



A detailed historical map of Illinois townships, showing county boundaries and individual township grids. The map is titled 'BLANCHARD'S TOWNSHIP MAP OF ILLINOIS' and includes a 'SHIPPERS GUIDE' section. The map is overlaid with a white text box containing the event title and date.

TOWNSHIPS OF ILLINOIS DAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2016

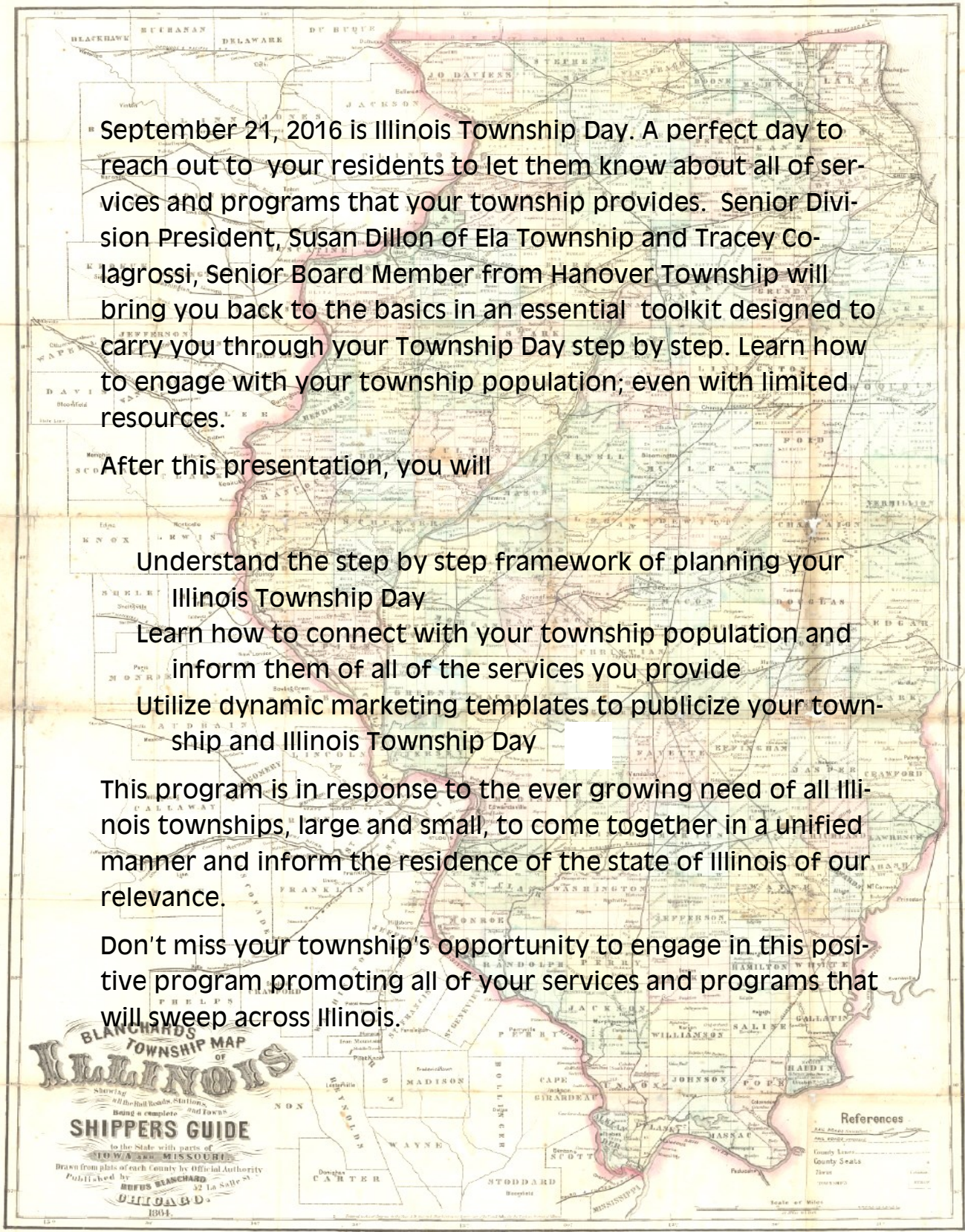
Tool Kit

**BLANCHARD'S
TOWNSHIP MAP
OF
ILLINOIS**
Showing
all the Railroads, Stations,
and Towns
Being a complete
SHIPPERS GUIDE
to the State with parts of
IOWA and MISSOURI
Drawn from plats of each County by Official Authority
Published by
REUBEN BLANCHARD
CHICAGO, ILL.
1864.

