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May 19, 2020

Welcome to the PSATS Morning News.

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



In times of crisis, heroes emerge – sometimes quietly, and many times in townships. PSATS Executive Director Dave Sanko highlights our members' good deeds and asks for more examples.

Latest News

[2020 Census: Transportation Funding Based on Your Township's Population](#)

The census determines how much funding the state receives for the next 10 years. Your township's annual liquid fuels allocation is based on your census population. Ensuring an accurate count of your township is the only way to ensure that your community receives its fair share of these important transportation dollars for the next ten years. Township officials should encourage all residents to complete their 2020 census today! [Click here](#) to learn more and to complete your census.

[Wolf Stresses Roles of PEMA, National Guard in Pandemic Response](#)

In a press conference yesterday, Gov. Tom Wolf stressed the critical roles the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) and the Pennsylvania National Guard play in coordinating the state's preparedness and response to COVID-19. [Read full story.](#)

[Health Department Releases New Weekly Report, Distributes Medication](#)

The state Department of Health released a new Weekly Report for Deaths Attributed to COVID-19 that provides deaths by gender, race, ethnicity, age, place of death, and comorbidities. [Read full story.](#)

[DCNR Opens ATV Trails in State Forests Today](#)

The state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is opening all all-terrain vehicle (ATV) trails in state forests today. [Read full story.](#)

[Federal Funding Available for COVID-19 Testing and Treatment of Uninsured](#)

Under the federal stimulus, providers of COVID-19 testing and treatment services will be reimbursed for providing services to uninsured patients. This ensures that all Pennsylvanians have access to testing and treatment services. As part of the Family First Coronavirus Relief Act and CARES Act, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will reimburse health care providers generally at Medicare rates. [Click here](#) for more information.

[DC, MD, and VA Intend to Sue EPA Over Chesapeake Bay](#)

The District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia announced today that they intend to sue the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for failing to protect the Chesapeake Bay and local waters, including the Potomac River. [Read full story.](#)

[PUC Announces Overlay Number for 814 Area Code, Date to Start 10-Digit Dialing](#)

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission has announced that the number “582” will be the new overlay area code for the current 814 area code, which covers all or parts of 27 counties across central and northwestern Pennsylvania. [Read full story.](#)

Legislation & Policy



The House is scheduled to convene for voting session today May 19th at 11 a.m. The Senate remains on a 12-hour call of the President pro tempore. Watch session live [here](#).

House Adopts Resolution Creating Special COVID-19 Committee

On May 18th, the House adopted HR 867 which creates a special committee to monitor and track the response of the commonwealth during the COVID-19 emergency. The committee is tasked with identifying issues, developing a recovery plan and is required to submit a report of its findings by October 15, 2020. The recovery plan must include a documented, structured approach that describes how the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions can resume mission-critical functions, including the restoration of housing, transportation, education and other public services and economic activity to levels equal to or better than their predisaster states through a series of short-term, intermediate and long-term strategies and actions.

Learn

WEBINAR WEDNESDAY: Public Private Partnerships & Township Identity - May 20, 2020

A major problem facing municipalities is a lack of funding for infrastructure, services and facilities. Almost any community can benefit from improving blighted areas, activating unused spaces or creating more pedestrian trails. What if these needs could be met at no cost to the taxpayer? This webinar is designed to provide participants with information on how new types of Public Private Partnerships can help townships meet those needs, including case studies on how Pennsylvania townships are leveraging those partnerships. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Administration Point. [Click here](#) to register.



2020 Spring Emergency Management Virtual Forum - June 1, 2, & 3, 2020

The spring Emergency Management Seminar is a separate 3-day virtual event. Participate with your EMC colleagues from around the state and hear informative presentations from local and state emergency management personnel, as well as hear the latest news and information from PEMA and TEMA. Additional presentations will address in-depth and practical ways to ensure the development and maintenance of an effective and efficient emergency operation program, and will highlight township exercise practices. The class is eligible for 6 PMGA Public Safety points. [Click here](#) to register.



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



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