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February 26, 2021

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## Latest News

### **FDA Allows More Flexible Storage for Pfizer Vaccine**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is allowing frozen vials of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to be transported and stored at conventional temperatures commonly found in pharmaceutical freezers for up to two weeks. This is an alternative to the preferred storage at ultra-low temperature. This change will allow more providers to store and administer the Pfizer vaccine that do not have access to ultra-cold freezers. [Click here](#) for more.

### **Delaware River Basin Commission Bans Fracking**

The Delaware River Basin Commission voted 4-0 (with the US Army Corp abstaining) to approve a final rule prohibiting high-volume hydraulic fracturing, commonly known as fracking, for natural gas or oil in the 20 county basin. This is a finalization of the unofficial moratorium the commission has had in place since early 2010. The decision impacts counties in northeast Pennsylvania that contain part of the Marcellus Shale formation, as well as the rest of the eastern counties that form the watershed for the Delaware River, the commonwealth's eastern border. The representatives of the governors of Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, and New York voted in favor of the rule.

In addition, the commission approved the moving forward to development of amendments to prohibit or limit the importing of wastewater from outside the basin and the exporting of waters from the basin to assist in natural gas development. [Click here](#) for more.

### **DEP, Fish & Boat Commission Fine Sunoco**

The state Department of Environmental Protection has ordered Sunoco Pipeline L.P. to pay \$497,000 for violating the Clean Streams Law, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Code, and the Dam Safety and Encroachments Act. The violations occurred in Lebanon County due to the Mariner East 2 pipeline project. In addition, Sunoco paid \$25,855 to the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission. [Click here](#) for more.

### **National Pistachio Day**

February 26th recognizes all things pistachio and National Pistachio Day is the day to celebrate! The day is set aside for all pistachio lovers to eat their favorite nut all day long. For those who do not eat pistachios, buy some and give them to someone who does. Crack them open and eat them up or enjoy them in ice cream or your favorite pistachio dessert!

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## Legislation & Policy



The House will convene for non-voting session today, February 26.

### **Last Chance to Register: NATaT Virtual Town Hall & “Zoom”-In!**

The National Association of Towns and Townships (NATaT) is hosting a VIRTUAL Town Hall & Zoom-In! On Monday, March 1, NATaT will host speakers to address some of our top priorities: Municipal COVID relief funding, broadband deployment, transportation, and rural development funding. [Click here](#) to register

*\*Note: There is a \$25 registration fee to attend the NATaT virtual town hall.*

### **Town Hall Speakers**

**Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)**

**Gabe Amo**, Deputy Director, White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

**Dave Finger**, National Volunteer Fire Council

**Representative Rodney Davis (R-IL)**

**Justin Maxson**, Deputy Undersecretary for Rural Development, USDA

**Representative Bob Latta (R-OH)**

**Representative Bill Johnson (R-OH)**  
**Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)**

### **Virtual Zoom-In**

PSATS staff will coordinate virtual meetings to discuss federal priorities with members of the Pennsylvania Congressional delegation during the remainder of the week, March 2-5 and throughout the week of March 8.

Interested in attending or have questions? Contact Melissa Morgan at [mmorgan@psats.org](mailto:mmorgan@psats.org) or (717) 763-0930 ext. 178.

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## Learn

### **[Right-to-Know Law, Sunshine and Ethics, Oh My! - Virtual Class - 3/2/21](#)**

Has your township received bad publicity because of a misstep involving the Right-to-Know Law, Sunshine Act or Ethics Act? Not sure whether you or your township officials/employees are complying with your obligations under any of these laws? Or are you an experienced township official/employee just looking for a refresher? If you answered yes to any of these, you should take this class, which will provide best practices on how to more efficiently handle tricky (and common) RTKL requests, ensure smooth, and legal, public meetings (including remote meetings), avoid tripping yourself up with conflicts of interest and other Ethics Act problems, and much more. This course is eligible for 3 PMGA Administration points and 3 CLE credits (separate fee required for CLEs). [Click here](#) to register.



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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](mailto:morningnews@psats.org).

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