References

- RAIL ROAD
- COUNTY SEATS
- COUNTY SEATS
- TOWNS
- TOWNSHIPS

Scale of Miles



September 21, 2016 is Illinois Township Day. A perfect day to reach out to your residents to let them know about all of services and programs that your township provides. Senior Division President, Susan Dillon of Ela Township and Tracey Colagrossi, Senior Board Member from Hanover Township will bring you back to the basics in an essential toolkit designed to carry you through your Township Day step by step. Learn how to engage with your township population; even with limited resources.

After this presentation, you will

Understand the step by step framework of planning your Illinois Township Day

Learn how to connect with your township population and inform them of all of the services you provide

Utilize dynamic marketing templates to publicize your township and Illinois Township Day

This program is in response to the ever growing need of all Illinois townships, large and small, to come together in a unified manner and inform the residence of the state of Illinois of our relevance.

Don't miss your township's opportunity to engage in this positive program promoting all of your services and programs that will sweep across Illinois.



Illinois Township Day Participation Tips

Greetings Fellow Townships:

The Illinois Township Association of Senior Citizen Services Committees (ITASCSC) has designated Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016, "Illinois Township Day."

It's a day to educate residents and showcase to the community the services, programs and resources your township provides, such as youth and senior services, social services, assessor and highway department services, recreational activities and more.

As you are aware, townships are under state scrutiny as a result of recommendations made by the Local Government Consolidation and Unfunded Mandates Task Force. The passage of legislation related to township government could result in townships being abolished and/or consolidated. It is vital that we rally to increase public awareness of the valuable services townships provide, services that will likely cost taxpayers a great deal more if they left in the hands of a larger unit of government.

All townships are being asked to participate in Illinois Township Day by hosting an open house on Sept. 21. Invite residents to stop by your offices/departments to meet elected officials and staff, ask questions and collect information. This is a great opportunity to hand out your literature (brochures, resident guide, etc.) and inform residents of your many programs and services.

In addition to having an open house, consider a secondary activity or event to attract residents, such as a community blood drive, ice cream social or even a chili cook-off at your town hall. Make it a charitable event by encouraging attendees to bring donations of non-perishable food items for a local pantry or school supplies for those in need.

Share your plans for Illinois Township Day on social media. Create fliers to post around the community, including village halls, park districts, churches and local businesses. Create a graphic flier that can be published in electronic newsletters (yours and your community partners).

The following press release can be customized to include your township's specific plans for Illinois Township Day. Brag about your township's programs, services and resources. Let residents know why they should know you! Include testimonial statements from your supervisor and other elected officials about the value of the township. Post your press release on your website and social media and in your email and postal newsletter. Forward your press release to local newspapers. Some news websites also allow you to post press releases and events yourself, as a community contrib-



Sample Press Release

For immediate release:

Join Us for Illinois Township Day on Sept. 21

_____ Township and the Illinois Township Association of Senior Citizen Services Committees (ITASCSC) invites you to join us for the first annual Illinois Township Day on Wednesday, Sept. 21.

We will be hosting an Open House from _____ at the following locations:

Meet your elected township officials and staff, ask questions, tour the facilities and receive important information about our programs, services and resources. If you're not familiar with all our township provides, this is the perfect opportunity to learn more!

"ITASCSC has always been on the frontline of human services in Illinois," stated President Susan Dillon. "We are the people that see firsthand the impact townships have on the lives of its residents. As ITASCSC members, we are ecstatic to have a day to highlight just how much Illinois townships provide for their communities."

Did you know that township government, established in Providence, Rhode Island in 1636, is the oldest existing unit of government continuing to serve on the North American continent? Today, 85 of Illinois' 102 counties operate under the township form of government and the 1,431 townships serve more than 8 million citizens.

By law, Illinois townships are charged with three basic functions: general assistance for the indigent; the assessment of real property for the basis of local taxation; and maintenance of all roads and bridges outside federal, state, and other local jurisdiction.

Townships also provide general assistance such as food, shelter and emergency relief for those in need. Other services may include senior and youth programs, health services, parks and recreational facilities, cemetery maintenance and more.

