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December 7, 2021

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## Township Video News



### **TVN's Training Tuesday | December is filled with educational events!**

Now is the time to register for upcoming PSATS classes and sessions! Our three-part Boot Camp Training begins this month in 15 locations across the state with essential lessons for any new or returning township supervisor or staff member, and to prepare them for the Organization Meeting on January 3, 2022! Today (Dec. 7) is the first day of PSATS' 2021 Zoning Academy! If you missed this one, there'll be another in 2022! Lastly, don't forget to use your Webinar PowerPass and check out the December sessions on unemployment compensation and the Right-to-Know law. All PSATS training and upcoming educational information is published in the Township News magazine and in our daily digital newsletter of Morning News!

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## Latest News

### **PA is one of 6 States with Snow Plow Driver Problems**

As snow looms in the forecast this week, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation has been trying to fill hundreds of snow plow driver positions across the state to prepare for the upcoming winter weather. In a “robbing Peter to pay Paul moment”, PennDot CDL lists of municipal workers have been solicited in recent months for school bus drivers as well as plow drivers.

Currently, PennDOT has filled 40 percent of the 695 temporary operator positions and 93 percent of their permanent operator jobs, according to agency spokeswoman Alexis Campbell.

PennDOT, like other organizations looking to hire professional truck drivers with commercial licenses, has seen a steady decline in applicants in recent years, Campbell said.

Crews might get a hint of how their current staffing works out Wednesday when light snow is expected in the morning. Accumulation is expected to be about an inch, so it won't be much of a test. The impact of staffing in fact will hinge largely on the amount of snow that falls in the Commonwealth this year and where and when.

Pennsylvania is one of six states facing a major drop in plow drivers for the upcoming winter, [according to AccuWeather.com](#).

### **Sunoco Required to Restore Lake at Marsh Creek State Park**

The state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources has reached a settlement with Sunoco Pipeline, L.P., requiring the company to dredge a section of the 535-acre lake at Marsh Creek State Park in Chester County and pay \$4 million for natural resource damage and a \$341,000 civil penalty for permit violations. The settlement is a result of drilling fluids and mud that were discharged into the lake in August 2020. [Click here](#) for more.

### **Planning for Traffic Calming - Free PennDOT Connects Drop-In**

Traffic calming is a useful tool for controlling and reducing the speed of traffic on local roadways. This webinar will discuss the methods your community can implement to properly plan for traffic calming, reduce speeds on local streets, and enhance the walkability of your community. Key methods include developing a traffic calming policy, collecting data/conducting studies, addressing roadway design standards, and following PennDOT/national guidelines for traffic calming devices. [Register Today](#).

To learn more about the free PennDOT Connects Municipal Resources, [click here](#).

### **Today in History.....**

On December 7, 1942, at 7:55 a.m. Hawaii time, a Japanese dive bomber bearing

the red symbol of the Rising Sun of Japan on its wings appears out of the clouds above the island of Oahu. A swarm of 360 Japanese warplanes followed, descending on the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor in a ferocious assault. With diplomatic negotiations with Japan breaking down, President Franklin D. Roosevelt and his advisers knew that an imminent Japanese attack was probable, but nothing had been done to increase security at the important naval base at Pearl Harbor. It was Sunday morning, and many military personnel had been given passes to attend religious services off base. At 7:02 a.m., two radar operators spotted large groups of aircraft in flight toward the island from the north, but, with a flight of B-17s expected from the United States at the time, they were told to sound no alarm. Thus, the Japanese air assault came as a devastating surprise to the naval base and drew the United States irrevocably into World War II. 2,300 Americans were killed that morning.

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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.

### **[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.



**[2021 Solicitors Virtual Fall Seminar - 12/15/21](#)**

In the Solicitors Virtual Fall Seminar learn from experts on a wide variety of topics critical to the practice of a municipal solicitor.



**[2022 PSATS HR & Labor Management Institute - Virtual - 1/12/22](#)**

This virtual full-day offering is a must-attend for anyone who has responsibility for HR and personnel management in their township.



**[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.



**[Basic "Virtual" Training for Secretaries and Administrators - Jan. 27 & Feb. 3, 2022](#)**

This virtual training class will be offered in two half-day sessions. This is your opportunity to learn from acknowledged experts about all the most important issues township secretaries and managers need to know, right from the comfort of your desk. Topics covered will range from budgeting, purchasing, advertising and meeting management all the way to human resource issues and public engagement.



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