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April 14, 2020

Welcome to the PSATS Morning News, our new email digest.

The Morning News eliminates a common complaint – too many emails – while still delivering up-to-date information on PSATS and local government issues. Members will receive ONE email from PSATS that includes latest news & COVID-19 updates, videos – look for TVN and the Question of the Week every Tuesday and Thursday – along with legislative and policy updates, grant and funding opportunities, and announcements about upcoming PSATS training.

Missed yesterday's PSATS Morning News? No problem! A [PSATS Morning News Library](#) is available online for your viewing pleasure!

We're excited about this new concept and want to hear what you think. Email comments and suggestions to morningnews@psats.org.

Township Video News



Sen. Tim Kearney, Democratic chair of the Local Government Committee, discusses a unique plan to make life easier for Pennsylvania's volunteer fire companies and shares where lawmaking really happens in the Senate. A former local government official, Kearney is also a member of the Senate Transportation Committee. *Please note: This TVN segment was recorded in advance.*

Latest News

[Join Us for the 4th PSATS Town Hall This Thursday, April 16, at 4 p.m.](#)

PSATS is hosting its fourth web-based Town Hall for township officials on Thursday, April 16, at 4 p.m. Participants will have the opportunity to submit questions before and during the Town Hall, which is limited to the first 500 registrants and is free. [Click here](#) to register.

Pennsylvania to Join New York Tri-State Group on Reopening of Economies

On Monday, the governors of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Delaware announced that they would coordinate their planning for reopening of the region's economy. Governors of the six states announced that they would start working together immediately on strategizing a plan for easing mitigation.

[USDA Unveils Tool to Help Rural Communities Address the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue has a new one-stop-shop listing of federal programs that can be used by rural communities, organizations, and individuals impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. [Read full story](#).

[Attorney General Releases Resources Guide for Pennsylvanians During COVID-19 Emergency](#)

Attorney General Josh Shapiro has released a new guide advising Pennsylvanians of their rights, protections, and supportive programs available to recently unemployed

Pennsylvanians who have been impacted by the COVID-19 emergency. [Click here](#) for a copy of the guide.

[State Police Academy Closed; Instruction Continues Through Online Platform](#)

The Pennsylvania State Police training academy in Hershey will be closed for at least two weeks after an enlisted staff member assigned to the facility tested positive for COVID-19. During the closure, the cadets will continue instruction remotely from home. [Read full story.](#)

[Certified Host Municipality Inspectors Reimbursement Deadline Extended until April 30](#)

The state Department of Environmental Protection has announced an extension of the deadline for the 2019 Host Municipality Inspector Program reimbursement applications until April 30, 2020. [Read full story.](#)

Learn

[Now What? Layoffs, Furloughs and Restarts](#) [- 4/15/20](#)

This webinar is specifically focused on dealing with the aftermath of COVID-19 crisis. We will discuss expected challenges to revenue and budget as well as what that means for upcoming personnel decisions. We will look at differing strategies and best practices for how operations will be adjusted to deal with new realities brought on by this worldwide pandemic. For more information, [click here.](#)

[Personnel Management 101/Boot Camp](#) [Virtual Classroom - 4/21/20](#)

Designed for newly elected officials, this focused and energetic discussion lays out the most significant personnel concerns that each Township must address as well as strategies for solving common employment issues. For more information, [click here.](#)



**QuickBooks Virtual Training Series –
Bookkeeping Basics, Accounts Payable,
Payroll And More!**

In this 5-part virtual classroom series, Diana Patton will review how to tackle all sorts of common (and not-so-common) QuickBooks tasks – from bookkeeping and accounting basics to using accounts payable to handling payroll and taxes – applicable to municipal government. For more information, [click here](#).



For full list of webinars and classes please visit <https://learn.psats.org>



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