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October 18, 2022

Township Video News



TVN's Coffee and the Capitol | Brandon Carson, Exec. Director of the Pa. Broadband Authority

PSATS Director of Government Relations Joe Gerdes chats with Executive Director Brandon Carson of the Pennsylvania Broadband Authority about how the organization is securing federal and state funds for broadband expansion projects in the commonwealth.

Latest News

Another Budget Reminder...2023 Estimated Liquid Fuels Rates Available

Townships should have recently received notification from the state Department of Transportation about your township's estimated liquid fuels distribution for 2023. The 2023 distribution is estimated to be about 1% more than the 2022 actual distribution. The amount per mile is estimated to be \$3,148.1179 and the amount per capita is estimated to be \$17.7084.

DEP Lifts Drought Watch for 16 Counties

The state Department of Environmental Protection has lifted a drought watch for 16 counties, while a drought watch remains in effect for 20 counties. Drought watch has been lifted for Berks, Bradford, Bucks, Delaware, Lackawanna, Lehigh, McKean, Monroe, Montgomery, Philadelphia, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wayne, and Wyoming counties. The following counties remain on drought watch: Cameron, Carbon, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Dauphin, Juniata, Lebanon, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Potter, Schuylkill, Snyder, and Union counties.

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.](#) [Click here](#) for the press release.

Reminder: Broadband Funds Available Through USDA ReConnect Program Round 4

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is accepting applications for funding high-speed internet expansion in rural areas under the [ReConnect Program](#), which received new funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Townships are eligible to apply directly or support a providers' application. This program will award up to \$150 million in loans, up to \$300 million in loan/grant combinations, and up to \$700 million in grants. The deadline is November 2.

To be eligible for ReConnect Program funding, applicants must serve an area where high-speed internet service is not available at speeds of 100 Mbps (download) and 20 Mbps (upload). Applicants must also commit to building facilities capable of providing high-speed internet service at speeds of 100 Mbps (download and upload) and will be required to apply to participate in the Affordable Connectivity program.

For more information, including an application guide, frequently asked questions document, and recorded webinar, head to the USDA's [webpage on the ReConnect Program](#).

Today in History....

On October 18, 1867, the U.S. formally took possession of Alaska after purchasing the territory from Russia for \$7.2 million, or less than two cents an acre. Indigenous

people settled the unforgiving territory thousands of years earlier. The Alaska purchase comprised 586,412 square miles, about twice the size of Texas, and was championed by William Henry Seward, the enthusiastically expansionist secretary of state under President Andrew Johnson.

Legislative & Policy



Yesterday, the Senate met in non-voting session. Now there are 5 days left. The Senate will be in voting session today, October 18. 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.

QUICKBOOKS

[Payroll With QuickBooks - Virtual Class - 10/20/22](#)
[Intermediate QuickBooks - Virtual Class - 11/9 & 11/10/22](#)
[QuickBooks Year-End Reports - Virtual Class - 12/15/22](#)



[PSATS 2022 Regional Forums](#)

This series of full-day educational sessions is scheduled for multiple locations statewide. Learn more about issues that matter to your community, discuss common interests with other local leaders, earn PMGA and other professional credits, and attend specialized workshops designed for township officials. This educational event will be the perfect opportunity to hear from experts on the **local issues** that matter to you and your municipality.



PSATS Centre Regional 2022 Regional Forum - 10/25/22 - State College
PSATS Lehigh Valley 2022 Regional Forum - 11/1/22 - Allentown

[Click here for more information and to register](#)

Human Resources And Labor Management Institute

This class is a must-attend for anyone who has responsibility for HR and personnel management in their township. In this seminar, the team from Eckert Seamans will detail what to expect in human resources and labor relations.



[10/27/22 - Allegheny County](#)
[11/15/22 - Montgomery County](#)
[12/5/22 - Lycoming County](#)

2022 PSATS Fall Solicitors Seminar

This seminar will cover a wide variety of emerging and important trends and issues vital to the practice of every municipal solicitor.



[10/20/22 - Virtual](#)
[11/10/22 - Montgomery County](#)

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