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May 28, 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



Want to stay in the loop with PSATS? A personal online account ensures you never miss a thing from your Association. We explain how to set one up.

Latest News

Election Day is Tuesday: Vote and promote the census!

Many of your residents will be heading to the polls Tuesday to vote in the primary election. If your township building is a polling location, why not use the day to promote the 2020 Census? You can hang or distribute this [flyer](#) to remind your residents about why their participation in the census is so important. Population counts are used in how valuable state and federal dollars are distributed to your township, congressional representation is determined, and business and economic decisions are made.

[Commonwealth Issues Orders for Green Phase, Provides Guidance on Dining and More](#)

Yesterday, Gov. Tom Wolf and state Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine issued orders to elaborate on the reopening process for green-phase counties, including guidance for dining, and authorize outdoor dining and professional sports in yellow counties.

Wolf and Levine both noted that the green phase is the new normal for the foreseeable future until vaccines or effective therapies or treatments are available. Levine said that Pennsylvania will be prepared for a possible new surge in the fall with increased testing and contact tracing in place. [Read full story.](#)

[PA Health Continues to Report Lower Case Rates, Hospitalizations](#)

Yesterday, the state Department of Health reported the sixth day in a row with less than 900 new positive cases of COVID-19 statewide. The statewide total cases are at 69,417. 67,515 of these cases are confirmed by testing, 1,902 are probable cases by definition and high-risk exposure, and an additional 576 are considered probable cases by serology or anti-body tests and either symptoms or high-risk exposure. 62 percent of these cases have recovered. [Read full story.](#)

[Wolf Highlights PA Businesses Rising to Meet COVID-19 Needs](#)

Gov. Tom Wolf praised Pennsylvania businesses that have pivoted to produce critical products during the COVID-19 public health crisis, which contributed to the commonwealth's efforts to protect public health and safety. [Read full story.](#)

[PSP Reports COVID-19 Enforcement Numbers, Crime Statistics](#)

The Pennsylvania State Police is reporting statewide enforcement numbers for actions taken May 18-25 to enforce the commonwealth's COVID-19 orders. [Read full story.](#)

Managing your FMCSA Clearinghouse Account

If your township has already registered with the FMCSA Clearinghouse, the PSATS CDL Program encourages you to make three updates (which only you can make) to your Clearinghouse account:

1. If you are a municipality, make sure your “company name” is in the “Township, County” format under “Company Information” so we can easily determine which account is yours;

2. Under the “Designate Your Consortium/Third Party Administrator” section, make sure you authorize your testing consortium, whether it is the PSATS CDL Program or another company, to:

- Report Violations
- Report Return to Duty Results
- Conduct Queries on your behalf (which may entail an additional, separate fee from your testing consortium)

3. Make sure you have purchased a sufficient number of queries, which at a minimum is the number of new hires planned for the year plus one query each year for every current employee.

If you have not already registered for the Clearinghouse, [click here](#) and go to #2 for Clearinghouse instructions. If you have other questions on this matter, contact the PSATS CDL Program at cdl@psats.org.





The House and Senate are both scheduled to return to session today, May 28th.

House Local Government Committee Approves Tax Anticipation Note Legislation

On May 27th, the House Local Government Committee approved HB 2536. This legislation would amend the Local Government Unit Debt Act (LGUDA) to authorize local governments, as a means to manage cash flow during the COVID-19 emergency, to use alternative tax anticipation notes that mature at the end of the next fiscal year. HB 2536 is now before the House for their consideration.

Learn

[Is Your Township Prepared for More De Facto Takings Claims - June 4, 2020](#)

NOTE: This webinar will also now cover some of the recent COVID-19-related challenges alleging that shutdown orders are de facto takings. This webinar will discuss the potential for increased litigation over takings claims against townships as a result of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in *Knick v. Township of Scott*.



In that case, a Pennsylvania township adopted an ordinance that a resident claimed was a de facto taking of her property without just compensation. Additionally, the Pennsylvania appellate courts have issued a spate of recent decisions concerning de facto condemnation claims. In this webinar, Kandice Hull of McNees Wallace & Nurick will review what these decisions may mean for Pennsylvania municipalities and ways in which municipalities can better protect themselves from potential takings claims..Qualifies for 1 PMGA Planning/Zoning Point. Eligible for 1 CLE credit. (additional cost). [Click here](#) to register.

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



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

4855 Woodland Drive

Enola, PA 17025

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