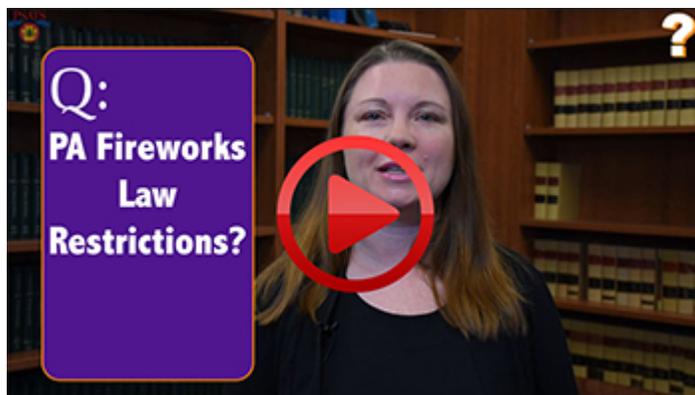


Click [here](#) to view this email in your browser.



June 29, 2021

Township Video News



TVN's Question of the Week | Fireworks Frustration: What Can We Do?

It's not even the Fourth of July, and residents are already complaining about fireworks in their neighborhoods. We explain the options townships have to manage their use. Also, [click here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week. (1:12)

Latest News

Breathe Easier!

While the heat is stifling, there is cause for breathing easier today. The U.S. Treasury granted a 30-day extension to the Commonwealth of PA for ARP distributions. While there is now additional time to complete your application, it is still a good idea to do so sooner rather than later. Those who have completed the DCED application will be getting funds deposited in your account over the next few weeks. All communities with a population under 50,000 must apply to DCED. Communities with a population over 50,000 must apply directly to U.S. Treasury. Be careful of scams...neither application requires ANY personal information like social security numbers.

PennDOT Invites Private Sector to Submit Qualifications on P3 Bridge Tolling Candidates

The state Department of Transportation is [inviting the private sector to submit their qualifications](#) to compete for the opportunity to enter into a public-private partnership to administer its Major Bridge Public-Private Partnership (P3) Initiative. The initiative would fund the reconstruction or replacement of the identified bridges through tolling.

While interested vendors have **until August 5** to submit their qualifications and interest, PennDOT has not yet identified which, if any, of the identified bridges will be chosen for a final P3 contract. The bridges under consideration and study for the initiative include the following:

- [I-78 Lenhartsville Bridge Replacement Project](#) (Berks County);
- [I-79 Widening, Bridges and Bridgeville Interchange Reconfiguration](#) (Allegheny County);
- [I-80 Canoe Creek Bridges](#) (Clarion County);
- [I-80 Nescopeck Creek Bridges](#) (Luzerne County);
- [I-80 North Fork Bridges Project](#) (Jefferson County);
- [I-80 Over Lehigh River Bridge Project](#) (Luzerne and Carbon counties);
- [I-81 Susquehanna Project](#) (Susquehanna County);
- [I-83 South Bridge Project](#) (Dauphin County); and
- [I-95 Girard Point Bridge Improvement Project](#) (Philadelphia County).

PennDOT's announcement was met with anger by some legislators, such as the chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee, [Sen. Wayne Langerholc](#), who feel that the announcement is the wrong move right after the close of budget negotiations. Langerholc sponsored legislation to terminate the P3 Bridge Tolling initiative, which passed the Senate and is pending in the House.

See Your Township in the 2022 PSATS Calendar!

Township public works crews operate year-round, and we'd like to see your crew in action. Get creative and show us the many ways that your public works crew keeps your township running smoothly throughout the year.

For example, you could send photos of your crew:

- repairing or resurfacing roads;
- cleaning out ditches;
- mowing along roads or in parks;
- plowing snow or spreading salt and antiskid;
- sprucing up playgrounds, benches, pavilions, or other park amenities;
- working on a sewer project;
- sweeping streets or collecting leaves;
- processing yard waste at a composting facility;
- repairing or replacing a bridge or culvert;
- repairing or maintaining equipment; or
- any of the many other tasks public works crews perform.

To reproduce well in print, photos must have a resolution of at least **300 dpi** at a size of **4 inches x 6 inches**. Photos taken with a smartphone are fine but be sure to send them to us as “actual size” to ensure full resolution. Photos should be in color.

Email photos as jpeg attachments to kacri@psats.org by **September 17, 2021**. Provide your name, position, township, county, and daytime telephone number. Identify everyone in the photo left to right, their titles or roles, and a brief description of what they’re doing in the photo.

USDA Seeks Organizations to Provide Rural Homeowners with Water and Septic Loans

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is seeking qualified organizations to create loans to help rural homeowners finance household water systems. Funds are being made available under the [Rural Decentralized Water Systems Grant program](#). Through this program, USDA awards grants to qualified nonprofit lending institutions to provide affordable loans to homeowners who need new household water systems or new or repaired septic systems. **The deadline for interested organizations to apply is July 19.**

Additionally, lending institutions can now use funds to provide grants to homeowners who earn less than 60 percent of area median income. These changes are expected to greatly increase the number of households that can participate in the program, providing safe, clean water throughout rural America.

Eligible applicants are required to provide 10 percent matching funds. **Please direct questions about this opportunity to the contact listed in the [USDA announcement](#).**

This Day in History....

On June 29, 1995, the American space shuttle Atlantis docks with the Russian space station Mir to form the largest man-made satellite ever to orbit the Earth. This historic moment of cooperation between former rival space programs was also the 100th human space mission in American history.

Learn

PSATS educational events will be listed as follows: Mondays – All webinars; Tuesdays – Administrative; Wednesdays – Planning/Zoning; Thursdays – Public Works; Fridays – Public Safety.

[PSATS Regional Forums](#)

“PSATS Live” is back, and we’re going on the road again with our ever-popular Regional Forums at a location near you starting in July in Erie and running through November in Wilkes-Barre. We have all-new content and a one-day-only format now. Be sure to sign up for the one closest to you!



PSATS Northwest 2021 Regional Forum - 7/20/21 - Erie
PSATS Lehigh Valley 2021 Regional Forum - 7/28/21 - Breinigsville
PSATS Northcentral 2021 Regional Forum - 8/5/21 - Williamsport
PSATS Southcentral 2021 Regional Forum - 8/17/21 - Grantville
PSATS Southwest 2021 Regional Forum - 8/24/21 - Canonsburg
PSATS Southeast 2021 Regional Forum - 10/27/21 - Exton
PSATS Northeast 2021 Regional Forum - 11/10/21 - Wilkes-Barre

Developing Your Township Budget

This class will provide proven and effective methods and techniques to help new and veteran township supervisors, secretaries, treasurers, managers, road masters and public works officials develop budgets that work.



[8/5/21 - Butler Co.](#)
[8/6/21 - Crawford Co.](#)
[8/12/21 - Montgomery Co.](#)
[8/13/21 - Lancaster Co.](#)
[8/19/21 - Bradford Co.](#)
[8/24/21 - Cumberland Co.](#)

[2021 PSATS HR & Labor Management Institute - 9/23-24/21](#)

This day and a half class is a must-attend for anyone who has responsibility for HR and personnel management in their township.



2021 Solicitors Fall Seminar

In the Solicitors Fall Seminar learn from experts on a wide variety of topics critical to the practice of a municipal solicitor.

[9/28/21 - West](#)

[10/7/21 - Central](#)

[11/4/21 - East](#)



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

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