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November 9, 2021

Township Video News



TVN's Special Feature | When will we all be together again?

The PSATS 2022 Annual Conference and Trade Show is on the schedule for next spring! Mark your calendars for April 24-27, 2022, to be TOGETHER AGAIN at the Hershey Lodge! The PSATS Annual Conference and Trade Show is a four-day event filled with networking opportunities, educational workshops, vendor exhibits, and more. Our PSATS members are excited to share what they've missed most over the past two years and what new members can expect from attending. We are looking forward to seeing all our new and returning members at the conference this spring when we can all be together again once more, so mark your calendars for April 24-27, 2022!

Latest News

Municipalities Impacted by Ida Have Extra Time to Apply

Municipalities in counties that have had federal approval for disaster relief have a few extra weeks to apply. This includes townships in Bedford, Bucks, Chester, Dauphin, Delaware, Fulton, Huntingdon, Luzerne, Montgomery, Philadelphia, Schuylkill, and York Counties. Federal funding reimburses up to 75% of eligible costs, including repairs to damaged roads and bridges, expenses for debris management, emergency sheltering of displaced individuals, equipment rentals, and materials. State funding has been made available to offset the remaining 25%.

“We want to make sure that every applicant has sufficient time to get the assistance that they’re entitled to,” Gov. Tom Wolf said.

Here are the new deadlines, which are staggered because counties received their eligibility on different dates. The deadlines are as follows:

- Dec. 7: Bucks, Chester, and Montgomery
- Dec. 13: Bedford, Fulton, Huntingdon, Luzerne, Philadelphia, Schuylkill, and York
- Dec. 19: Dauphin and Delaware

[Click here](#) for more.

PennDOT Accepting Public Comment on Bridge Tolling Proposals

The state Department of Transportation is currently accepting comments on the following proposed bridge reconstruction and tolling projects as part of the Major Bridge Public-Private Partnership (P3). If you have comments or concerns on any of these projects, you are encouraged to submit comments online. Comments are due as follows:

- [I-78 Lenhartsville Bridge Replacement Project](#) (Berks County): November 24
- [I-80 Canoe Creek Bridges](#) (Clarion County): December 1
- [I-80 Nescopeck Creek Bridges](#) (Luzerne County): December 15
- [I-80 North Fork Bridges Project](#) (Jefferson County): December 22
- [I-80 Over Lehigh River Bridge Project](#) (Luzerne and Carbon counties): December 17
- [I-81 Susquehanna Project](#) (Susquehanna County): December 8
- [I-83 South Bridge Project](#) (Dauphin County): November 24

To submit comments, click on the bridge links above and scroll to the bottom of the page to provide your thoughts and concerns on the project. [Click here](#) to learn more

about these proposed projects.

Rural Policy Summit Slated on Local Services and Collaborative Efforts

The Center for Rural Pennsylvania will hold its 2021 Rural Policy Summit: Local Services and Collaborative Efforts tomorrow, November 10, at 9 a.m.

“Our local communities are the foundation of our great commonwealth,” says Dr. Kyle C. Kopko, director of the Center for Rural Pennsylvania. “Their success is everyone’s success. This Rural Policy Summit will be a virtual, roundtable discussion where panelists from local government and economic development agencies will talk about the work their communities are doing to remain economically and socially vibrant. They will share their successes and the challenges they face in implementing services and responding to the needs of their communities.” to learn more. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Today in History....

On November 9, 1965, one of the biggest power failures in history occurs as all of New York state, portions of seven neighboring states, and parts of eastern Canada are plunged into darkness. The Great Northeast Blackout began at the height of rush hour, delaying millions of commuters, trapping 800,000 people in New York’s subways, and stranding thousands more in office buildings, elevators, and trains. Ten thousand National Guardsmen and 5,000 off-duty policemen were called into service.

Legislation & Policy



The House and Senate will be in session today, November 9. Watch the session live [here](#).

The Senate Health and Human Services Committee reported out [SB 471](#), which would prohibit the commonwealth or its municipalities from mandating vaccinations for individuals or requiring vaccinations as a condition for employment. PSATS member policy says townships should have the ability to retain local control and

exercise local options to best protect their employees and ensure the safe delivery of services.

The Senate adopted [SR 53](#), which directs the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to study the state Department of Transportation’s highway maintenance funding and how it is distributed and issue a report within 12 months.

[SB 849](#) was unanimously approved by the Senate. The bill would amend the Veterans Preference Act to require service members to complete their first term of service with “other than a dishonorable discharge.”

Learn

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

[QuickBooks Year-End Reports - Virtual Training - Rescheduled to 12/2/21](#)

In this virtual class, you will learn how to print W-2s and 1099s and file all year-end taxes and reports with the Internal Revenue Service and state agencies.



[PSATS Boot Camp for Township Officials](#)

This three-day event was created just for you — *newly elected (or veteran) supervisors, other newly elected officials, and new secretaries/managers*. Learn the everyday tasks to running a municipality, explore the tools and resources available to help you do your job successfully, and experience real-life scenarios through discussion with experienced PSATS members. [Click here](#) for dates/locations and to register.



[The ABCs for Elected Auditors - Virtual Class - 1/20/22](#)

In this virtual class, you will learn about the responsibilities of elected auditors under the Second Class Township Code, the nuts and bolts of conducting a thorough audit of the township's finances, how to best navigate DCED's online financial reporting requirements, and ways to ensure a healthy working relationship between the elected auditors and the township.



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