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January 18, 2023

Latest News

Be Sure to Make the Most of Your Township's Webinar PowerPass!

If your township purchased PSATS' 2023 Webinar PowerPass, all township officials (including volunteer board and commission members) and employees may access any PSATS webinar – live or on-demand – held in 2023 at no charge. To register for webinars, go to learn.psats.org. The normal member cost for webinars is \$30, but Webinar PowerPass members' registrations will show no charge.

Shapiro, Davis Take Office

Gov. Josh Shapiro and Lt. Gov. Austin Davis were sworn into office yesterday. The ceremonies and inaugural address can be [viewed here](#).

PA Adopts New PFAS Limits for Drinking Water

The Environmental Quality Board (EQB) published notice in the [January 14, 2023, edition of the PA Bulletin](#) of an amendment to [Title 25, Chapter 109](#) of the PA Code relating to safe drinking water. This amendment sets maximum contaminant level goals and maximum contaminant levels for perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in drinking water.

Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) and Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) are members of the chemical group called PFAS. These are human-made chemicals that do not occur naturally in the environment. These chemicals are often known for use in surface protection products (including cookware treatments), food packaging materials, and some foam firefighting materials.

The new maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for PFOA and PFOS are 14 ng/L

(ppt) and 18 ng/L (ppt), respectively, considerably lower than the current 2016 EPA health advisory level of 70 ng/L (ppt). While EPA has begun the process of [setting more stringent standards](#) for PFOA and PFOS in drinking water, the federal rulemaking is expected to take years to complete.

Until then, these new levels will apply to all water systems in the commonwealth. Initial compliance monitoring for community water systems serving more than 350 persons will begin January 1, 2024; initial monitoring for community water systems serving less than or equal to 350 persons will begin January 1, 2025.

Townships that own water systems should plan for additional expenses related to water testing and potentially higher cleanup costs if contaminant levels exceed the MCLs provided to comply with the new standard. More information and updates as they become available may be found on DEP's [PFAS MCL Rule website](#).

Legislative News



The Pennsylvania Senate will return to Harrisburg today.

Click here to [watch today's session live](#).

Learn

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



[Fundamentals Of Zoning – The Why And How Of Zoning - 3/15/23 - Cumberland County](#)

This workshop explains why we have zoning, how we implement it, and the tools it affords townships to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare. The workshop is intended to educate both the newest supervisors and the ones who have seen it all.



[2023 PAAZO Spring Seminar - 4/23/23 - Dauphin County](#)

This educational seminar explores issues that zoning officers and planning/zoning officials face on a regular basis, and discusses effective strategies to address them.

Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

David M. Sanko, Executive Director
4855 Woodland Drive
Enola, PA 17025