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October 13, 2021

Latest News

PFBC Accepting Municipal Applications for Boating Facility Grant Program

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is offering Boating Facility Grants to help communities capitalize on the surge in new boating activity. Townships and other municipalities may apply for these grants, as well as certain nonprofits, **by December 30, 2021.**

The program is designed to help local governments and nonprofits improve public recreation boat access facilities in their communities that are open and available for general use. Applications will be accepted from anywhere in Pennsylvania, however special consideration will be given to projects that provide boating access in the Delaware River watershed. [Click here](#) for more information.

No Surprise, Labor Report Shows Employees Quitting, Hires Slowing

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics released the national jobs report for August, which shows that 2.9% of the labor force quite their jobs in August., the highest rate in 20 years. This was highest in accommodations and food services, which saw 203,000 people leave their jobs in August. Meanwhile, new job openings decreased, including health care and social assistance, and accommodation and food services. [Click here](#) for more.

Today in History.....

On October 13, 1914, The U.S. Patent Office granted Garrett A Morgan patent No. US71569712A for a breathing hood. The invention was designed to protect firefighters as they entered smoke and flame engulfed buildings and led to some of the first gas masks used in World War I and II.

Legislation & Policy



PSATS Testifies on Public Safety Authority Legislation

Yesterday, PSATS First Vice President Andrew J. Boni, supervisor in Perry Township, Fayette County, testified before the Senate Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee. The testimony was on SB 698, which would create countywide public safety authorities for the administration of fire and emergency services. Boni raised questions about how the authority would operate and made suggestions for changes. He noted that police services are not included in the legislation. Boni argued that the PSATS cannot agree to legislation that only authorizes a county authority or requires a minimum number of municipalities. Instead, options for emergency services need to be flexible and allow for creativity. Boni suggested that the legislature should consider giving municipalities the ability to charge fees to pay for EMS and fire services, not just an authority.

[Click here](#) to read the testimony.

Learn

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

2021 PAAZO Fall Seminar

In the PAAZO Fall Seminar, learn from experts on a wide variety of topics pertinent to your duties as a municipal Zoning official. Specific agenda items will be updated when finalized.

[2021 PAAZO Fall Seminar - 10/19/21 - Central](#)

[2021 PAAZO Fall Seminar -11/9/21 - East](#)

[2021 PAAZO Virtual Fall Seminar -10/21/21](#)

In the PAAZO Virtual Fall Seminar, learn from experts on a wide variety of topics pertinent to your duties as a municipal zoning official.



[PSATS Zoning Academy - 12/7-9/21](#)

The PSATS Zoning Academy is a multi-day class that is focused on providing attendees with a foundational understanding of all important aspects of zoning in Pennsylvania. This class will greatly benefit newer zoning officials, those looking to become zoning officials and municipal officials and employees seeking a better understanding of zoning's impact on municipal operations.



[The Code Officials Guide to Zoning - Virtual Class - 1/18/22](#)

The 90-minute online course provides a comprehensive overview of current zoning issues and problems as they inter-relate to the UCC. Topics include: overview of the MPC, zoning requirements and difficulties, responsibilities of BCOs to meet and manage zoning challenges, permit issuance and enforcement conflicts, violation letter requirements and templates, and legal issues in zoning.



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