

# Spotlight

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REGULATORY UPDATES | BEST PRACTICES | NEW TECHNOLOGIES

JANUARY 2018

## Our work touches everyday life.

From the water you drink to the air you breathe to the buildings and communities where you live, work and play.

Spotts, Stevens and McCoy is a family-owned regional engineering, environmental, and surveying firm serving local and global clients. We engineer solutions for a better world. Our work touches everyday life; from the water you drink, to the air you breathe, to the buildings and communities where you live, work and play.

### EXPERTISE

- Building Engineering
- Site and Civil Engineering
- Survey, Data Capture and Modeling
- Water and Wastewater Engineering
- Construction Phase Services

@ssmgroup.com



## Changes to PA One Call

Amendment highlights to the Underground Utility Line Protection Law which take effect April 28, 2018 and what it means to you.

Administratively, the duties of the PA One Call are being transferred from the Department of Labor and Industry to the Public Utility Commission (PUC). There will also be changes to the way violations are handled.

**Enforcement by the PUC** will entail investigating alleged violations by a Damage Prevention Investigator and the formation of a Damage Prevention Committee. The Damage Prevention Investigator will present findings and recommendations to the Damage Prevention Committee if it is determined that a violation occurred. The Committee can issue a warning, require the person to attend training, or issue an “informal determination” to modify or dismiss a recommendation/impose a penalty.

### Tiered Maximum Penalties:

- **Repair** - up to \$5,000/violation if repair is less than \$3,000; up to \$10,000/violation if repair is greater than \$3,000; up to \$50,000 with injury, death or property damage greater than \$25,000;
- **Administrative** - penalties for repeat offenders, and tiered maximum limits (\$1,000, \$5,000 or \$10,000) based on personal injury or property damage assessment.

**Appeals** will be referred to the PUC's Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement as a “formal complaint.”

The Bill includes several new definitions many of which are aimed at the natural resources extraction

industries (natural gas, pipeline, and oil and gas well issues), excepting surface mining and coal mining.

### Duties and requirements of **Facility Owners**:

- Participate in the **One Call System's Members Mapping Solutions**, requirements to be determined.
- Communicate directly with excavator within two hours after re-notification when Facility Owner failed to respond to a location request.
- Submit reports of alleged violations to PUC within 30 business days if cost to repair is greater than \$2,500.
- Maintain existing records of abandoned “main” lines and locate, if possible.

### Duties of **Designers**:

- Report violations to PUC within 30 business days.
- Paying a “request fee” (annual) to the One Call System.

### Duties of **Excavators**:

- Report if facilities lines are struck or damaged.
- Requesting facility location before excavation and paying a locate request fee (annual).
- Re-notifying if a facility is unmarked or incorrectly marked.

### Duty of **Project Owner**:

- Provide report within 10 business days if owner believes a violation (line damage) occurred.



**Joshua James, EIT**  
Graduate Engineer

## Staff News

SSM welcomes **Joshua James, EIT** as a Graduate Engineer in the Water and Wastewater Engineering Department. Josh is a 2016 graduate of The Pennsylvania State University with a BS in Environmental Systems Engineering.

We congratulate **Kevin Hoffman, SIT** on earning his Surveyor-In-Training Certification. Kevin is a 2016 graduate of Pennsylvania College of Technology with an A.A.S. in Surveying Technologies. He is responsible for conducting field topographical and property surveys, engineering surveys, records research, preparing plots, calculations and legal descriptions for properties; establishing field control; construction stakeout; and monumentation. He is trained in using Trimble GPS equipment, Trimble robotic instruments, Leica ScanStation, AutoCAD and Cyclone.



**Kevin Hoffman, SIT**  
Surveying Technician

# \$25,000,000 available for PA Small Water and Sewer Grants

The Commonwealth Financing Authority announced another round of PA Small Water and Sewer Grants for 2017-2018.

- To be eligible for reimbursement, project costs must be incurred within the time frame established by the grant agreement.
- To apply for funding, the applicant must submit the electronic online DCED Single Application for Assistance. Applications are due February 28, 2018.

### Eligible Projects:

Eligible projects are those with a total project cost between \$30,000 and \$500,000 that involve the construction, improvement, expansion, repair, or rehabilitation of a water supply or sanitary sewer system (including water and wastewater treatment facilities and pump stations) which is owned and maintained by an eligible applicant.

An eligible project also includes consolidation or regionalization of two or more water supply systems or sanitary sewer systems which are managed or operated as an integrated system regardless of whether the system is physically connected.

