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April 1, 2021

Township Video News



TVN's Question of the Week | This Money is No Joke

Sure, it's April Fool's Day, but the federal funding on the way to every township in Pennsylvania is no joke. We explain when the American Rescue Plan money is arriving and where to get answers about your allocation. Also, [click here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week. (1:25)

Latest News

Baseball Season Opens Today

In a tip of the hat for a return to normalcy, Major League Baseball games will open in parks around the country today. The boys of summer have returned!

Re-opening on Track Despite Covid Spikes

Despite increasing Covid numbers in recent weeks, Secretary of Health Alison Beam confirmed that Pennsylvania plans to move ahead this Sunday with its [planned relaxation of mitigation standards](#), including 75% indoor dining capacity, the ability to purchase alcohol without food and the return of bar service, 75% capacity for personal services (spas and salons), gyms, and entertainment facilities, indoor gathering limits of 25%, and outdoor gathering limits of 50%. More details are expected in the next few days as the orders implementing these changes have not yet been made.

PSATS Executive Director Talks Transportation on Lincoln Radio Journal

PSATS Executive Director Dave Sanko is one of the featured interviews this week on Lincoln Radio Journal, a weekly half-hour public affairs program on state-related issues heard on internet and 90 plus radio stations in Pennsylvania.

Journal Chairman and CEO Lowman Henry, who is also a supervisor in Lower Paxton Township, Dauphin County, talks to Sanko about gas tax alternatives and the need for local governments to be included in whatever road and bridge funding solutions are decided on going forward. To listen to the interview, [click here](#). Sanko's interview starts at the 3:03-minute mark and ends at the 13:30 mark.

PA Speeds Up Vaccinations: First Responders, Township Officials Before Public

Acting Secretary of Health Beam has announced that Pennsylvania is now fast-tracking vaccination Phases 1B to April 5 and 1C to April 12, which means that eligible individuals can begin scheduling appointments on those dates. All Pennsylvanians over 16 will now be eligible to set appointments beginning April 19.

Certain groups in 1B are eligible to begin setting vaccination appointments **now** including all **law enforcement and volunteer and career firefighters**, as well as grocery store and food and agriculture employees. All other municipal employees and elected officials are part of 1C and are eligible to set appointments beginning April 12. Phase 1C also includes food service employees, transportation and logistics, water and wastewater, finance, energy, legal, public safety, and the news media. [Click here](#) for more.

Beam stated anyone in a prior phase that had not yet received a vaccine will still be able to do so. Vaccinations will be available through pharmacies and hospital provider networks. [Click here](#) for the updated vaccine provider map or call 1-877-724-3258 if you do not have internet access and need to find a provider. [Click here](#) to view Pennsylvania's updated vaccination plan.

Commonwealth COVID-19 Enforcement Slows

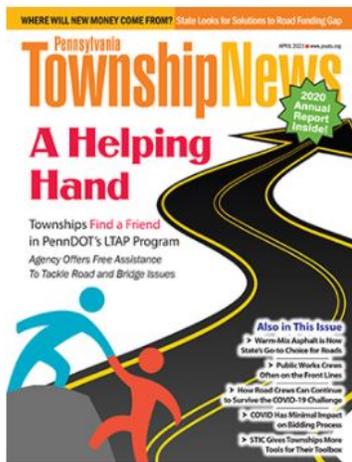
The following state agency reports are for the week of March 22:

[Pa. Department of Agriculture](#): The Bureau of Food Safety performed 720 total inspections, nine of which were the result of COVID-19-

related complaints and received 51 food facility COVID-19-related complaints, 20 of which were referred to local and county health jurisdictions. No restaurants were closed this week. The Department noted in its report that less restrictive measures are scheduled to take effect April 4.

[Pennsylvania State Police](#): Officers issued 50 warnings and 22 violations for failing to follow COVID-19 requirements after visiting 1,021 licensed liquor establishments. The Commonwealth is directing most enforcement activity towards local police departments.

[Pa. Department of State](#): The Bureau of Enforcement and Investigation performed 516 inspections of licensed professions' compliance with COVID-19 mitigation requirements, opened 10 COVID-19-specific investigations, and distributed seven warning letters and two compliance letters.



Digital Version Now Available!

Check Out the Annual Roads Issue of the Township News

In its annual roads issue, the Township News explores PennDOT LTAP resources, warm-mix asphalt technology, bidding during the COVID era, and ways to help your public works crews deal with COVID and other disasters. Additional articles highlight PennDOT's STIC, Agility, and Pathways programs. Finally, meet Sam Cressler, one of PSATS' newest Executive Board members, and see who the winners are of PSATS' 53rd Annual Citizen Communication Contest.

Subscribers to the News can access a digital copy by signing in to www.psats.org and clicking on "Digital Publications" under "My PSATS." Not yet a subscriber? You can check out the free cover article [here](#) and learn how to subscribe to the News [here](#).

Today is APRIL FOOLS' DAY

April Fools' Day on April 1st has long been a day when practical jokes and tricks are played on the unaware. It's a time when children convince their parents they've broken a bone. Parents get in on the planning, too. Classic April Fools' jokes include caramel-covered onions or fake doggy doo-doo in inconvenient places. Businesses launch impractical or unbelievable products for the fun of the day and newspapers print incredible headlines catching readers off guard. Did you find a fake headline today?

Learn

[Flagger Training - 4/28/21 - Crawford 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). [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



[Flagger Training - 4/28/21 - York 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). [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



[Can We Talk? The Three C's for Increased Roadway Safety - Virtual - 4/28/21](#)

This session will focus on motorist and responder safety, including how to clear roads and communicate, coordinate, and cooperate more effectively at emergency scenes. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



[Land Use and Zoning Law Update - Virtual - 4/28/21](#)

Attend this session to learn about significant land use and zoning cases in Pennsylvania and changes and developments in related laws. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



[New PENNVEST Financing Opportunities for Your Water Quality Projects - Virtual - 4/28/21](#)

PENNVEST continues to evolve and improve its funding to support water quality projects and practices. Attend this session to learn about its traditional programs and innovative new methods for funding projects. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



[Unemployment Compensation 101 - Virtual - 4/29/21](#)

Plan to attend this class, which will include a review of the unemployment system, the claims process, and appeals. A mock hearing is planned, too. You'll also learn about the new web-based UC benefit process that was introduced in October 2020. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



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