



TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR
RESPONSIBILITIES
UNDER ACT 1981 – 43

LEGAL OBLIGATIONS

1. Accept petitions for the creation of Ag Security Areas.
2. Appoint an Agricultural Area Advisory Committee (AAAC) within 15 days of #1.
3. Notify the public when a petition has been received (15 days public notice).
4. Direct the township planning commission and AAAC to have their recommendations back no later than 45 days from the close of the 15 day public notice period.
5. Advertise the Public Hearing and send written notice to individuals who have asked for modifications to original petition.
6. Hold the Public Hearing.
7. Make a decision (within 180 days from the date petition was received) to adopt, modify, exclude or reject the proposal.
8. Failure to act within 180 days is deemed to be approval.
9. File a description of the Ag Security Area with the township planning commission and the County Recorder of Deeds.
10. Conduct review every seven (7) years on the need to continue the Ag Security Area.

LOCAL REGULATION LIMITATIONS

“Section 11.

(a) General rule. – Every municipality or political subdivision within which an agricultural security area has been created shall encourage the continuity, development and viability of agriculture within such an area by not enacting local laws or ordinances within such an area in a manner which would unreasonably restrict farm structures or farm practices in contravention of the purposes of this act unless such restrictions or regulations bear a direct relationship to the public health or safety.

(b) Public nuisance. – Any municipal or political subdivision law or ordinance defining or prohibiting a public nuisance shall exclude from the definition of such nuisance any agricultural activity or operation conducted using normal farming operations within an agricultural area as permitted by this act if such agricultural activity or operation does not bear a direct relationship to the public health and safety.”