

May 2021

Spring News & Updates
From the Central Region



Central U.P. Planning and Development
2950 College Ave, Escanaba, MI

Upcoming Events

It's (finally) spring in the central Upper Peninsula! We're getting started on spring projects and looking forward to these events happening soon:

[Spring Institute 2021: Climate Summit](#)

The American Planning Association, Michigan Chapter, is hosting their Spring Institute on Climate Change on May 20th, 2021. Climate change is an overarching issue that affects all aspects and we must begin to modify the way we build our communities. And that can - and should - start with planning.



[Return North Virtual Careers Fair](#)

The Return North Virtual Careers Fair is back! May 20th, from 3pm to 6pm EST, this event is free to job seekers and features professionals from all over the U.P. Register today!



[Michigan Sign Regulation Guidebook Training](#)

May 12th and 24th, MSU Extension is hosting a program for the new Michigan Sign Regulation Guidebook. Registration for this program includes a digital copy of Scenic Michigan's updated Michigan Sign Guidebook and companion webinar. The webinar and discussion refer to the Guidebook and are focused on practical and legal considerations for the content-neutral regulation of exterior signs.



Regional News

[American Rescue Plan Act \(ARPA\) for State and Communities](#)

The American Rescue Plan Act aims to provide funds to support towns, cities, and localities, focusing on the areas of public safety, infrastructure, and emergency programs that benefit our communities. Included in the Act:

- \$350 billion for States, territories, Tribes, and local governments
- \$10 billion for Critical Infrastructure Projects

- \$2 billion county and Tribal assistance funds
- \$300 million in relief for firefighters and emergency responders
- \$100 million for FEMA's Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) program
- \$130 billion for local governments

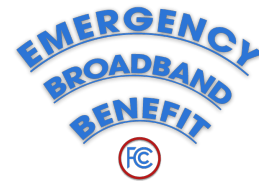
[Michigan Infrastructure Council "Dig Once" Project Portal](#)



The MIC "Dig Once" Project Portal allows authorized public and private asset owners to document future construction locations/dates across transportation, water, utilities, and communications infrastructure. Leveraging Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology, the portal alerts owners of overlapping projects and provides pertinent contact information for collaboration.

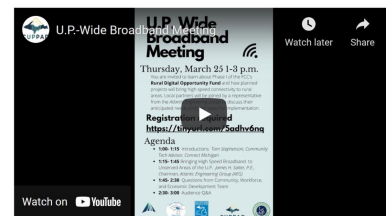
[FCC Emergency Broadband Benefit Details](#)

The Federal Communications Commission has launched a temporary program to help families and households struggling to afford Internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Emergency Broadband Benefit provides a discount of up to \$50 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers. Applications will be open May 12th, 2021. Please help spread the word in your communities!



[UP Wide Broadband Meeting Webinar](#)

A U.P. wide broadband meeting was held on March 25th and goes into detail on the recent [Rural Digital Opportunity Fund \(RDOF\)](#) and how planned projects will bring high-speed connectivity to rural areas. We were joined by Tom Stephenson from [Connect Michigan](#) and James Salter from the [Atlantic Engineering Group \(AEG\)](#). The presentation is followed by a question and answer session.



[US Small Business Administration Restaurant Revitalization Fund](#)



The SBA has announced the \$28.6 billion Restaurant Revitalization Fund was signed into law on March 11th, 2021. The program will award eligible applicants grants that are not subject to repayment so long as funds are used by March 11th, 2023. Applications open TODAY May 3rd, 2021. Grant amounts include up to \$5 million per location and \$10 million per entity.



New Employees!

Please join us in welcoming our newest CUPPAD employees:

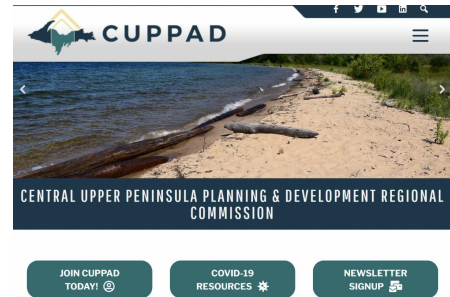
Julia Cogger, PLA, Community Innovation Specialist. Julia has a diverse background in planning, construction, and design. She will be working with our local communities on Parks and Recreation planning and more!

Michael Tripp, GIS Technician. Mike has had experience working in Geographic Information Systems for almost a decade, even spending some time as a community college instructor. Mike will be working with communities on their mapping needs!

READ MORE

New Website!

If you haven't seen it yet, CUPPAD has a new look and a [new website!](#) We worked with [Web Maestro](#) on our new look and couldn't be happier. The site is more user-friendly, making things easier to find. And as always, if there is something you're looking for, just contact us! We're happy to help.



CUPPAD | <https://cuppadd.org>

