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September 1, 2022

Township Video News



TVN's Question of the Week | What is a capital reserve fund?

In this week's Q&A, Katie goes over how a capital reserve fund can be used according to the Second Class Township Code. Also, [click here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week.

Latest News

September is National Preparedness Month...Sign Up for Updates!

September is National Preparedness Month (NPM) and this year's theme is, "The life you've built is worth protecting. Prepare for disasters to create a lasting legacy for you and your family." PEMA will be holding a press briefing this Friday to kick off National Preparedness Month and wanted to share the attached materials with you.

Below are some easy ways to share this information with your communities!

- Sign up for the Ready, Set, Check! card and receive helpful tips and planning tools: ready.pa.gov/NPM
- Encourage your constituents to sign up for the Ready, Set, Check! card. You can post the following message (with the attached graphic) on social media or forward the message.

(Copy and paste the following)

September is National Preparedness Month! Sign up for your Ready, Set, Check! card to get prepared now!

Here's how to participate. It's easy!

✓ Learn about #NPM & sign up for the Ready, Set, Check! card ready.pa.gov/NPM

✓ At the end of the month, complete a short survey to be entered to win a preparedness starter kit which includes the Emergency Preparedness Guide and wind up/solar weather radio/phone charger.

- Share the flyer with your partners or make it available on your social media and website.

DEP Declares Drought Watch for 36 Counties

The state Department of Environmental Protection has declared a drought watch for 36 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties and is asking for voluntary water conservation in the affected areas. The following counties are on drought watch: Berks, Bradford, Bucks, Cameron, Carbon, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Dauphin, Delaware, Juniata, Lackawanna, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, McKean, Mifflin, Monroe, Montgomery, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Philadelphia, Pike, Potter, Schuylkill, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Wayne, and Wyoming.

Residents on drought watch are asked to reduce their individual water use by 5% to 10% or three to six gallons of water per day. Water suppliers in these counties are being notified of the need to monitor their supplies and prepare to update their drought contingency plans. [View DEP's drought map](#) online. [Learn how DEP determines drought conditions and water conservation suggestions.](#)

DCNR Proposes Rulemaking to Conserve PA Native Wild Plants

The state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) is proposing to amend [17 Pa. Code Ch. 45](#) Conservation Of Pennsylvania Native Wild Plants, to make changes to plant classification lists. These classification lists include plants determined to be extirpated, endangered, threatened, rare, or tentatively undetermined.

The proposed updates to the list of classified plants include:

- 30 plants being removed from the list;
- 24 plants being added to the list;
- 22 plants moving from a lower classification to a higher one; and
- 6 plants moving from a higher classification to a lower one.

“Many people don’t realize that there are many more species of plants in the world than there are animals,” DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn said. “Pennsylvania is home to about 3,000 plant species -- about two-thirds of those are considered native to the commonwealth, and 349 of them are currently listed as rare, threatened, or endangered.”

DCNR is accepting public comment on the proposed regulations until September 26. Comments can be submitted via email to RA-Ch45WildPlant@pa.gov. Click here [to view the proposed regulation](#). Click here [to view the press release about the regulation](#).

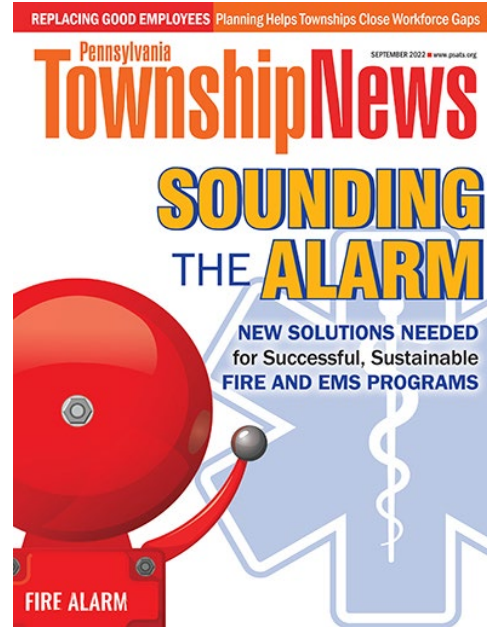
The proposed amendments will be incorporated into the [Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory](#) (PNDI). The PNDI is a database of native wild plant and native rare wildlife classifications from the Game Commission, the Fish and Boat Commission, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

PNDI is the primary tool used by the state Department of Environmental Protection during permit processes for the protection of threatened and endangered plant species. This proposed rulemaking will result in updates to the plant data in PNDI but will not affect DEP’s permitting process. DCNR contends that its proposed rulemaking will remove more species from classifications than it adds, potentially leading to fewer classified plant species for prospective DEP permit applicants.

