



July 23, 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



COVID-19 has created challenges for townships, some of which we'll be addressing in this month's Questions of the Week. Today, the PSATS staff reviews safety strategies for in-person public meetings and restrictions on crowd sizes. Also, [click here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week. (1:16)

Latest News

[Department of Health Hiring Contact Tracers](#)

Pennsylvania has 661 contact tracers across the state and is in the process of hiring more contact tracing field managers and community health nurses to strengthen contact tracing needs throughout the state.

Between June 29 and July 13, contact tracers have enrolled 3,638 contacts in the Sara Alert system, which enables contact tracers to send daily emails, texts, and/or phone calls to identified close contacts throughout their isolation/quarantine monitoring period. The contact tracers also provide guidance to symptomatic individuals. For more information on contact tracing, [click here](#).

Lebanon County CARES Fight Heads to Court

The Lebanon County commissioners have filed suit asking the Commonwealth Court to require Gov. Tom Wolf to release \$12.8 million in federal CARES funding authorized under the recent state budget. Lebanon County had taken action to reopen the county earlier than the commonwealth timeframe, and Wolf had threatened to withhold funding. While funding was approved by the Legislature and not vetoed by the Governor, DCED issued guidelines disqualifying any county that was “non-compliant” with Covid directives.

[CENSUS 2020: Door-to-Door Visits to Begin Today in Central PA](#)

After a months-long delay because of COVID-19 concerns, census takers have begun going door to door of households that have not yet responded to the 2020 Census. Here is a run-down of when census takers are expected to start their visits in different regions of Pennsylvania:

- Counties served by the State College Area Census Office could see masked workers in their area as early as today.
- Counties served by the census offices in Cranberry Township, Butler County, and Harrisburg, Dauphin County, should expect in-person visits to begin July 30.
- The rest of the state (counties served by the Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Allentown, Reading and Norristown Census Offices) will be part of a nationwide rollout of in-person visits scheduled to start August 11. [This map](#) shows the counties in each of the area census offices. The bureau plans to continue collecting census data through the end of October.

[Click here](#) to find out more about what to expect when census takers come knocking.

Learn

[Posting Local Roads For Infrastructure Preservation & Safety - Virtual - 07/24/2020](#)

Safety- and weight-related postings are two tools available to help townships protect their roads when heavy hauling is occurring. Representatives from PennDOT will explain the differences between 4902(a) weight and 4902(b) safety postings and cover several related issues, including vehicle exemptions, weather-related restrictions, why bridge postings differ from road postings, and PennDOT policy updates. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Public Works Point. [Click here](#) to register.

[Suburban Homestead: Best Practices And Management - Virtual - 7/30/20](#)

During this session, township officials will get some insight into residential agricultural land uses and how best to manage them. Uses include the keeping of bees and chickens, composting, and gardening. The panel will include bee and poultry experts to help attendees gain a greater of understanding of these practices while learning how they fit within residential zones and how to regulate/manage them. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Planning/Zoning Point. Eligible for 1 CLE Credit. [Click here](#) to register.

[Addressing The Unaddressable - How To Resolve Difficult Parcels - Virtual - 7/30/20](#)

Participants will learn the tips & tricks of assigning addresses to the seemingly unaddressable parcels--landlocked, vacant, those with no room in the numbering sequence, and the like. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Public Safety Point. [Click here](#) to register.



[PSATS Summer/Fall 2020 QuickBooks Series](#)

These virtual QuickBooks sessions are a great opportunity to learn about specific ways to use QuickBooks to bring greater efficiency and value to your township. From using QuickBooks for budgeting and meeting reports to preparing for the township audit or year-end reporting, these classes will cover a wide variety of important QuickBooks functions.



- July 30 – “QuickBooks Q&A”
- August 27 – “How to Use Customers and Classes for Grants and Reimbursables”
- September 24 – “Budgets and QuickBooks”
- October 29 – “Using QuickBooks for Meeting and Year-End Reports”
- November 19 – “Getting Ready for the Township Audit”
- December 17 – “Year-End Employee Functions”

[Click here](#) for more information and to register.

[What Has Your Building Code Official Done For You Lately? - Virtual - 8/6/20](#)

This interactive session focuses on the crucial role of the township's building code official. These professionals are a critical part of the building process from reviewing projects to upholding safety standards. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Planning/Zoning Point. [Click here](#) to register.



[Meet Pollutant Reduction Goals With Floodplain Restoration - Virtual - 8/6/20](#)

Attend this session to learn about floodplain restoration, a unique approach that townships can use to reach their PRP requirements. Backed by real data, the presenters will use case studies to illustrate how this cost-saving strategy can increase buildable land and provide multiple other benefits to land owners and municipalities. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Public Works Point. [Click here](#) to register.

[Real Estate Tax Collection In Pennsylvania - Virtual - 8/20/20](#)

This workshop will acquaint attendees with the Local Tax Collection Act of PA, pending legislation affecting local tax collectors and municipalities, and the relationships between municipalities and their tax collectors. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Administration Point. [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

Click [here](#) to unsubscribe or to change your Subscription Preferences.