

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



December 15, 2021

Latest News

U.S. Treasury Releases New Portal, User's Guide, for ARP Reports

Township officials should look for an email from the U.S. Treasury that describes how to access the Treasury Portal through Login.gov, which townships with populations of less than 50,000, known as non-entitlement units (NEUs), will use to file required reports for the American Rescue Plan funds. The first report is due April 30, 2022.

To learn how to access the Treasury Portal through Login.gov, [click here](#). Note that Login.gov is the same site that is used to login to SAM.gov and the federal CDL Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse. To view the new user's guide for NEUs, which describes how to set accounts, assign reporting roles, and provide required documentation on the use of the funds, [click here](#). Watch for upcoming information on a webinar that will be provided by Treasury on the portal.

Vaccination Update After One Full Year

Pennsylvania recorded its first doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine administered in the state Dec. 14, 2020. On the one-year anniversary of those first shots, more than 19.26 million first, second, additional and booster shots have been administered. The rate of complete vaccinations varies among Pennsylvania's 67 counties, from 28.3% in Fulton County to 71.8% in Montour County.

Today in History...

On December 15, 1791, after 27 months and the ratification by the state of Virginia, the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution, known collectively as the Bill of Rights, become the law of the land.

In September 1789, the first Congress of the United States approved 12 amendments to the U.S. Constitution and sent them to the states for ratification. The amendments were designed to protect the basic rights of U.S. citizens, guaranteeing the freedom of speech, press, assembly, and exercise of religion; the right to fair legal procedure and to bear arms; and that powers not delegated to the federal government would be reserved for the states and the people.

Legislation & Policy



The State House and Senate will be in session in Harrisburg today, December 15, before breaking for the holidays. Both chambers will return to session as constitutionally required on January 4, 2022. Watch session live [here](#).

In Washington D.C. news...After both the House and Senate (along party line votes) approved raising the country's borrowing limit by 2.5 trillion (the bill now goes to President Biden for signature, the House went home for the year while the Senate continues to work on the House passed social spending plan. Left unfinished by the House was a 98-2 passed senate bill that would have allowed more flexibility for local governments in the usage of the American Rescue Plan funding (ARP). (Thanks to Senators Casey and Toomey for supporting this flexibility for local governments.) Among other things it would have allowed usage on roads and bridges as well as up to 30% for general fund expenses. The Speaker offered no timeline when, or if, this will be brought to a vote.

Learn

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

[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.



Duties of a Zoning Hearing Board

Topics to be covered include procedures for deciding variances and special exceptions, handling hearing-related questions, Ethics Act requirements and much more.

[2/22/22 - Chester County](#)

[3/3/22 - Butler County](#)

[3/8/22 - Cumberland County](#)



[Duties of a Zoning Hearing Board - 3/15/22 - Virtual Class](#)

Topics to be covered include procedures for deciding variances and special exceptions, handling hearing-related questions, Ethics Act requirements and much more.



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

David M. Sanko, Executive Director

4855 Woodland Drive
Enola, PA 17025