



# Morning News

September 22, 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](mailto:morningnews@psats.org).

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## Township Video News



Hurricane season is upon us, and this one is shaping up to be one of the most active in recent years. Throw COVID-19 into the mix, and townships are in for a double-whammy of challenges. Randy Padfield, director of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, has some advice for local leaders. (7:40)

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## Latest News

### **DEP Accepting Applications for Watershed Planning and Restoration Grants**

The state Department of Environmental Protection is now accepting applications for Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Grants for watershed planning and restoration.

[Read full story.](#)

### **Restaurants May Now Self-Certify, Increase Indoor Capacity to 50 Percent**

Yesterday, the state Department of Community and Economic Development announced that restaurants may now access the online self-certification form on [pa.gov/COVID](#). Those that self-certify may now increase indoor occupancy to 50 percent. [Click here](#) to learn more.

### **Commonwealth Makes Changes to States on Quarantine Advisory**

The commonwealth has removed Nevada from and added Nebraska and Wisconsin to the list of states that Pennsylvania residents are urged to quarantine for 14 days upon their return. To view the advisory and the current list of states on the advisory, [click here](#).

### **Webinar Available on Rural Community Paramedicine Toolkit**

Interested township officials may participate in a free webinar on Thursday, September 24, at 1 p.m. about the Rural Community Paramedicine Toolkit. The webinar will provide an overview of how the community paramedicine model of care functions and benefits rural communities. To register for the webinar, [click here](#). To learn more about the toolkit, [click here](#).

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## Legislation & Policy



The Senate will convene for voting session today, September 22. Watch session live [here](#).

### **Senate Approves Farmland Preservation Legislation**

On September 21, the Senate approved SB 881 which would direct a portion of existing

farmland preservation funding to private land trusts. This legislation would also require land trusts to provide matching funds in order to generate new private funding for the program. SB 881 will be sent to the House.

### **Governor Vetoes Sports Spectator Bill**

On September 21, Governor Tom Wolf vetoed HB 2787 which would give school districts the authority to decide the number of fans that would be allowed at sporting events. House Leadership has indicated that the House will vote to override the veto.

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## Learn

### **PSATS' Regional Forum - Lancaster County**

#### **(Virtual) - 9/23 & 29/20**

In the PSATS (Virtual) Regional Forum – Lancaster, learn from experts on a wide variety of topics from the comfort of your office or home. Among the topics to be covered include fire service challenges, employment issues that you may have missed during quarantine, how to stretch your township public works budget, ways in which your township can simplify zoning, emergency management best practices, and connecting with your community using Story Maps. You will also have an opportunity to interact and network with colleagues around the region. [Click here](#) to register.

### **Webinar - Do You Have Illicit Discharges From Your Public Works Facility? - 9/23/20**

This webinar, presented by Mark Harman of ARRO Engineering, will provide you with a framework to assess your public works facility for the potential of a high, medium, or low illicit discharge event while providing simple suggestions for mitigating potential threats. This framework can also be utilized as a tool to prepare for an MS4 audit by showing public works staff how to present their facility to a regulatory auditor. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Public Works Point. [Click here](#) to register.



## Webinar - Social Media Tips And Tricks - 9/29/20

For some townships, the thought of creating a social media strategy can be scary. But it doesn't have to be. In this webinar, learn from Linda Rooney of Dandelions Digital about ways in which townships can best use social media to communicate with their residents, whether in a crisis situation or for everyday outreach, as well as what "must-haves" should be included in the township's social media policy. This course is eligible for 1 PMGA Administration Point. [Click here](#) to register.



## PSATS' Regional Forum - Clearfield County - (Virtual) - 10/6/20

In the PSATS (Virtual) Regional Forum – Clearfield, learn from experts on a wide variety of topics from the comfort of your office or home. Among the topics to be covered include fire service challenges, best maint post-COVID HR and employment issues, how to stretch your township public works budget, the Right-to-Know Law, municipal "Jeopardy," and more. You will also have an opportunity to interact and network with colleagues around the region.

[Click here](#) to register.



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



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