



February 2009

Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs

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PSAB Update

From the Desk of the Director of Communications

Renewals for The Employment Alliance of Municipalities (TEAM) will be mailed out shortly. TEAM is a PSAB program that offers legal assistance on municipal labor issues. If you have questions, please contact Deb Janney, Assistant Director of Membership & Programs, at 800-232-7722 ext.25 or djanney@boroughs.org.

2009 Annual Conference

PSAB's 98th Annual Conference is March 22-25, 2009 at the Hershey Lodge. Note – There will be NO June Conference. Networking and educational opportunities include: 84 Exhibits, Keynote Speaker Broadcast Journalist Judy Woodruff, Attorney General Thomas Corbett, over 18 sessions on current topics of interest, an afternoon at the Capitol, an evening at the Antique Auto Museum and a banquet with entertainment by the Kenny i Orchestra.

Don't forget the Conference deadlines - **February 23** for housing; **March 2** for the PSAB registration price increase; and **March 9** for the Voting Delegate Form.

Need more information or have questions? Contact Mary Weller, Director of Conferences & Meetings, at 800-232-7722 ext. 26 or visit our website at www.boroughs.org/conferences

Upcoming Training Opportunities

Webinars

February 17 – Media Relations

March 12 – Internet Issues

March 5 & 26 – New Record & Retention Disposition Schedule

How to Plan a Festival or Special Event

April – Crawford County, Beaver County, Westmoreland County

Marketing Your Municipality

February/April – Dauphin County, Montgomery County, Butler County

For specific details visit the Training page at www.boroughs.org/training or contact Terri Dickow, Assistant Director of Education & Meetings at 800-232-7722 ext.42 or tdickow@boroughs.org.

New Records Retention Schedule Available

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission wishes to provide notice that a new edition of the Municipal Records Manual has been approved by the Local Government Records Committee at its December 16, 2008 meeting. The Manual is available for downloading on the Commission's web site, www.phmc.state.pa.us under Records Management. Please send any questions or concerns to RA-LocalGovernment@state.pa.us or call 717-787-3913. Make a New Year's "resolution" to adopt the new schedule as the cornerstone of your borough's records management program.

Community Assistance Web Site

In December, Governor Edward Rendell launched www.heretohelp.pa.gov, a new online resource for Pennsylvanians. The Web site allows citizens to find the resources they need through existing government programs to help make ends meet during these difficult economic times. The Here to Help Web site includes information on employment, family services, veterans' services, housing, seniors, economic development, and education. If you or someone you know needs assistance in any of these areas, please visit www.heretohelp.pa.gov to explore the online tools and programs that exist to help you find a job, cope with heating expenses, apply for health and human services and more.

Assistance to Firefighters Grants Information

The Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program Office has posted the schedule for the conduct of applicant workshops for the FY2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG). The schedule is available at www.firegrantsupport.com. The schedule will be updated *daily* with any new/updated information about the scheduled workshops. As such, users are encouraged to revisit the site to update themselves on locations, times and any other AFG information. Applicant workshops are conducted by AFG regional staff and are free to all attendees. Each workshop is about 2 hours long. All workshops provide the same informational material and is reflected in a PowerPoint presentation. The material is also posted at the AFG website: www.firegrantsupport.com. While the application period has not been established, you will be able to find the latest information on the grant opportunity on the AFG website as it becomes available including the application period, the online applicant tutorial, frequently asked questions, and the FY2009 AFG Program Guidance.

Water Resources Grants Available

The Water Resources Education Network (WREN) has funding available up to \$5,000 to help launch community projects. Eligible projects include watershed education projects that build awareness and educate Pennsylvania citizens about their role as environmental stewards to protect, improve, or remediate local watersheds from the impacts of polluted runoff or nonpoint source pollution. Priority is given to projects that incorporate social marketing concepts and encourage individual or public policy action that will protect and improve local water resources. Deadline for submission is April 3. The application is available for download at <http://wren.palwv.org/grants/local.html>.