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March 9, 2022

PSATS 2022 Educational Conference & Exhibit Show



2022 Parade of Flags | What's on Your Flag? Episode 2: The Creative Process

What's on Your Flag? Well, that's the question! PSATS Executive Director Dave Sanko shares his artistic process and some other tips to show off your township pride at this year's conference.

Latest News

48 Hours to Deadline for Critical Lawsuit Survey

Townships have 48 hours to complete a critical survey that could help keep lawsuits and liability insurance from getting more expensive for 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 a result, 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 would 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 by **March 11**. Thank you to the townships that have already completed this survey!

Sign-up for COSTARS Salt Contract by March 15

COSTARS' 2022-2023 Statewide Contract for Sodium Chloride (Road Salt) is available. Interested townships can view the guidelines and submit a contract request on the [COSTARS member webpage](#) on the member information page. The submission deadline for participating in the contract is **March 15**.

New ARP Spending Option

While many had hoped to use ARP money to move forward and fund needed projects, or even future expansion efforts, some communities are now rethinking their options to consider using the funds to cover the extraordinary price hikes, delivery delays and ever-increasing fuel costs brought on by record setting inflation, supply chain issues and energy shortages. This will allow communities to continue moving forward on limited budgets without forcing layoffs, draconian service cuts or tax increases to make up the differences in the short term. Local governments, like families, have to make ends meet with available resources.

Today in History.....

On March 9, 1985, the first-ever Adopt-a-Highway sign is erected on Texas's Highway 69. The highway was adopted by the Tyler Civitan Club, which committed to picking up trash along a designated two-mile stretch of the road.

PSATS' 2022 Annual Educational Conference and Exhibit Show opens in just seven weeks! Don't miss out ... [click here](#) to learn more and register today!

Learn

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

[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.



[Fundamentals of Zoning – The Why and How of Zoning - Virtual Class - 3/22/22](#)

The workshop is intended to educate both the newest supervisors and the ones who have seen it all. We will discuss the legal roles of supervisors and others, zoning hearings (including conditional uses), and several other important aspects of zoning ordinances that are often overlooked or misunderstood.



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

This educational forum explores issues that zoning officers and planning and zoning officials face on a regular basis, and discusses effective strategies to address them.



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

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