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January 7, 2022

Latest News

U.S. Treasury Releases Final ARP Rule

The U.S. Department of the Treasury has released the final rule for the American Rescue Plan funds. The nearly 500-page rule broadens the allowable uses of the funds. While the final rule does not take effect until April 1, 2022, and applies to the second reporting cycle, local governments may take advantage of the new rules now if it will benefit them.

Of note, the final rule includes a simplified lost revenue provision that gives each local government a \$10 million standard allowance for lost revenues. This means that the first \$10 million of your ARP dollars can be spent on nearly anything that would normally be paid for from your general fund, including roads and bridges. No townships received more than \$10 million so there is wide flexibility.

In comments to Treasury in July, PSATS urged the agency to simplify rulemaking and expand the allowable uses. PSATS will provide more details next week as we digest the extensive new rulemaking and will hold a town hall on the final rule in the near future.

In the meantime, Treasury is holding a series of webinars on the final rule, beginning today:

- January 7, 2022, at 1 p.m. ET; [register here](#). This webinar will be recorded and shared within a few business days.
- January 10, 2022, at 4 p.m. ET; [register here](#).
- January 12, 2022, at 1 p.m. ET; [register here](#).

To view the new rule and many other documents about it and the implementation of the final rule, [click here](#).

State Farm Show Comes to Town...With Traditional Snow!

The PA Farm Show formally has come to town and is accompanied by traditional farm show weather. Snow arrived over much of PA last night with 4-6 inches in southcentral PA. Freezing rain on Sunday and bitter cold temperatures next week will await travelers to the annual event. The butter sculpture was unveiled yesterday, and opening ceremonies will be conducted tomorrow outdoors at the facility.

Today in History...

On January 7, 1953, In his final State of the Union address before Congress, President Harry S. Truman tells the world that that the United States has developed a hydrogen bomb.

It was just three years earlier on January 31, 1950, that Truman publicly announced that he had directed the Atomic Energy Commission to proceed with the development of the hydrogen bomb. Truman's directive came in response to evidence of an atomic explosion occurring within USSR in 1949.

Learn

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

[Webinar - How to Handle Claims under the Heart and Lung Act - 2/2/22](#)

Many public employers do not understand their rights and liabilities under the Heart and Lung Act. As the result, improper benefits are provided and municipalities expend significant costs that may have been avoided.



[2022 Emergency Management Spring Educational Forum - 4/24/22](#)

Join your EMC colleagues from around the state at this highly-interactive session, and hear informative presentations from local and state emergency management personnel and hear the latest news and information from PEMA and TEMA.



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