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August 15, 2022

Latest News

Step One For Better Broadband Connectivity in PA

With the latest influx of funding, The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is collecting broadband information from consumers to create updated maps that display fixed and mobile broadband availability, as well as lack of access. Township officials and their residents are encouraged to participate and **tell the FCC about their access or lack of access**. These maps will drive broadband funding.

Consumers can share their broadband experience by [filling out a short form](#) detailing their lack of connectivity and uploading supporting documents. If you have trouble filing out the webform, you can call 888-225-5322. (Editor's note: only the federal government would ask you to upload forms to document you don't have internet connectivity...use the phone!)

For those with service, The FCC has a Speed Test app available that can be downloaded and run to demonstrate actual broadband speeds for both mobile and in-home broadband networks. In addition to showing your network performance test results, the app also provides the test results to the FCC as part of its [Measuring Broadband America Program](#). [Click here](#) to learn more and to participate.

Office of Open Records Hosts Training

The Office of Open Records is hosting a "Payment Issues and the RTKL" webinar on August 17 at 10 a.m. Many open records officers and administrators don't understand the rules and dynamics behind how payments affect the Right-to-Know Law process. This session will go into detail on the subject and attempt to shed some light on how to use the payment aspects to ensure the agency is in compliance, while managing difficult requests. [Click here](#) to learn more and for information on how to participate.

Today in History....

On August 15, 1899, in Detroit, Michigan, Henry Ford resigns his position as chief engineer at the Edison Illuminating Company's main plant in order to concentrate on automobile production. As chief engineer at Edison, he was charged with keeping the city's electricity flowing and was on call 24 hours a day, with no regular working hours. He turned down a considerable salary offer of \$1,900 per year and the title of general superintendent to become mechanical superintendent of the new auto company, with a salary of \$150 per month.

Learn

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

[Tactics & Controls To Uncover Fraud In Your Municipality - 8/17/22](#)

This webinar will team an investigator and a CPA with experience in financial fraud examinations and forensic fraud methods to help municipal officials learn about common internal fraud schemes, as well as how to recognize weak internal systems and develop controls to prevent fraud by those who are entrusted with the finances of the municipality and its agencies.



[Making Inter-Municipal Stormwater Management Work For You - 8/25/22](#)

This webinar will provide an overview of inter-municipal collaborative arrangements that have been used in Pennsylvania and have yielded efficiencies and cost savings.



[Background Screening: Reducing Liability & Maximizing Culture - 9/8/22](#)

In this webinar, Chad Bruckner of Intercounty Investigations & Solutions will review what constitutes a proper employee background screening process, the problems that arise if you don't conduct proper background screening, and the benefits of a quality screening process, including how it positively impacts your municipality's culture and performance.



[Taking Charge: Using Conservatorship To Eliminate Blight - 9/14/22](#)

This webinar will introduce participants to the process of conservatorship, how to evaluate if a property fits the qualifications, and how to bring a property from blight to blessing in just one year.



[Municipal Policing Potpourri - 9/21/22](#)

If your township has a police department, contracts with another department for police services, or is part of a regional police department, you will want to attend this webinar to get caught up on all of the recent laws, as well as proposed legislation, affecting municipal police departments.



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