As you may be aware, townships are under state scrutiny as a result of recommendations made by the Local Government Consolidation and Unfunded Mandates Task Force. The passage of legislation related to township government could result in townships being abolished and/or consolidated.



Our goal is to increase public awareness of the valuable services _____ Township provides, services that will likely cost taxpayers a great deal more if they were left in the hands of a larger unit of government.

“Recognition events that highlight the value of township government are a great way to show the community what their local government is doing,” stated Jerry Crabtree, Associate Director, Township Officials of Illinois. “Those who favor the consolidation or elimination of township government in Illinois presently do not realize the importance of these services to the community.”

Did you know _____ Township offers (examples include senior center, youth center/ afterschool club, social services and counseling, voter registration, notary, vehicle stickers, parks for recreation and athletic groups, etc.)?

In addition to our Open House, we will be hosting a _____(examples include blood drive, ice cream social, chili cook-off, fundraiser for canned good and school supplies, etc.).

We look forward to seeing you on Illinois Township Day! For more information, please



History of Townships

Historical Background

Township government, established in Providence, Rhode Island in 1636, is the oldest existing unit of government continuing to serve on the North American continent. Township government was in existence for 140 years prior to the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The wording of the Declaration of Independence reflects the fact that 38 of its 56 signers had experienced the benefits of township government.

The Declaration's statement that "government should derive its just powers from the consent of the governed" is demonstrated at the Annual Town Meeting held on the second Tuesday of each April. The Annual Town Meeting is still an important function of our nation's 17,000 townships after more than 360 years. The Illinois Constitution of 1848 gave voters in each county the opportunity to adopt Township Government. By 1850, the first township governments began operation. Today, 85 of Illinois 102 counties operate under the township form of government and the 1,431 townships serve more than 8 million citizens

Functions of Illinois Townships

By law, Illinois townships are charged with three basic functions: 1) general assistance for the indigent; 2) the assessment of real property for the basis of local taxation; and 3) maintenance of all roads and bridges outside federal, state, and other local jurisdiction.

Road and Bridge Maintenance

Township Government maintains over 71,000 miles of roads in Illinois - a full 53 percent of all thoroughfares in the state.

Property Assessment

Townships establish the value of all real property in the township. The township assessor, in fact, is the only elected governmental official who must pass approved courses of instruction before standing for election to office.

General Assistance

Townships provide food, shelter and emergency relief for needy people until they are able to support themselves. Many townships in Illinois operate food banks that guarantee the necessities of life for children.

Other Services

Beyond the three mandated services, Township Government provides other vital services to the people next door. This may include senior citizens programs, youth programs, assistance to the disabled, parks and recreational facilities, health services and cemetery maintenance. In this regard, township government serves its neighbors from the cradle to the grave.





1. Find a few key people to involve in the planning of your event.
2. People that know about your township services and/or use township services.
3. Ask if they would be willing to help put on a small event to inform other residents about what the township does.
4. Meet with the group to brainstorm on different ideas to bring people to the event:
 - Bake Sale
 - Yard or Trunk Sale (people selling goods out of their car trunks at your facility)
 - Music festival: local talent from the high school, community bands and other local people.
 - Car Wash
 - Pie judging contest...***(The possibilities are endless!)***
5. Divide tasks amongst the “troops”: i.e. press release/poster maker, food, logistics of the event, and a volunteer coordinator. *(this person should be an strong influence in the community who knows everyone and can place people in different activities).*
6. Follow our timeline for a successful event



Planning Timeline

- April 7:** Initial Team Meeting; gather troops and assign duties
- May 5:** Brainstorming session; bring in all support for a roundtable to discuss the progress
- June 4:** Planning session; Bring in willing bodies to commit to 4th of July promotion for residents to “save the date:”. Start looking for more recruits
- July 4:** Promotional Flyer to hand out a local parades to promote your township day
- August 4:** Meet with group. Circle back on preparedness for event. Troubleshoot issues
- September 1** Set up Social Media: 1. use press release for local media outlets 2. determine which contacts will personally invite to day; local papers, Facebook posting, flyers phone calls, and word of mouth
- September 10:** Group meeting: ensure all the details are covered: Promotional materials have been dispersed. Last minute push! Confirm any people who are participating /Performing at the event
- September 20:** Last minute follow up calls to team for support. Make sure they have shared the news.
- September 21:** The Big Day
- September 22:** Thank you notes, letters to the editor for a successful event
- September 30:** Post event meeting. Gather feedback and start to plan next year’s event!



