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October 17, 2022

Latest News

FEMA 2022 Non-Disaster Mitigation Grants Available; Letter of Interest Due 10/19

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has opened Federal Fiscal Year 2022 Non-Disaster Mitigation Grants. Townships are eligible to apply for funding through PEMA as a sub-recipient of the state. The application window for townships closes November 16.

To start the grant application process, townships MUST submit the required [Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency \(PEMA\) Letter of Interest](#) by **Wednesday, October 19, 2022.** Questions regarding this opportunity may be sent to RA-Shazmitoff@pa.gov (PA State Hazard Mitigation Office). See below for additional information on these programs:

The [Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities](#) (BRIC) program focuses on reducing or eliminating risk and damage from future natural disasters, risks, and hazards, including those associated with climate change. BRIC funds may be used for capability and capacity building activities and mitigation projects. For additional information, eligibility requirements, and application processes, please visit [FEMA's website](#) on applying for BRIC funding and refer to FEMA's [BRIC Fact Sheet](#).

The [Flood Mitigation Assistance](#) (FMA) program will have \$800 million (up from \$160 million last year) available nationally. FMA funds may be used for projects that reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings insured by the National Flood Insurance Program including: project scoping, technical assistance, community flood mitigation projects, and individual structure/property-level flood mitigation projects. For additional information, eligibility requirements, and application processes, please visit [FEMA's website](#) on applying for FMA funding.

11 More Participate in Local Climate Action Program

The state Department of Environmental Protection recently announced the start of its 2022-2023 Local Climate Action Program (LCAP), which communities can use to measure local greenhouse gas emissions and make plans to reduce the risks of climate change and extreme weather events. 64 other entities have participated in the history of the program. Several townships are individually participating in the program this year, including Doylestown Township, Bucks County, and East Fallowfield Township, Chester County.

The program provides training and assistance from college students to measure emissions and develop plans to reduce emissions and climate change risks. Click here [for the press release](#).

Today in History....

On October 17, 1974, Benji, a film about a stray dog who helps rescue several kidnapped children, opened in theaters; it would go on to become a family classic. Written and directed by Joe Camp, Benji starred a mutt named Higgins, who had been rescued as a puppy from a California animal shelter and went on to appear in the 1960s TV series Petticoat Junction and the 1971 movie Mooch Goes to Hollywood, with Zsa Zsa Gabor.

Legislation & Policy



The Senate will be in session today, October 17. The Senate has only six session days remaining before the general election. The House will return on October 24 for its final session week before the general election. Any bills that don't make it to the governor by the end of the current session will "die" and would need to be reintroduced in the 2023-2024 session, which begins in January. Watch today's session live [here](#).

Learn

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

[How To Spot And Avoid An Ethics Act Violation - 10/19/22](#)

Mary Fox, the Ethics Commission's Executive Director, will cover conflicts of interest, voting conflicts, statements of interest, requesting advisory opinions, and much more, as well as provide tips for how your municipality can best avoid finding itself in the unwanted spotlight due to an Ethics Act issue.

[Preparing Your Township For Winter Maintenance - 10/26/22](#)

In this webinar, township elected officials and staff will learn about how they can best position their townships to tackle the many issues that arise from winter maintenance of township roads.

[Using Drones For Emergency Management - 11/2/22](#)

Drones, or unmanned aerial systems (AES), are becoming a large part of public safety operations. As this trend continues, township officials and emergency managers need to understand the capabilities and strategies for UAS use for emergencies.

[Streamlining Municipal Code Enforcement With GIS/Automation - 11/9/22](#)

This webinar will demonstrate how municipalities are using simple, user-friendly GIS-based solutions to make municipal operations, such as code enforcement, more streamlined, automated, and efficient.

[What Township Records Are Confidential? - 11/16/22](#)

In this webinar, Tricia Springer, an experienced practitioner before the Office of Open Records, will provide the latest insight into what is confidential and what cannot be considered confidential in the workplace.



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