



March 2010

Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs

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PSAB Update

2010 Annual Conference

The 99th Annual Conference is quickly approaching. Sessions scheduled for the April 25-28 event include, issues for small boroughs, parliamentary procedure, the impact of ADA changes, abandoned property reclamation and rental property ordinance development. For additional information, visit www.boroughs.org/conferences. Watch your mail for details. For questions, contact Mary Weller, Director of Conferences & Meetings, at 800-232-7722 ext.26.

Upcoming Webinars

Mayor & Council Relations: Their Roles and Responsibilities – March 9
The New Economy Checkup – March 11
Pavement Management – March 23
Sewer Maintenance – March 30

Police Civil Service Training

Westmoreland Co. – April 7
Beaver Co. – April 8
Lancaster Co. – April 14
Luzerne Co. – May 4
Lehigh Co. – May 5
Montgomery Co. – May 6

For more dates and details, visit www.classes.boroughs.org or contact Terri Dickow, Assistant Director of Education & Meetings, at 800-232-7722 ext. 42 or tdickow@boroughs.org.

Early Release of Liquid Fuel Payments

To aid local governments with mounting winter storm cleanup costs, Governor Rendell directed the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to release early \$308 million in liquid fuels payments. The early release of funds came as a result of a disaster emergency proclamation. PennDOT will issue liquid fuels payments starting March 1 to 2,556 local governments throughout the state. These payments normally begin after April 1 each year.

Appalachian Regional Commission Economic Development Session

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), USDA Rural Development (RD) and other federal agencies are hosting an economic development listening session in Nanticoke on March 8 to better understand your priorities and needs for fostering local economic growth. This session will be one in a series of community outreach meetings to help federal development strategies aimed at diversifying and strengthening economic and community development in Appalachia. The March 8 listening session will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Luzerne County Community College, in the Educational Conference Center (Building #10), located at 1333 South Prospect Street in Nanticoke, Pennsylvania. There is no cost to attend and lunch will be provided. If you plan to arrive the night before and need assistance to identify lodging options, please contact Carrie Klück at 202-884-7713. Please register at www.arc.gov/sessions or by contacting Carrie Klück at ckluck@arc.gov or 202-884-7713 if you want to attend.

DEP Plans New Oil and Gas Office in Scranton

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has announced plans to open a new Oil and Gas Management office in Scranton, Lackawanna County, to improve the agency's ability to oversee and respond to issues stemming from increased natural gas drilling throughout the region. The physical location of the office has not yet been determined, but it will be centrally located to provide staff with easier access to the hundreds of natural gas wells that are expected to be drilled in the region. On January 28, Governor Rendell announced that DEP will hire 68 permitting and inspection staff, including 10 for the new Scranton office, in response to expectations that the industry will apply for 5,200 new Marcellus Shale drilling permits in 2010 – nearly three times the number of permits issued during 2009. The additional staff will make sure drilling companies obey state laws and act responsibly to protect water supplies. For more information, visit www.dep.state.pa.us, keyword – Oil & Gas.

An Opportunity for JCPs

Have you ever considered inviting your Junior Council Person (JCP) to attend a conference? It's an excellent opportunity for young people to hear great speakers, interact with local government officials and learn about relevant borough issues. PSAB wants to welcome JCPs to the municipal arena, so please contact Linda Costa, JCP Program Director, at 800-232-7722 ext. 28 or lcosta@boroughs.org if your JCP is attending the 2010 Annual Conference.