



July 6, 2020

Welcome to the PSATS Morning News.

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

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[Education Catalog - July](#)

Seminars

[PSATS' Regional Forum - Erie County - 7/29-30/20](#)

Virtual Classroom

[PSATS Virtual Boot Camp](#)

[CDL - Probable Cause Training For CDL Supervisory Personnel - Virtual Training - 7/7/20](#)

[Police Use Of Force & Local Government Oversight - Virtual Class - 7/8/20](#)

[CMV/CDL Records Management - Virtual Training - 7/14/20](#)

[The Township Role In Emergency Management - Virtual Training - 7/21/20](#)

Webinars

Note: These Webinars are Eligible for the Webinar PowerPass.

[Webinar - Blight Busting: A “Low Hanging Fruit” In The Fight Against Blight - 7/8/20](#)

[Webinar - How To Manage Work Relationships More Effectively - 7/15/20](#)

[Webinar - RoadResource.Org - Get The Most Out Of It For Township Roads - 7/22/20](#)

[Webinar - Creating An Affordable Retirement Plan - 7/29/20 \(MEMBERS ONLY\)](#)

[Webinar - Stormwater Management For Residential Developments - 7/29/20](#)

Virtual Conference Workshops

These conference workshops are eligible for the Conference All Access Pass, [Click here](#) for details.

[High Performance Snowplow Blades - Virtual - 7/6/20](#)

[Five Cardiac Township Events And The CPR To Address Them - Virtual - 7/8/20](#)

[Local Economies And Quality Of Life In The Age Of E-Tail - Virtual - 7/9/20](#)

[Advancing Public Communication Through Website Design - Virtual - 7/9/20](#)

[E-Scooters, Mopeds, And E-Bikes: Micromobility Rising - Virtual - 07/10/2020](#)

[Defending Against Claims Of "Past Practice" - Virtual - 7/13/20](#)

[Investigating Harassment & Other Claims In The "Me Too" Era - Virtual - 7/13/20](#)

[Partnering With Your Police Chief - Virtual - 7/15/20](#)

[Protect Your Assets: Best Practices In Cash Management - Virtual - 7/16/20](#)

[Trust The Process: Land Development And Best Practices - Virtual - 7/16/20](#)

[PennTIME: How Traffic Incident Management Can Keep Our ERS - Virtual - 07-17-2020](#)

[Township Gatherings And Special Events - Virtual - 7/20/20](#)

[Under Fire: Trends In Zoning And Validity Challenges - Virtual - 7/20/20](#)

[PA 811 - Compliance Execution And New PUC Requirements - Virtual - 7/23/20](#)

[Get The Dirt: Zoning, Subdivision & Land Development Basics - Virtual - 7/23/20](#)

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

[Taking The Politics Out Of Paving - Virtual - 7/27/20](#)

[U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers' Technical Assistance Programs - Virtual - 7/27/20](#)

[Understanding Your Community's Stormwater Obligations - Virtual - 7/29/20](#)

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

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

[Temporary Traffic Control Planning And Deployment - Virtual - 07/31/2020](#)

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

Latest News

Commonwealth Urges Those Traveling from High-Risk States to Quarantine

Pennsylvania has now reopened all counties to the green phase and there are concerns that increasing cases in southern and western states could impact Pennsylvania. In addition to avoiding large gatherings and wearing masks, the Commonwealth is now urging all Pennsylvania residents who travel in states with high numbers of COVID-19 cases to quarantine for 14 days upon their return. Those states include Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Utah. An alternative would be to have two negative COVID-19 tests at least 48 hours apart.

U.S. Unemployment Level Drops in June

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics announced that the U.S. unemployment level dropped from 13.3 percent to 11.1 percent in June. Nonfarm employment rose by 4.8 million jobs in June, nearly twice as many that were added in May.

The improvements in the labor market reflected the continued resumption of economic activity that had been curtailed in March and April due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Employment in leisure and hospitality rose sharply in June, while notable job gains also occurred in retail trade, education and health services, other services, manufacturing, and professional and business services. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Pennsylvania Universal Face Covering Order Explained

The Department of Health released [FAQs to explain the newly expanded mask-wearing directive](#). Township officials should be aware that **this order does apply to local government facilities**, court houses, and other government buildings. The order applies to children two years and older, all schools, gyms and health clubs, and restaurants or bar until actually eating or drinking.

The FAQs explain that any employee isolated in their personal office space which is not shared by any individual and are at least six feet apart do not need to wear a face covering. Face masks are not required during a public speech if the individual is able to maintain social distancing during the speech or broadcast and all others wear masks and social distance.

In addition, the order requires face coverings even if outdoors unless one can consistently maintain a 6 ft. distance from individuals who are not members of your household. This applies to individuals working outside who may come within 6 feet of others who are not part of their household unless it would create an unsafe condition to operate equipment or perform a task. In interviews over the weekend, Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine states that it also impacts youth sports, if participants are less than 6 feet apart.

The FAQs note that mere discomfort is not considered a risk to an individual's health or safety and that face shields are an acceptable alternative to face masks when high temperatures and humidity create unsafe conditions. There are exceptions to the order, including: individuals with medical conditions; where wearing a mask would create an unsafe working condition; individuals communicating with the hearing impaired or another disability, and children under two years.

Weekend clarification offered that commonsense and "good intention" is the goal and there will be no legal enforcement by state police or local police.

Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program Applications Open July 13

The Department of Community and Economic Development announced that the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program will accept applications beginning July 13 and ending August 12. This grant program is administered by the Office of the Budget for the acquisition and construction of regional economic, cultural, civic, recreational, and

historical improvement projects authorized in the Redevelopment Assistance section of the Capital Budget Itemization Act, have a regional or multijurisdictional impact, and general substantial increases or maintain current levels of employment, tax revenues, or other measures of economic activity. To learn more, [click here](#).

PennDOT Mails Letters Explaining State Police Fine Distributions

Townships that received State Police fines and penalties distributions on June 1 can expect to receive a letter from the state Department of Transportation shortly explaining the monies received. The delay is because the PennDOT central office was closed and staff were working from home and were unable to print and mail letters to municipalities sooner.

Legislation & Policy



The Senate remains at the call of the President Pro Tempore. The House is scheduled to return to session tomorrow, July 7th.

This week, the House is expected to vote on legislation that would amend the Second Class Township Code by providing additional tools to townships that use a CPA to perform their annual audit and legislation that would clarify the types of financial security that must be used for public works contracts over \$50,000.



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