](#)
- c. [Community Landscape Beautification Awards Call for Submissions - Due July 1st](#)
- d. [Education Resources & Updates](#)
- e. [GLTE 2021 - Call for Content](#)

4. MNLA Member Service - MHI Fund Renewal Announcement

It's been another exceptional year for members participating in the Michigan Horticulture Industries Self-Insured Workers' Compensation Fund (MHI Fund). This year over 500 Green Industry companies receive the largest return the Fund has ever made. Fund members will share \$5,040,000 in credits for good performance on their 2020 renewal. This amount of surplus comes from a number of policy years and includes premium not used to pay claims plus investment income. Since its inception in 1993, the total returned back to members is over \$45 Million and represents an average premium return of 46%.

[Read the full announcement.](#)