



YOUR MUNICIPALITY'S INSURANCE COVERAGE

We participate in a Joint Insurance Fund

Isn't the Municipality insured by a traditional insurance company, similar to my car and home owners insurance? NO.

Your Municipality is a member of an organization of 42 municipalities from Atlantic, Cape May, and other surrounding counties. These towns have joined forces to save tax dollars by pooling their resources to provide their members comprehensive fire, liability, automobile and workers' compensation insurance and strong risk management and safety programs. The Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) is not an insurance company, it is a tax dollar financed organization. This organization is called the Atlantic County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund (ACM JIF).

Why wouldn't the Municipality just purchase the insurance through a traditional insurance company? TO SAVE TAX PAYERS MONEY!

By joining the ACM JIF, Member Municipalities are saving their tax payers millions of dollars that would otherwise have been used to finance hefty traditional insurance premiums. By maintaining a very low overhead and using extensive loss control, risk management and claims management techniques the ACM JIF has proven to be a valuable resource in these difficult economic times.

Who owns, governs and runs the ACM JIF? THE MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES!

The Member Municipalities own and govern the ACM JIF. Each Member Municipality is represented by one of their employees or elected officials called a *Fund Commissioner*. Member participation on ACM JIF Committees such as finance, claims, and safety make the JIF a member driven organization dedicated to meeting the needs of its members. Because of the complexities involved in managing the JIF, the member municipalities don't run the JIF on their own. The JIF Leadership (Executive Committee) appoints highly trained insurance professionals including an Administrator, Underwriter, Claims Administrator, Managed Care Organization, Auditor, Attorney, Treasurer, etc. to assist with the operations.

Who receives the money that is NOT spent on claims by the ACM JIF? THE MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES!

Unlike insurance companies, the ACM JIF returns 100% of all unspent funds with interest to its member municipalities. These surplus distributions would have been insurance company profits, instead they are local tax payer's savings. If the towns perform well, and if excess funds were collected, the unspent funds are returned to the municipalities in the form of dividends. To date, over \$25.9 million has been returned.

Who is affected when there is a claim against the municipality? THE MUNICIPALITY, THE COMMUNITY AND YOU, THE TAX PAYER.

The misconception: If I sue the municipality, then the municipality's insurance company will pay the settlement. **NOT TRUE.** Every claim and every lawsuit against a member municipality ultimately impacts the municipality, the other member municipalities in the JIF, and the tax payers.

Why is the JIF so efficient? THE MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES AND THE DECISIONS THEY MAKE!

- JIF operating expenses are very low, 9.6%. Insurance company operating expenses are very high, over 30%!
- Through a structured safety program, members' awareness of safety issues has risen resulting in the elimination of unsafe acts and conditions. Member employees attend safety training and seminars. Members are required to appoint a Safety Committee to help reduce risk and prevent claims.
- The use of a Managed Care provider network ensures all claims are managed efficiently, and all medical procedures are provided by a strong group of in-network medical providers to reduce the cost of medical bills.

How can our municipality save money? LESS ACCIDENTS = LESS MONEY SPENT ON CLAIMS

One way to save money is by preventing injuries to employees and accidents involving members of the public. When a claim does occur, the JIF utilizes their unique claims management program to assist in lowering costs, subsequently saving tax payers money. The JIF tax payer savings programs include safety training, claims management and review, managed care network of medical providers, and risk management.

In Summary:

- Fully tax payer funded public entity established in 1987 that functions like a municipal government. The JIF pays NO local, state and federal taxes or insurance company surcharges which keeps expenses low.
- The JIF provides strong training to ensure a safer work environment for all municipal employees.
- Local Involvement, Local Leadership.
- Unlike the insurance companies that preceded it, the JIF focuses on municipal issues of loss prevention, risk management and claims management.
- JIF provides risk management guidance so that municipal operations and special community events can be conducted with less risk of injury to participants and employees.
- Less accidents = Less money spent on claims = Return of unspent assessments to the members = More Money in tax payers pockets.
- We're all in this together and do our best to save money through safety and claims management

Most successful example of interlocal cooperation in the history of the State!

Questions about the ACM JIF, please call your Town's Fund Commissioner or Safety Coordinator

MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES:

- ABSECON CITY
- AVALON BOROUGH
- BRIGANTINE CITY
- BUENA BOROUGH
- CAPE MAY CITY
- CAPE MAY PT BOROUGH
- COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP
- CORBIN CITY
- DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP
- DENNIS TOWNSHIP
- DOWNE TOWNSHIP
- EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP
- ESTELL MANOR CITY
- FOLSOM BOROUGH
- GALLOWAY TOWNSHIP
- HAMILTON TOWNSHIP
- HAMMONTON TOWN
- LINWOOD CITY
- LONGPORT BOROUGH
- LOWER TOWNSHIP
- MARGATE CITY
- MIDDLE TOWNSHIP
- MILLVILLE CITY
- MULLICA TOWNSHIP
- NEWFIELD BOROUGH
- NORTH WILDWOOD CITY
- NORTHFIELD CITY
- OCEAN CITY
- PLEASANTVILLE CITY
- SEA ISLE CITY
- SOMERS POINT CITY
- STONE HARBOR BOROUGH
- UPPER DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP
- UPPER TOWNSHIP
- VENTNOR CITY
- WATERFORD TOWNSHIP
- WEST CAPE MAY BOROUGH
- WEST WILDWOOD BOROUGH
- WEYMOUTH TOWNSHIP
- WILDWOOD CITY
- WILDWOOD CREST BOROUGH
- WOODBINE BOROUGH

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