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May 2, 2022

Latest News

U.S. DOT Holding Webinar Today on New Discretionary Grants

The U.S. Department of Transportation will hold a webinar this afternoon from 1 to 3 p.m. to help interested communities learn about the new Safe Streets and Roads for All Program. This is a new discretionary grant program, part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and is about to open. [Click here](#) to learn more or to register for today's webinar.

Reminder: Townships Encouraged to Approve America250PA Resolution

America250PA was formed to celebrate the 250th birthday of the United States in 2026 and Pennsylvania's leading role in commemorating this event. Join the celebration by approving a sample commemorative resolution (*should you choose*). [Click here](#) for a copy of the commemorative America250PA resolution.

Any township that approves the resolution before May 15, 2022, will be invited to a large kickoff party around Memorial Day this year. Please act now so you can be included.

Please send approved resolutions to your state senator and representative, as well as PSATS Policy & Research Analyst Katie Lizza at klizza@psats.org or mail a copy to PSATS, 4855 Woodland Drive, Enola, PA 17025. Ask your county to join you in supporting this celebration. Learn more at www.America250PA.org!

Today in History.....

On May 2, 1933, the Loch Ness Monster is first sighted and made local news. The newspaper *Inverness Courier* relates an account of a local couple who claim to have seen "an enormous animal rolling and plunging on the surface." The story of the "monster" (a moniker chosen by the *Courier* editor) becomes a media

phenomenon, with London newspapers sending correspondents to Scotland and a circus offering a 20,000 pound sterling reward for capture of the beast.

Amateur investigators have for decades kept an almost constant vigil, and in the 1960s several British universities launched sonar expeditions to the lake. Nothing conclusive was found, but in each expedition the sonar operators detected some type of large, moving underwater objects. In 1975, another expedition combined sonar and underwater photography in Loch Ness. A photo resulted that, after enhancement, appeared to show what vaguely resembled the giant flipper of an aquatic animal.

[Click here](#) for this week's *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

Learn

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

[Webinar - What Your EMC Wants You to Know - 5/4/22](#)

In order for any organization to be effective in emergency situations, leaders need to understand the role filled by each employee during an incident. In municipal government, the Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) plays a key role in preparedness for, mitigation of, response to, and recovery from all types of emergency incidents including weather events, infrastructure failure, and beyond.



[Webinar - Managing Roadside Trees - 5/11/22](#)

This webinar will cover a wide variety of roadside tree-related issues faced by townships. The topics will include pruning roadside trees (and who is responsible for doing so), evaluating roadside trees for their potential to fail and hit roads or structures, utility pruning, selecting and planting new roadside trees, finding qualified contractors to work on trees, and creating tree committees under the Second Class Township Code.



[Webinar - Townships, HOAs and Stormwater BMPs - 5/12/22](#)

This webinar is designed to provide participants with strategies for ensuring that their Homeowner Associations (HOAs) maintain post-construction stormwater management practices, including tips for educating HOAs on the importance of stormwater management facility operation and maintenance; considerations for municipal acceptance of facilities; facility tracking and inspection; and identifying owners and responsibility.



[Webinar - Utilizing Industrial Development Authorities for Municipal Infrastructure Projects - 5/18/22](#)

Many infrastructure projects are undertaken through municipal authorities which have been organized for just that purpose-to assist local governments and community development. These projects include sewer, sewer systems and sewage treatment works, and water supply and distribution systems.



[Webinar - Communication - Getting Your Message Right - 5/19/22](#)

Municipal constituents, partners, and other stakeholders are bombarded with communications every day. How do you ensure that your message really reaches the people who need to see it when they need it? This presentation will explore the facets of communication that need to be considered and will touch on the best methods of communication for common types of messages.



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