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April 6, 2021

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## Township Video News



### **TVN's Training Tuesday | Conference Workshops Go Virtual**

No PSATS Conference in 2021? No problem. Our new Virtual Conference Workshop Series will be delivering more than 60 workshops in April and May straight to your home or office. Plus, with our Virtual Conference Workshop Pass, you can learn more and save more. (2:59)

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## Latest News

### **PSATS Welcomes New Premiere Partner to Help with Federal Covid Funding**

PSATS welcomes Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC, an accounting firm, as a new Premiere Partner. ZA will provide discounted pricing to PSATS members for technical assistance relative to the American Recovery Plan recently passed by Congress. This funding, which will come to every municipality in PA, will have restrictions and guidelines attached from the US Treasury Department. ZA will help you know what eligibility standards are as well as assist with compliance reporting.

Last year, ZA advised counties on how to eligibly spend over \$400 million through the CARES Act with none of their clients returning any funds and also no counties having any issues with compliance monitoring from the Commonwealth. And the best news is that their fee is an eligible expense from the federal funding so there is no budget impact to your community! Stay tuned for more details tomorrow!

### **Townships Talk Transportation – Join Us for PSATS' Transportation Town Hall!**

Be sure to join us this Thursday, April 8, at 2:30 pm for a discussion on township transportation challenges and share your input and ideas on cost-saving opportunities, mandate relief requests, and future funding options for transportation. This input is critical to local governments' voices being heard on Gov. Tom Wolf's Transportation Revenue Options Commission, which includes PSATS Executive Director David Sanko as its local government representative. [Click here](#) to register. And remember, you can also offer input by emailing [roads@psats.org](mailto:roads@psats.org). And don't miss our new Transportation Tools page on the PSATS website!

### **CDC Updates Cleaning Guidance**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has updated their guidance for when to clean and when to disinfect and reduces the frequency for disinfection. Due to studies that show that the risk of infection from touching a surface is low, the guidance says that when no individuals with confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19 have been in a facility, cleaning once a day is usually enough to sufficiently remove virus that may be on surfaces. However, if there have been any cases, then disinfection is needed. In addition, disinfection and more frequent cleanings may be needed based on high transmission of COVID-19 in your community, low number of people wearing masks, infrequent hand hygiene, or if the space is occupied by persons at increased risk for severe illness due to COVID-19. [Click here](#) for more.

### **Pennsylvania 811 to Hold Virtual Safety Day**

Pennsylvania One Call will host a **Virtual Safety Day** on **April 21st!** The free virtual event will feature a wide range of training, including partners from LTAP, OSHA, and more. Participants can build a day planner with the sessions they want to attend throughout the day. Take time to explore the exhibit showcase to find valuable resources from event sponsors. [Click here](#) to learn more and to register!

**Certified Host Municipality Inspectors Reimbursement Deadline June 30**

The state Department of Environmental Protection has announced the deadline for the 2020 Host Municipality Inspector Program is June 30. Reimbursements are made to any municipality that has a municipal waste landfill, resource recovery facility, or commercial hazardous waste storage, treatment, and disposal facility.

Applications must be submitted online through [www.esa.dced.state.pa.us](http://www.esa.dced.state.pa.us). Questions should be directed to Laura Henry, Bureau of Waste Management, at [lahenry@pa.gov](mailto:lahenry@pa.gov) or (717) 772-5713. Additional information is also available on the department's website at [www.dep.pa.gov](http://www.dep.pa.gov) by searching for "Host Municipality Inspector."

**National Employee Benefits Day**

National Employee Benefits Day takes place in April each year and recognizes the administrators, personnel, trustees, and advisors who dedicate their services to providing the best benefits packages possible. It's an excellent time to evaluate the value of your benefits package and consider how you've maximized every resource available.

Don't forget to explore the PSATS Trustees Health Trust for healthcare, dental, vision, life and disability options as well as the PSATS Municipal Pension Trust's retirement options like a traditional defined benefit plan or new defined contribution plans like 457 and 401a options. Call (800) 382-1268.

The day provides many resources for benefits professionals to explore the tools and packages available to employees and employers. It's also an opportunity to remain informed about the needs of a variety of employers in a changing world. From short to long-term disability, wellness and nutrition, mental wellness and mindfulness, healthcare and more, the Employee Benefits Day helps these specialists pinpoint areas of service need.

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## Legislation & Policy



The House will be in session today, April 6. Watch session live [here](#).

### **House Passes Tax Sale Pre-Registration Legislation**

Yesterday, the House passed HB 264 which would amend the Real Estate Tax Sale law to create a new provision requiring the pre-registration of potential bidders at a tax sale. Potential bidders would be required to appear at a tax claim bureau to register no less than 10 days prior to any sale at which they wish to bid. HB 264 is now awaiting committee assignment in the Senate.

### **Microenterprise Loan Legislation Passes House**

Yesterday, the House unanimously passed HB 827 which would provide municipalities with the option to create a microenterprise loan program and allow for tax abatement for blighted properties. HB 827 is now awaiting committee assignment in the Senate.

### **Daylight Savings Time Legislation Moves Forward**

Yesterday, the House passed HB 335 which would establish the standard of time in the Commonwealth to be daylight saving time when authorized by the United States Congress to do so. This standard of time would be year-round. HB 335 is now awaiting committee assignment in the Senate.

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## Learn

The education section of the morning news is getting an update. Webinars will be listed every Monday and each PMGA track will get its own day of the week. For full list of webinars and classes please visit <https://learn.psats.org/>.

**[QuickBooks Intermediate - Virtual Class - 3/25 & 4/1 & 4/8/21](#)**

Come learn with us in this three-session virtual training as we discover the benefits of using the Account Payable-A/P and Accounts Receivable-A/R System in QuickBooks. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



**[2021 Solicitors Virtual Spring Seminar - 4/19/21](#)**

This virtual, on-line seminar will cover a wide variety of emerging and important trends and issues vital to the practice of every municipal solicitor. Don't miss this opportunity to hear from experts and network with your peers from around the state. [Click here](#) for agenda and to register.



**[QuickBooks Tips and Tricks - Virtual Class - 4/22 & 29/21](#)**

Join PSATS and your colleagues from around the state for this two-session, newly REVISED virtual class where Diana Patton, who has spent 30 years as a township secretary/treasurer and the last 19 years as a Certified QuickBooks Instructor and Trainer, will show you all the ways you can use QuickBooks to better serve the financial needs of your municipality. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



**[20 Great Policies, Procedures, and Forms - Virtual - 4/26/21](#)**

In this fun and face-paced workshop, you'll learn a variety of interesting policies and procedures -- from common sense to creative -- that are designed to enhance your community's day-to-day operations. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



**[20 Ways to Improve Your Public Meetings - Virtual - 4/26/21](#)**

Learn how to build a better meeting structure, prepare better meeting materials, improve communications with residents, and more! [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



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Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

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