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June 7, 2021

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## Latest News

### **Join PSATS Today for Town Hall on ARP Application Process and What Comes Next**

Join staff from PSATS and the state Department of Community and Economic Development in a Virtual Town Hall **today at 1:30 p.m.** “ARP Update: Application and More” will provide an overview of the application process, what happens if your township doesn’t apply, and next steps. Learn about how the five-day “registration deadline” is **NOT a HARD deadline**. Be on the lookout for a new target date. [Click here](#) to register!

### **DCED Releases Statement on Deadline for ARP Application**

On Friday, Ted Martin, deputy director for the state Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) released the following statement on the application deadline for non-entitlement communities, or NEUs (*municipalities with populations of less than 50,000*), for American Rescue Plan funding.

“DCED has received many questions and concerns regarding its recommendation that NEUs request their funding through the commonwealth within five days of receiving the email blast we sent out on Wednesday, June 2. To be clear, this is not a hard deadline. NEUs that submit after that suggested time frame will still be able to receive their funds.

“The reason why we recommended that NEUs request their funding as soon as possible is because the U.S. Department of Treasury is requiring all states to disburse the local ARPA funding within 30 days of receipt, which occurred right after Memorial Day. Given the internal processing required at DCED to approve the

requests, as well as the extremely large volume of requests we expect to receive, the sooner that NEUs can get in their request to DCED, the more smoothly we will be able to process the requests and ensure we meet Treasury's 30-day deadline to disburse the funds.

"Treasury is considering extension requests beyond the 30-day deadline, but given that an extension is not guaranteed, we are working as quickly as possible to ensure all NEUs receive their funds. Therefore, we still strongly recommend that NEUs request their funding as quickly as possible."

### **Pa. COVID-19 Cases, Hospitalizations, Deaths Continue to Decline**

COVID case counts decreased for the seventh week in a row, with 4,317 new cases of COVID-19 reported last week, 32% less than the prior week. Only six counties had more cases. The statewide COVID-19 total case count now stands at 1,205,692. Pennsylvania's new case rates are now comparable to the lows reached in August 2020, and the state has dropped to the 22nd highest growth in cases per 100,000. Wyoming, Colorado, and Washington now make up the top three.

For the seventh week in a row, the [number of COVID-19 hospitalizations in Pennsylvania](#) has decreased from 1,028 to 767, a 25% decrease. 180 of these patients are in an ICU, down from 257 the prior week. The number of COVID-19 patients on a ventilator statewide decreased from 139 to 101.

Deaths attributed to COVID-19 in Pennsylvania decreased this week for the second week in a row. 151 deaths were reported this week, 13% less than in the previous week. Total deaths in Pennsylvania have reached 27,354.

Pennsylvania's statewide percent-positivity rate has decreased for the seventh week in a row, from 3.8% to 2.9% and the third week in a row below 5%. 59 counties now have rates less than 5% (*up from 39 last week*), 11 counties have rates of 5% to less than 10% (*down from 26 last week*), and one county had rates of 10% to less than 20% (*down from two last week*). [Click here](#) for more county-specific information.

[Click here](#) for Saturday's edition of the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*

### **PUC Damage Prevention Committee Releases Agenda for Upcoming Meeting**

The agenda for the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission's Damage Prevention Committee is available [for its June 8 meeting](#), which will be held virtually. The committee reviews alleged violations of the Pennsylvania One Call Law and determines the appropriate response, including warning letters, mandatory training, or fines. The incidents on the agenda occurred in June and July of 2019. To learn more, [click here](#).

The committee has also released the [latest enforcement actions](#) taken against facility owners, excavators, and project owners at its May meeting.

### **On This Day in History**

On June 7, 1942, the [Battle of Midway](#)—one of the most decisive U.S. victories in its war against Japan (WWII)—comes to an end. In the four-day sea and air battle, the outnumbered U.S. Pacific Fleet succeeded in destroying four Japanese aircraft carriers with the loss of only one of its own, the *Yorktown*, thus reversing the tide

against the previously invincible Japanese navy.

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## Legislation & Policy



The House and Senate are scheduled to return to session today, June 7. Watch session live [here](#).

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## Learn

PSATS educational events will be listed as follows: Mondays – All webinars; Tuesdays – Administrative; Wednesdays – Planning/Zoning; Thursdays – Public Works; Fridays – Public Safety. Click on the title of the class for more information and to register.

### **[Webinar - Your Personal Financial Foundation - Session 1 - 6/7/21](#)**

Managing your personal budget can help you cover expenses with less stress, more easily pay down longer-term debt like a school loan or mortgage and save for future financial goals.



**[Webinar - Get on Point with 3D Laser Scanning in Your Municipalities - 6/9/21](#)**

This webinar will explore the 3D Laser Scanner equipment and software, application usages, and the advantages of this digital surveying technology method.



**[Webinar - PSATS Insurance Benefits Workshop - 6/10/21](#)**

This workshop provides details on medical, dental, vision, life and short-term disability plans offered through PSATS and how it benefits you and your employees to participate.



**[Webinar - Red Flags of Fraud in the Workplace - 6/16/21](#)**

During this session, we will discuss the “Fraud Triangle” and review ways you can identify and detect fraud within your organization.



**[Webinar - Roadside Safety Features - 6/23/21](#)**

This webinar will discuss safety concepts and how to keep vehicles on the road through pavement marking, guide rails, signs and road surface improvements.



**[Webinar - Traffic Calming - 6/30/21](#)**

This webinar introduces traffic calming - an engineering tool that municipalities can use to address these requests and concerns.



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