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March 3, 2022

Township Video News



TVN's Question of the Week | Why have liquid fuels funds decreased in recent years?

Find out more information about the decrease in liquid fuels funds and where the money comes from. The deadline for claiming 2021 liquid fuels tax refunds is March 31, 2022. Also, [click here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week.

Latest News

LBFC Extends Deadline for Lawsuit Survey

Townships that have not already done so now have a few more days (until March 11) to complete a critical survey that could help provide the data necessary to keep lawsuits and liability insurance from getting even more expensive for all townships. Due to a Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision, the state legislature must determine how the current caps on local and state government lawsuits should be increased, expanded, or adjusted ... or the court will do so. As part of this, the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee is studying the impact of lawsuits on local governments and what would happen if the current \$500,000 cap on damages were to be increased. Although only a very few extreme cases would suggest increasing the cap, everyone's insurance costs will go up. **Insurance premiums would be the newest unfunded mandate, and we need your participation in this survey to show that any increase can push communities closer to fiscal distress.**

Your input is central to this report. By taking a few minutes to complete this anonymous online survey, you can help ensure that any increases are as moderate as possible and based on real data. [Click here](#) to respond to the survey, which is extended until **March 11**. Thank you to the townships that have already completed this survey!

Large-Scale Solar Webinar Offered March 15

Penn State Extension is offering a free webinar for local officials to discuss concerns and answer questions related to utility-scale solar energy systems, environmental positives and negatives, and local ordinances dealing with solar energy. The webinar will be held **March 15** at noon. To learn more or register, [click here](#).

Backyard Stream Repair Series Aimed at Property Owners Offered

Landowners with a stream on their property, or anyone interested in streambank repair, can benefit from a live, five-part webinar series offered by Penn State Extension in March, beginning March 15. The program is aimed at owners of smaller properties and will present a step-by-step approach to simple and affordable backyard stream repair, with no permits needed. The program promotes the use of riparian buffers or streamside forests as a sustainable and cost-effective way to help absorb runoff and prevent pollution of the stream. [Click here](#) to learn more. Registration is required by March 11 and there is a \$30 fee for this series.

Learn more about Active Transportation Planning

PennDOT Connects Introduction to Active Transportation: This drop-in will introduce you to the important concepts for active transportation. To have success with active transportation planning, we need to first understand what it is and which nonmotorized transportation modes should we plan for. The drop-in also will emphasize the various benefits of active transportation such as health, equity and safety, as well as the vulnerable users who could benefit the most from active transportation. March 10, 2022, Noon to 1 p.m. [Click here](#) to register.

Today in History....

On March 3, 1931, President Herbert Hoover signs a congressional act making “The Star-Spangled Banner” the official national anthem of the United States.

On September 14, 1814, Francis Scott Key composed the lyrics to “The Star-Spangled Banner” after witnessing the massive overnight British bombardment of Fort McHenry in Maryland during the War of 1812. Key, an American lawyer, watched the siege while under detainment on a British ship and penned the famous words after observing with awe that Fort McHenry’s flag survived the 1,800-bomb assault.

Learn

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

Flagger Training

This instructor-led Flagger Training will be conducted for individuals who have flagging responsibilities on ANY ROAD OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. Others who would benefit from this course include: utility companies working on low volume roads, law enforcement personnel, municipal managers and elected officials (to understand the importance, and for budgeting purposes).

[4/11/22 - Greene County](#)

[4/12/21 - Bedford County](#)

[4/27/22 - Pike County](#)

[5/3/22 - Chester County](#)

[5/17/22 - Northumberland County](#)



[2022 Engineers Spring Seminar - 4/25 & 4/26, 2022](#)

The 2022 Spring Township Engineers Seminar is a 2 half-day event. Each morning's agenda includes important issues of interest to municipal engineers and their local government clients taught by knowledgeable and respected subject matter experts.



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

David M. Sanko, Executive Director
4855 Woodland Drive
Enola, PA 17025



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