



Morning News

July 30, 2021

Latest News

Transportation Funding Report....a Buffet of Options

After 5 months of meeting the TROC Report (Transportation Revenue Options Commission) will be released today offering a variety of options for the Governor and Legislature to consider to fund future shortfalls in transportation funding. PSATS Executive Director David Sanko was on the Commission representing municipal governments which are responsible for nearly two thirds of the linear road miles in PA. The inclusion of local government in the final report was not part of the Governor's Executive order charging the commission with tasks. The current \$3.9 billion local shortfall grows to over \$5 billion in the next 10 years. Novel revenue options to be shared with locals include a package delivery fee that recognizes that all the amazon (and other) delivery vans are on local roads more than interstates (first and last mile of any trip). Check back here in the Morning News on Monday for more details of the funding options or watch your weekend news.

Fraudsters Use Stolen Identity Information for Unemployment Claims

The Pennsylvania State Police remind Pennsylvanians to be vigilant of fraud, watch for warning signs and steps to take if they become a victim.

Across the nation, fraudsters have been applying for unemployment benefits using stolen identities obtained in data breaches that occurred. More than 11,000 data breaches have caused the exposure of more than 1.6 billion records in the United States in recent years. Many individuals whose personal data was leaked during these breaches are unaware until a fraudster uses their identity to apply for unemployment benefits and they receive notification that a benefits application has been filed in their name. Other swindles include fraudulent credit card and home mortgage title theft. Pennsylvania's unemployment fraud was even higher given the

rollout of a new computer system which was also an attractive target for fraudsters.

If you find unemployment fraud, contact the Department of Labor & Industry as well as your local police or State Police. For questions or complaints about a financial transaction, company, or other product, contact the Department of Banking and Securities at 1-800-PA-BANKS or use the [online complaint form](#).

Prevalence of Ticks in Pennsylvania Is High

The state Department of Environmental Protection has collected twice the number of black-legged tick nymphs as compared to this time last year. This is especially concerning considering the extremely small, poppy seed-like size of the nymphs.

Remember these simple ways to reduce your chances of being bitten by ticks.

- Cover exposed skin with lightweight and light-colored clothing.
- Avoid tick-infested habitats such as areas dense with shrubbery or tall grass. (*Editor's Note: Tough in PA given all the "green!"*)
- Use an EPA-approved insect repellent.
- Once returning home, immediately check yourself, children, and pets for ticks;
- Take a shower immediately to remove ticks that may be crawling on your skin.
- When possible, dry clothing and gear in a dryer to kill any ticks.

[Click here](#) for more information on ticks and tick-borne diseases in Pennsylvania.

Be sure to join us in Hershey for PSATS' 2021 Business Meeting, which takes place in just 12 weeks! [Click here](#) to learn more! Registration opens Monday, August 2!

Today in History.....

On July 30, 1956, two years after pushing to have the phrase "under God" inserted into the pledge of allegiance, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signs a law officially declaring "In God We Trust" to be the nation's official motto. The law, P.L. 84-140, also mandated that the phrase be printed on all American paper currency. The phrase had been placed on U.S. coins since the Civil War.

Learn

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

Emergency Management Fall Exercise Forum

This full-day class is designed for everyone responsible for your municipality's emergency management program, including elected officials, municipal managers, road crew/public works personnel, and, most importantly, local emergency management coordinators (EMCs).

[10/28/21 – PSATS \(Cumberland Co.\)](#)

[11/4/21 – West \(Washington Co.\)](#)

[11/9/21 – East \(Montgomery Co.\)](#)

[11/18/21 – Central \(Centre Co.\)](#)



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

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