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October 31, 2022

Latest News

PSATS Urges Governor to Sign Fire/EMS Bills

PSATS has sent letters to Governor Tom Wolf urging him to sign into law a couple bills that will assist municipalities in providing more stable fire and EMS services. The first bill allows for jr. firefighters, while the second provides additional financial opportunities to public safety service providers for Fire and EMS. [Click here](#) to see the letters.

Digital Edition Now Available!

Winter Weather Best Practices to Keep Roads and Residents Safe

Roadway snow and ice removal has always been a key responsibility of township leadership. Ensuring that your winter maintenance team understands and can use the latest snow removal equipment, materials, and procedures can help make roads safer and winter operations more efficient. This month's edition also includes features on the value of a PSATS membership, tips to ensure your annual organization meeting runs smoothly, and how townships can assist employees with planning for retirement.

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*.

RACP Grant Awards Released

The Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program has released the project awards for the 2022 round. Several townships received funding in this grant round. The RACP is a grant program administered by the Office of the Budget for the acquisition and construction of regional economic, cultural, civic, recreational, and historical improvement projects. RACP projects are authorized in the

commonwealth's capital budget, have a regional or multi-jurisdictional impact, and generate or maintain employment, tax revenues, or other measures of economic activity. To view the projects that were funded, and all submitted projects, [click here](#) and scroll down.

Reminder: \$310 Million in New Water, Sewer, and Stormwater Grant Funding Available

Act 54 of 2022 appropriated \$205.4 million of commonwealth American Rescue Plan Act funds to the H2O PA – Water Supply, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Water Projects Program and \$105.6 million to the Pa. Small Water and Sewer Program. Applications for both programs are being accepted until **December 21**. All applications must be submitted online through DCED's [Single Application for Assistance](#).

Eligible projects include the acquisition, construction, improvement, expansion, or rehabilitation of all or part of a water supply, sewage disposal, or stormwater system. An eligible project also includes consolidation or regionalization of two or more water supply systems, sewage disposal systems, or stormwater systems that are managed or operated as an integrated system.

Funding under the [H2O PA – Water Supply, Sanitary Sewer and Storm Water Projects Program](#) is available for projects with a total cost between \$500,000 and \$20 million. Matching funds of not less than 50% of the amount awarded are required.

Funding under the [PA Small Water and Sewer Program](#) is available for projects with a total cost between \$30,000 and \$500,000. Matching funds of not less than 15% of the total eligible project cost are required.

Submit Your Entries for PSATS' Annual Citizen Communication Contest!

Attention, township officials and staff! Enter your outstanding printed or electronic newsletter, brochures or other publications, website, social media, or audiovisual communication efforts in PSATS' 2023 Citizen Communication Contest. The deadline for entries is **December 1**.

Any member township that has produced a publication or other medium to communicate with its residents is eligible for the contest. Publications must have been produced between November 30, 2021, and December 1, 2022. For each piece you enter, send three copies (along with three copies of the cover letter) to PSATS, Citizen Communication Contest, 4855 Woodland Drive, Enola, PA 17025-1291. The cover letter must indicate the township population and which category you are entering. Townships may enter more than one category. Complete guidelines can be found at <https://www.psats.org/citizen-communication-contest/>.

Show off your best communications by entering today!

Today in History.....

On October 31, 1941, When the money ran out, work stopped on the giant sculpture started by Gutzon Borglum at Mount Rushmore. Even though Borglum's designs included a more complete sculpture, the mountain sculpture in the Black

Hills of South Dakota remains unchanged since this date. Apparently, there was a time when federal projects did not overspend!

Learn

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

[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.



[Working Your Way Through The Second Class Township Code - 11/30/22](#)

Do you struggle with finding answers in the Second Class Township Code? Or, do you wonder if your township's practices actually match up with the law's requirements? Through this webinar, which will be set in a fun, game-style setting, you will become more comfortable with the Second Class Township Code and how it is organized and at the same time learn some new, or possibly forgotten, key aspects that will help you do your job in a more efficient and accurate manner.



**Implementing A Residential Conservation
Development Ordinance - 12/7/22**

This webinar presentation demonstrates the preparation and implementation of a Conservation Residential Development Ordinance that has been proven in a Township/as it transitions from Rural to Suburban.



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