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September 11, 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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## Latest News

### **Flags Ordered to Half-Staff in Observance of Patriot Day**

In remembrance of the victims of the September 11, 2001, attacks and in observance of Patriot Day, Gov. Tom Wolf has ordered all U.S. and commonwealth flags at the Capitol

Complex and other commonwealth facilities throughout the state lowered to half-staff at sunrise for today, Patriot Day, September 11, 2020.

The U.S. flag is ordered to fly at half-staff from sunrise to sunset on Friday, September 11, 2020. The commonwealth flag has flown at half-staff since Wednesday, March 11, 2020, in honor of the victims of the COVID-19 pandemic and should continue to fly at half-staff until further notice.

### **[DGS to Auction More Than 600 Vehicles on October 13](#)**

The state Department of General Services will auction more than 600 vehicles on Tuesday, October 13, at 10 a.m. at Manheim Keystone Pennsylvania, 488 Firehouse Road, Grantville. [Read full story.](#)

### **[Grants Available to Address Community Violence](#)**

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency is accepting grant applications designed to reduce or prevent community violence. [Read full story.](#)

### **[Chesapeake Bay Foundation Sues EPA Over Failure to Hold PA, NY Accountable](#)**

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation has announced that it will sue the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for failure to require Pennsylvania and New York to comply with the Clean Water Act. [Read full story.](#)

### **[DEP Declares Drought Watch for Three Additional Counties, Drought Warning for Potter](#)**

Yesterday, the state Department of Environmental Protection declared a drought watch for three counties: Elk, Lycoming, and Tioga. Potter County was moved from drought watch to a drought warning status. [Read full story.](#)

### **[Pennsylvanians Urged to Squash Spotted Lanternflies](#)**

The state Department of Agriculture is urging Pennsylvanians to squash spotted lanternflies for food security. [Read full story.](#)

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Legislation & Policy



The House will convene for non-voting session today, September 11.

### **Bill Requiring Legislative Approval of RGGI Passed by the Senate**

The Senate recently approved HB 2025 which would create the Pennsylvania Carbon Dioxide Cap and Trade Authorization Act. This legislation would clarify that the Administration does not have the authority to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and would prohibit the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) from joining RGGI without Legislative approval.

RGGI is a collaboration of nine Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states, the states set a cap on total Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from electric power generators in their states and in order to comply, power plants must purchase a credit or “allowance” for each ton of CO<sub>2</sub> they emit. The Administration has asked DEP to begin the regulatory process for Pennsylvania to join RGGI and has indicated that the proceeds of the sale of these credits would go towards a number of initiatives at the Governors direction.

HB 2025 will be presented to the Governor Wolf once it is signed by the House. The Governor has indicated he will veto this legislation once it reaches his desk.

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## Learn

### **[Developing Your Township Budget - Virtual - 9/14/20](#)**

This virtual online class will provide proven and effective methods and techniques to help new and veteran township supervisors, secretaries, treasurers, managers, road masters and public works officials develop budgets that work. This course is eligible for 2.5 PMGA Administration Points. [Click here](#) to register.



### [Flagger Training - 9/18/20 - Washington County](#)

This instructor-led Flagger Training will be conducted for individuals who have flagging responsibilities on ANY ROAD OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. Others who would benefit from this course include: utility companies working on low volume roads, law enforcement personnel, municipal managers and elected officials (to understand the importance, and for budgeting purposes). This class is eligible for 2 PMGA Public Works points. [Click here](#) to register.



### **2020 TEMA Virtual Fall Forum**

This is a separate 2-day virtual event that is designed to meet the educational needs and busy schedules of all those responsible for your municipality's emergency management program, including elected officials, municipal managers, road crew/public works personnel, and emergency management coordinators (EMCs).



The first presentation will be held on the mornings of September 17 & 18 and will include a flooding exercise. The second presentation will be held on the mornings of October 8 & 9 and will include a power outage exercise. To register, click on a date below.

[2020 TEMA Fall Forum - Virtual - 9/17-18/20](#)

[2020 TEMA Fall Forum - Virtual - 10/8-9/20](#)

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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