



January 25, 2021

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## Latest News

### **Pa. COVID-19 Measurement Numbers Down**

Despite initial fears of a statewide post-holiday surge in COVID-19 cases, daily new cases have been gradually decreasing. The statewide COVID-19 case total now stands at 799,957, and while 44,546 new cases were reported this week, this is less than the prior week and continues the downward trend. [Read full story.](#)

### **National Bubble Wrap Day**

National Bubble Wrap Day on the last Monday in January recognizes a fascinating piece of invention. Today, bubble wrap's primary purpose is to protect fragile items either in shipping or storage. Of course, people also take enjoyment from popping the bubbles in bubble wrap, too.

To celebrate, wrap up something in bubble wrap. Find an old piece and have some fun popping the bubbles. Another way to enjoy the day is by reading Poke-A-Dot books. Inspired by Bubble Wrap, these books allow you to pop the bubbles over and over while reading a story to your child, too!

### **Wolf Nominates Health Secretary, Physician General**

Gov. Tom Wolf has nominated Alison Beam to serve as secretary of the state Department of Health and named Dr. Wendy Braund as interim acting physician general. Beam currently serves as deputy chief of staff to Wolf, coordinating resources across several departments and helping to coordinate the administration's COVID-19 pandemic response. Braund currently serves as the COVID-19 response director for the department. [Click here](#) to learn more.

### **DEP Cancels Recycling Grant Round**

The state Department of Environmental Protection has canceled the 2021 round of Section 902 Recycling Implementation Grants due to a lack of money in the Recycling Fund. The General Assembly redirected \$50 million from the fund to balance the final state budget that was adopted in November.

Questions about the cancellation may be directed to DEP's Bureau of Waste Management at [ra-eprecyclepa@pa.gov](mailto:ra-eprecyclepa@pa.gov) or (717) 787-7382. [Click here](#) to view the notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

### **DCNR Grant Funding Available for ATV, Snowmobile Trails**

Beginning February 1, the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Bureau of Recreation and Conservation will accept grant applications for projects proposing land acquisition, planning, development, rehabilitation, maintenance, equipment purchase, or educational programs for ATV or snowmobile trails and facilities. Applications are due March 31.

To learn more, [click here](#) or contact the department's grants customer service center at (800) 326-7734, [DCNR-Grants@pa.gov](mailto:DCNR-Grants@pa.gov). Bureau staff are available to assist applicants, and their contact information is available [here](#).

### **Federal Fire Prevention and Safety Grants Available**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency is now accepting applications for the [FY 2020 Fire Prevention and Safety \(FP&S\) Grant Program](#) until February 26. FP&S grants are offered to support projects in two activities: fire prevention and safety (FP&S) and firefighter safety research and development (R&D). [Read full story](#).

Looking for the Latest Issue of the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*? [Click here](#).

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## Legislation & Policy



The House and Senate will convene for voting session today, January 25. Watch session live [here](#).

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## Learn

### **[CMV/CDL Records Management - Virtual Training - 1/26/21](#)**

This virtual training workshop will review CMV/CDL employee and vehicle paperwork, including pre-employment inquiries regarding a CDL applicant's records in the FMCSA Clearinghouse; requests for CMV driver's license information from PennDOT; annually reviewing each CDL drivers records in the Clearinghouse; CMV daily vehicle inspection, maintenance, and repair reports; the employer's required policy on CDL drug and alcohol testing; and a general overview of all the CDL regulations. This class is eligible for 3 PMGA Public Works points. [Click here](#) to register.

### **[Basic "Virtual" Training for Secretaries and Administrators - Feb. 22 & March 1, 2021](#)**

This virtual training class will be offered in two half-day sessions. This is your opportunity to learn from acknowledged experts about all the most important issues township secretaries and managers need to know, right from the comfort of your desk. Topics covered will range from budgeting, purchasing, advertising and meeting management all the way to human resource issues and public engagement. Attendance for both sessions qualifies for 6 PMGA Administration points. [Click here](#) to register.



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