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April 22, 2021



Township Video News



TVN's Question of the Week | Can We Recruit, Retain with Fire Relief Funds?
Recruiting and retaining volunteers is just one new, permitted use for fire relief funds. The PSATS staff explains the others. Also, [click here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week. (1:22)

Latest News

CFA Accepting Grant Applications for Multimodal Transportation Fund

Starting today, the Commonwealth Financing Authority is accepting grant applications for its Multimodal Transportation Fund **until July 31**. Note this is different than the Multimodal Transportation Fund through the state Department of Transportation.

The CFA Multimodal Transportation Fund provides grants to encourage economic development and ensure that a safe and reliable system of transportation is available to the commonwealth's residents. Funds may be used for the development, rehabilitation, and enhancement of transportation assets to existing communities, streetscape, lighting, sidewalk enhancement, pedestrian safety, connectivity of transportation assets, and transit-oriented development. To see examples of grant awards for this fund, see the grant award article below. [Click here](#) to learn more and apply.

Show Us the Money! Townships Among Recipients for CFA, PennVEST Awards

Yesterday, the Commonwealth Financing Authority and the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority announced grant and loan awards. Many townships are among the recipients. Congratulations!

- The **Commonwealth Financing Authority** approved \$48 million in funding for 116 new projects in 45 counties from the **Multimodal Transportation Fund**. This fund is separate from the Multimodal fund through the state Department of Transportation. Congratulations to the more than 30 townships that were awarded grants! To view the list of awardees, [click here](#) and scroll down to page 14. The new grant awards are highlighted in yellow.
- The **Commonwealth Financing Authority** also approved \$15 million for 135 projects in 38 counties that are **funded by Act 13**. More than 30 townships received awards in the following categories: Flood Mitigation, Greenways, Trails, and Recreation, Sewage Facilities, and Watershed Restoration and Protection. For list of awardees, [click here](#) and scroll down. The new awards are highlighted in yellow. Also, as we reported yesterday, [applications are currently being accepted for the next grant round until May 31](#).
- The **Commonwealth Financing Authority** approved \$4.5 million for five new Pipeline Investment Program projects. While townships were not among the awardees, all five projects extend natural gas service to businesses or business parks within townships. [Click here](#) for more.
- The **PennVEST** announced funding awards of \$117 million in grants and loans to 25 drinking water, wastewater, and non-point source projects across 19 counties. Several townships were among the grant recipients. Funding sources included Growing Greener, Marcellus Legacy Funds, federal grants, and recycled loan repayments. [Click here](#) to view the awards.

Commonwealth COVID-19 Enforcement Slows

The following COVID-19 mitigation enforcement reports were released this week. The state Department of Agriculture did not release an enforcement report.

[Pennsylvania State Police](#): During April 5-15, officers issued 85 warnings and 26 violations for failing to follow COVID-19 requirements after visiting 599 licensed liquor establishments.

[Pa. Department of State](#): For the week of April 11, the Bureau of Enforcement and Investigation performed 457 inspections of licensed professions' compliance with COVID-19 mitigation requirements, opened four COVID-19-specific investigations, and distributed eight warning letters and one compliance letter.

National Teach Your Children to Save Day

Money can be complicated to deal with for those people who don't really know how to handle it. Teaching children how to value the money they have can be an essential life skill that is taught at a very early age! By learning about money, people will be better able to handle their finances from childhood and into adulthood. If children learn the important skill of valuing, using and saving money, they will be ready to face the world!

Teach Your Children to Save Day helps aid this educational prospect by allowing kids to learn new ways of handling and understanding money. And it serves as a

great reminder to parents that it's never too early to get involved with helping children learn about saving.

Legislation & Policy



Both chambers were in session yesterday and are now in recess. The Senate is scheduled to return to session on Tuesday April 27 and the House is scheduled to return on May 3.

Legislation to Extend Tax Deadlines Passes

Yesterday, the Senate passed, and the House concurred on Senate amendments, sending HB 766 to Governor Wolf's desk. HB 766 would provide temporary authorization, during the state of disaster emergency, for the state Department of Revenue and the state Department of Community and Economic Development to extend filing and payment deadlines for state and local income taxes to May 17, 2021, as well as the ability to waive any interest, penalties, and addition to tax for failure to meet the due dates established under current law.

Senate Communication and Technology Committee Approves Broadband Bills

Yesterday, the Senate Communications and Technology Committee approved the following two bills:

SB 341 which would remove regulatory barriers to broadband deployment for landline telecommunications providers by requiring the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission to waive certain regulations, review regulations every three years and eliminate those that are no longer necessary or in the public interest.

SB 442 which would require the state Department of General Services to perform a complete inventory of all state-owned assets for the purpose of deploying broadband in unserved and underserved areas.

SB 341 and SB 442 are before the Senate.

Senate Approves Snow and Ice Removal Legislation

Yesterday, the Senate unanimously approved SB 114 which would require the driver of a motor vehicle to remove accumulated ice or snow from the motor vehicle, including the hood, trunk, and roof. Additionally, when snow or ice is dislodged or falls from a moving vehicle and strikes another vehicle or a pedestrian causing death or serious bodily injury, the operator of the vehicle would be subject to a fine of not less than \$200 nor more than \$1,000 for each offense.

SB 114 is awaiting committee assignment in the House.

House Passes Failure to Receive Tax Notice Legislation

HB 430 would waive the 10% penalty, upon receipt of an affidavit, during the first year of ownership if the new owners did not receive their property tax bill. Property owners would be required to pay the full amount of the property taxes due and present a copy of their deed to prove their date of purchase.

HB 430 is now awaiting committee assignment in the Senate.

Learn

Flagger Training

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 on the below location for more information and to register.

[Flagger Training - 4/23/21 - Cumberland County](#)

[Flagger Training - 4/27/21 - Luzerne County](#)

[Flagger Training - 4/28/21 - Crawford County](#)

[Flagger Training - 4/28/21 - York County](#)

[Flagger Training - 5/4/21 - Lebanon County](#)

[Flagger Training - 5/5/21 - Dauphin County](#)



[Flagger Training - 5/13/21 - Bradford County](#)
[Flagger Training - 5/18/21 - Lancaster County](#)

[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.



[Understanding Your Community's Stormwater Obligations - Virtual - 4/29/21](#)

This program, designed specifically for new township officials, will cover the basics of municipal stormwater management. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



[Technical Assistance Programs Available from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Virtual - 5/4/21](#)

Learn about the technical assistance programs that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has developed to help townships with flooding and water resource management. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



[MS4 Pollutant Control Measures - Virtual - 5/5/21](#)

This session is for MS4 communities that are preparing to address the pollutant control measure phase of their permit. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



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