### Eligible Use of Funds:

Funds may be used by the applicant to pay for any of the following project costs:

- Construction, improvement, expansion, repair, or rehabilitation of a water supply system or sanitary sewer system.
- Installation of security measures.
- Acquisition of land, rights-of-way and easements necessary to construct an eligible project.
- Purchase and installation of fixed equipment.
- Engineering and design costs not to exceed 10% of the grant amount and inspection costs related to the construction of an eligible project.
- Permit Fees.
- Costs to secure appropriate bonds and insurance.
- Administrative costs of the applicant that are necessary to administer the grant, including: advertising, legal costs, and documented staff expenses (not to exceed 2% of the grant amount).
- Project contingencies associated with construction costs (up to 5% of the eligible construction costs).

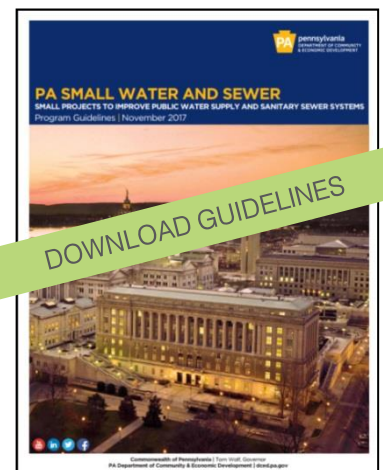
**Ineligible costs** include, but are not limited to, fees for securing other financing, interest on borrowed funds, refinancing of existing debt, lobbying, fines, application preparation fees, tap in fees, and costs incurred prior to approval.

*SSM assisted our clients in obtaining over \$370,000 in CFA Grant funding last year, as well as \$200,000 in other DCED Grant funding.*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Jamie Lorah, PE

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## MS4 PREPARATIONS



Liberate your GIS Data  
VIEW A LIVE DEMO  
[ssm.maps.arcgis.com](http://ssm.maps.arcgis.com)

## Explore Mapping Options

If your system isn't captured in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), now is the time to contemplate upgrading your mapping. Consider capturing all the components of your MS4 conveyance system, which includes pipes, swales, catch basins, roads, and inlets.

Transform your water, sewer, storm water, or transportation infrastructure data into an easy-to-use operations asset management system. SSM's GIS Asset Management approach captures vital infrastructure data points with your system with survey-grade accuracy.

The data is verified and compiled into a geo-spatial database. By creating customized mobile web applications, the data is accessible to you in the office, or in the field. Field-critical data, such as material description, installation date, inspection reports and service history, available at your finger-tips when you need it most.

## Save the Date-2018 Conferences

### ASHRAE

Winter Conference & AHR Expo | Chicago | January 20 – 24

[www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org)

### American Water Works Association & Water Environment Federation

The Utility Management Conference | San Antonio | February 20 - 23

[www.wef.org](http://www.wef.org)

### PA Association of School Business Officials

Annual Conference | Hershey | March 6-9

[www.pasbo.org](http://www.pasbo.org)

### EPWPCOA

Regular Meeting & Tour | Towamencin Municipal Authority | March 16

[www.epcoa.org](http://www.epcoa.org)

### American Water Works Association

Membrane Technology Conference | West Palm Beach | March 12 – 16

[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)

### American Water Works Association

Sustainable Water Management Conference | Seattle | March 25 - 28

[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)

### PA Rural Water Association

Annual Conference | State College | March 20 - 23

[www.prsa.com/annual-conference](http://www.prsa.com/annual-conference)

### PA State Association of Township Supervisors

Educational Conference & Exhibit | Hershey | April 22 - 25

[www.psats.org](http://www.psats.org)

### EPWPCOA

Regular Meeting & Tour | Northern Lebanon County Authority | May 18

[www.epwpcoa.org](http://www.epwpcoa.org)

### American Planning Association

National Planning Conference | New Orleans | April 21 - 24

[www.planning.org/events](http://www.planning.org/events)

### APMM/NJMM

Joint Managers' Conference | Pocono Manor | May 15 - 17

[www.apmm.net](http://www.apmm.net)

### American Water Works Association

ACE18 – Annual Conference | Las Vegas | June 11 - 14

[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)

### American Institute of Architects

Conference on Architecture | New York | June 21 - 23

[www.aia.org](http://www.aia.org)

### ASHRAE

Annual Conference | Houston | June 23 - 27

[www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org)

### APPA

Annual Conference & Exhibition | Washington DC | August 3 - 5

[www.appa.org](http://www.appa.org)

### PA Municipal Authorities Association

Annual Conference and Trade Show | Erie | September 9 - 12

[www.municipalauthorities.org](http://www.municipalauthorities.org)

### ERAPPA

Annual Conference | Manchester | September 30 - October 3

[www.erappa2018.org](http://www.erappa2018.org)

### PA American Planning Association

Annual Conference | Erie | October 14 - 16

[www.planningpa.org](http://www.planningpa.org)

### American Water Works Association

Water Infrastructure Conference | Atlanta | October 28 - 31

[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)