Digital Edition Now Available!

Township News Looks at the Fire and EMS Crisis

Fire and emergency medical services agencies are facing multiple challenges, from a lack of recruits to inadequate funding. In the September cover story, the *News* looks at how townships are helping their public safety providers find sustainable solutions to these challenges. This month's issue also includes the second installment of our three-part series on employer best practices and articles on the value of stormwater fees and emergency planning.



The September edition also includes a new digital-only bonus feature!

Subscribers to the *News* can access a digital copy by signing in to psats.org and clicking on "Digital Publications" under "My PSATS." Not yet a subscriber? Check out the [free cover article](#) and learn how to subscribe to the [News](#).

PennDOT Connects Drop-In: Aligning Your Ordinances, Policies, and Codes with Your Active Transportation Plan (ATP)

In addition to developing your Active Transportation Plan (ATP), your community will also need to review the ordinances and policies that will support active transportation goals. This could include roadway design standards in your SALDO, sidewalk design and maintenance ordinances, and many other issues. Having ATP design, maintenance, and other factors built into ordinances will facilitate implementation and achievement of your ATP goals. Click [here](#) to register.

PSATS wants YOU to be a part of the Association's 2023 calendar!

PSATS' annual calendars have been so popular that we're doing it again!

Show off your township by sending us photos to illustrate the calendar pages.

WHAT: PSATS 2023 Calendar

THEME: Township parks and recreation

PHOTO SUGGESTIONS:

It's summer camp and program season so it's the perfect time to get photos of your parks and recreation programs and facilities. Here are some photo ideas:

- exercise or dance programs for kids or adults;
- day camps and children's programs;
- robotics, engineering, and other STEM activities;
- playgrounds and pavilions;
- basketball, tennis, and pickleball courts;
- soccer, baseball, and football fields;

- passive recreation spaces;
- painting, drawing, and other art classes;
- inclusive or accessible playgrounds or amenities;
- swimming pools, splash pads, or other water-related facilities;
- senior citizen programs;
- hike/bike trails; or
- other parks and recreation programs your township may have.

Note: Photos should show people using parks and rec facilities, rather than empty playgrounds, ball fields, etc.

REQUIREMENTS

- To reproduce well in print, photos must have a resolution of at least **300 dpi at a size of 4 inches x 6 inches.**
- Please email photos as **jpeg attachments** to KAcri@psats.org by **September 16, 2022.**
- Make sure to provide your name and position, township and county, and a daytime phone number.

SNAP some photos,
SEND 'em to PSATS, and
SHOW OFF your township in the 2023 calendar!

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.

- [9/12/22 - Cambria County](#)
- [9/26/22 - Venango County](#)
- [9/28/22 - Montour County](#)
- [10/4/22 - Erie County](#)
- [10/24/22 - Potter County](#)
- [11/1/22 - Union County](#)
- [11/2/22 - Clinton County](#)
- [11/8/22 - Bradford County](#)
- [11/9/22 - Cumberland County](#)
- [11/15/22 - Centre County](#)



Stormwater 101

This half-day, in-person, introductory class will educate you on the basics of municipal stormwater management, including the effects of stormwater runoff, the impacts of new development and redevelopment within your municipality, and best practices that your municipality can implement to efficiently manage stormwater without breaking your budget.

[9/9/22 - Crawford County](#)
[9/23/22 - VIRTUAL CLASS](#)



CDL - Probable Cause Training For CDL Supervisory Personnel

Participants will learn what to do if they suspect or verify that a CDL employee is under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol while on duty.

[9/27/22 - Cumberland County](#)
[10/12/22 - Bucks County](#)
[10/19/22 - Butler County](#)
[11/18/22 - Berks County](#)



CMV/CDL Records Management

This workshop will review CMV/CDL employee and vehicle paperwork.

[9/27/22 - Cumberland County](#)
[10/12/22 - Bucks County](#)
[10/19/22 - Butler County](#)
[11/18/22 - Berks County](#)



[2022 PSATS Fall Engineers Virtual Seminar - 10/27/22](#)

This full-day virtual seminar is designed to meet the educational interests and busy schedules of consulting engineers by providing a focused overview of important issues of interest to municipal engineers and their local government clients.



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors
David M. Sanko, Executive Director
4855 Woodland Drive
Enola, PA 17025