



4855 Woodland Drive
Enola, PA 17025-1291
Telephone: (717) 763-0930
Fax: (717) 763-9732
Internet: www.psats.org

PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

news release

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Contact: Ginni Linn
Executive Editor/Print
Communications Manager
(717) 805-3588 (until April 17)

Venango County Township Supervisor **Wins State Association's Leadership Award**

Fred Krizinsky, a supervisor for Mineral Township in Venango County, received the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors' 30th Annual President's Leadership Award this morning during the association's Excellence Awards ceremony.

The event, which recognizes the significant achievements of townships and township officials across the state, was held as part of PSATS' 97th Annual Educational Conference and Exhibit Show in Hershey. Today is the opening day of the conference, which has attracted attendees from every county in Pennsylvania except Philadelphia, which has no townships.

Each year, the association presents the Leadership Award, established in 1990, to a township supervisor and an administrator, such as a secretary or manager, whose outstanding projects or programs have benefited their communities.

Krizinsky, a supervisor for three decades and the township's roadmaster/foreman, is among an elite group of local government officials to receive the award, one of the highest honors that PSATS bestows.

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“He’s a truly dedicated township employee and wonderful human being,” Hilary Buchanan, deputy director of the Venango County Regional Planning Commission, said.

A model of leadership and public service, the supervisor was born and raised in the township, where he spent his summers working on the road crew while in high school.

“He learned the mechanics of road management, cutting brush, picking stones, and running off-road equipment,” said township secretary Cindy Krizinsky, who nominated the supervisor for the award. “In addition, he worked at a neighborhood trout hatchery. This experience contributed to his love of fishing while teaching the impact of weather conditions and water management on a successful harvest.”

Over the years, many of Fred Krizinsky’s accomplishments have had a common focus: protecting water resources in his community and surrounding areas.

Whether it’s helping form a local watershed association, developing a treatment system to restore a native trout stream, coming up with innovative ideas to control runoff, or obtaining grants for stormwater projects, his philosophy about water can be boiled down to two goals: Tell it where to go and keep it clean.

Working with other municipalities, he helped form the Oil Region Council of Governments and represents the organization on the board of the Venango County Regional Planning Commission.

Such intergovernmental efforts are a common practice for this supervisor, who firmly believes in townships working together for the good of all.

“Through Fred’s leadership and willingness to work cooperatively with other organizations,” Lance Bowles, district manager of the Venango Conservation District, said, “he has been able to make a positive impact on greatly improving the infrastructure and water quality of Mineral Township and Venango County.”

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The Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors represents Pennsylvania's 1,454 townships of the second class and is committed to preserving and strengthening township government and securing greater visibility and involvement for townships in the state and federal political arenas. Townships of the second class cover 95 percent of Pennsylvania's land mass and represent more residents — 5.5 million — than any other type of political subdivision in the commonwealth.

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