How to Divide and Conquer

1) Form a small committee to formulate a plan for your township. This committee could include:

Board Members

Community Members

Business Leaders

Scout Leaders

Volunteer Group Leaders

Township Supporters

2) Decide how big or small your Township Day will be

3) Play to people's strengths, you will be surprised the talents that lie within your volunteers

4) Make certain that every volunteer has a meaningful job

5) Always, always , always thank your volunteers



RESOLUTION

Seal of
Hanover Township

RESOLUTION- DESIGNATING

SEPTEMBER 21, 2016, ILLINOIS TOWNSHIP DAY IN XXXXXXXX TOWNSHIP

The _____ Township Board of Trustees does hereby find as follows:

WHEREAS, Township government is the oldest existing unit of government in the United States, established in 1636 in Providence, Rhode Island and established in _____ Township in 18XX; and

WHEREAS, 85 of Illinois' 102 counties operate under the Township form of Government and the 1,431 Townships serve more than 8 million citizens; and

WHEREAS, _____ Township serves over XXX, XXX citizens in the _____ county communities of _____, _____ and _____; and

WHEREAS, _____ Township offers needed programs and services in the areas of _____, _____ and _____; and

WHEREAS, the _____ Township Food Pantry serves over X,XXX residents annually through the donations and cooperation of many community partners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the _____ Township Board of Trustees, _____ County, Illinois, that September 21, 2016 is Illinois Township Day in _____ Township.

Dated: _____, 2016

In Witness Whereof, we have hereunto to set our hands and caused the seal of Hanover Township to be affixed hereto.

Trustee Isaac Sears

Supervisor John Hancock

Trustee John Adams

Clerk Samuel Adams

Trustee Paul Revere



Your Township
Logo

TOWNSHIPS
OF
ILLINOIS
DAY
SEPTEMBER 21, 2016

Come to *<your township>*

For *<your event>*

At *<Start time>* to *<end time>*

<your address>

<city>

Learn how *<>* works for you. Come meet your neighbors for *<event>*, speak to local elected officials, and free giveaways

Sponsored by

Supervisor, Clerk, Highway Commissioner, Assessor,

Trustee, trustee, trustee, trustee



Your Logo

YOUR TOWNSHIP

Your Name

Your Position

Phone:

Fax:

Address

Address

Date:

Dear _____,

On behalf of _____ Township, I would like to personally thank you for contributing to the celebration of Illinois Township Day 2016. As part of _____ Township, it is clear that you know the importance of what we do.

Please know that your efforts are truly appreciated and that our township is stronger because of your time and talent.

Sincerely,

**TOWNSHIPS
OF
ILLINOIS
DAY
SEPTEMBER 21, 2016**

Visit www.itascsc.com to download the Tool Kit...

Find other senior programs in the state...

Come to a meeting!

I.T.A.S.C.S.C.

Illinois Township Association of Senior Citizen
Services Committees



HOME

WHAT WE DO

ITASCS was officially recognized by the Township Officials in 1982 and formed as a result of a number of township representatives meeting to address the need to enhance senior services for the growing number of seniors in their communities.

ITASCS sponsors satellite sessions and informational programs at the Township Officials of Illinois Educational Conference. These programs address issues that affect older adults and are open to all conference attendees.

If webinars are not your cup of tea, **ITASCS** will be present at the 4 District Educational Conferences, with free planning packets. Free marketing

JOIN US TODAY

Becoming a member has many benefits:

- Networking opportunities
- Quarterly informational meetings
- Township Recognition Awards
- Educational workshops

Mark your calendar for Township Day of Illinois, September 21, 2016. Inform your residents about the programs and services you provide!



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TOWNSHIPS
ILLINOIS
SEPTEMBER 21, 2016

For further questions or assistance:

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Director Senior Services

Hanover Township Senior Center

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Bartlett, IL 60103

630 483-5671

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[Www.itascsc.com](http://www.itascsc.com)





A detailed historical map of Illinois townships, showing county boundaries and individual township names. The map is the title page of 'Blanchard's Township Map of Illinois', published in 1894. It features a grid of townships across the state, with major cities and rivers marked. The map is the background for the text overlay.

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DAY
SEPTEMBER 21, 2016

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