

PennDOT Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP)



LTAP SERVICES OFFERED AT NO COST TO MUNICIPALITIES!!!

The Pennsylvania Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) shares transportation knowledge, improves road maintenance and safety skills, and puts research and new technology into practice at the local level through:

Training: Workshops are scheduled throughout the state and can be requested as a road show.

Technical Assistance: LTAP technical experts are available by phone, by email, and in person to help municipalities troubleshoot specific issues on their roadways.

Newsletter: LTAP distributes a quarterly newsletter, *Moving Forward*, which features the latest news and new practices and technologies.

Technical Information Sheets: Tech sheets provide useful, technical information on such topics as effective stop sign placement, how to use the MUTCD, paving roads, and other safety and maintenance issues related to local roads.

Website: LTAP's website, <https://gis.penndot.gov/ltap/>, is a valuable tool that provides up-to-date information on workshops, news items, LTAP Advisory Committee members, tech sheets, newsletters, and other resources.

Berks County is offering the following courses locally for the 2022 calendar year:

Thursday, February 10, 2022 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Berks County Agricultural Center

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Half Day, Roads Scholar I

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) prohibits discrimination based upon disability. Title II of the act focuses on public accommodations and states that “barriers to access” are considered discrimination. A curb that prohibits a wheelchair from accessing a sidewalk, for example, is a barrier to access and is therefore discrimination. Also under the ADA, all new construction must meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines, which are part of the Code of Federal Regulations. While the spirit of the ADA is clear, the application of its specific requirements to local roadway maintenance and operations can be complex. What constitutes new construction within the ADA Accessibility Guidelines? Certainly, the placement of sidewalk in a new residential development is considered new construction, but what about the replacement of a deteriorated segment of sidewalk or the repaving of a local road? This course helps to answer questions like these, as well as provides specifics about planning, design, construction, and materials useful to municipal public works employees.

Intended Audience: All public works employees involved with ADA transportation facilities, including municipal decision makers such as managers, foremen, codes inspectors, and zoning officers, and road crew members with ADA facility responsibilities. Engineers are welcome to attend, but the focus is on the non-engineer.

Wednesday, April 13, 2022 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Berks County Agricultural Center

Asphalt Roads Common Maintenance Problems: Half Day, Roads Scholar I

This course provides relevant information to individuals who have to maintain asphalt pavements. The course material reviews the importance of preventive maintenance to the life of an asphalt pavement. The material will help the student identify common asphalt distress, the cause of the distress, and the appropriate treatments. The latest techniques, materials, and equipment will be reviewed with an emphasis on repairing the asphalt distress properly the first time. Current industry standards to properly repair problems such as cracking and potholes will be presented in detail. The basics of treatments such as seal coats, micro surfacing, and overlays will be presented. A review of the latest treatments included in Penn DOT Publication 447 Approved Products for Lower Volume Local Roads, will be covered.

Intended Audience: Individuals who are involved in the planning and execution of maintenance work on asphalt pavements, including: street superintendents, roadmasters, public works directors, foreman, and select crew members.

Tuesday, June 7, 2022 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Berks County Agricultural Center

Speed Limits and Speed Management: Half Day, Roads Scholar II, RS Administration, RS Police

The half-day course will employ newly developed material, focusing on the investigation and decision-making processes associated with managing vehicular speed. The participants will: Review speed safety statistics and how to identify problem areas, discuss how to study a roadway segment for speed issues and determine changes in speed limit postings, recognize common safety issues and learn to apply proven mitigation measures.

Intended Audience: This course is intended for local government officials responsible for the installation, maintenance, and inspection of traffic signs, roadway safety, and asset management. This includes traffic technicians, public works directors, supervisors, roadmasters, and crew responsible for traffic signs.

Tuesday, August 9, 2022 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Berks County Agricultural Center

Introduction to Traffic Studies: Half Day, Roads Scholar I, RS Administrative, RS Police

Do you need to conduct studies to erect regulatory signs? How do you do the studies? Who can do the studies? This course answers these questions and more, by demonstrating how to conduct basic engineering and traffic studies for establishment of regulatory signs on municipal roads. It reviews applicable laws, ordinances, regulations and required study procedures for establishing, revising and removing traffic restrictions, as presented in PennDOT Publication 212, Official Traffic Control Devices. Participants also complete exercises in which they perform common engineering and traffic studies using real data.

Intended Audience: Individuals conducting engineering and traffic studies and those responsible for identifying safety problems and potential solutions including: law enforcement personnel, roadmasters, and street superintendents. Others who would benefit from this course include: elected officials, public works employees. Engineers are welcome to attend, but the focus is on the non-engineer.

Tuesday, October 18, 2022 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Berks County Agricultural Center

Pedestrians and Crosswalks: Half Day, Roads Scholar II, Roads Scholar Police

The purpose of this course is to review and understand the needs of pedestrians in the modern transportation environment. The course will review national and Pennsylvania pedestrian safety data, pedestrian mobility characteristics, and pedestrian behaviors. It will also examine federal and state guidelines for pedestrian facilities, including sidewalks, crosswalks, and other features. Finally, the course will review Federal Highway Administration and PennDOT programs to improve pedestrian safety and discuss how to implement those elements locally. Workshop activities will encourage participants to improve pedestrian safety, support walking activities in communities, determine when and how to mark crosswalks, improve the visibility of pedestrian facilities, and make physical road improvements for pedestrian safety.

Intended Audience: This course is intended for local officials responsible for the planning, design, and implementation of pedestrian facilities. This includes municipal managers, elected officials, public works directors, roadmasters, and code enforcement officers.

Wednesday, December 14, 2022 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Berks County Agricultural Center

Winter Maintenance 101: Half Day, Roads Scholar I

This course covers the basics of an effective and efficient winter maintenance program. Best Practices for winter maintenance operations will be emphasized. Topics will include an overview of the various materials available for treating the roadways, as well as, the latest techniques in pre-wetting and anti-icing practices. Other topics will include spreader calibration, material application rates, basic plowing techniques and environmental awareness.

Intended Audience: All public works employees engaged in winter maintenance operations including: Street supervisors, public works directors, roadmasters, crew foremen and equipment operators.

To Register for Courses:

Contact Matt McGough at the Berks County Planning Commission at 610 478-6300 Ext. 6306 or via email at mmcgough@countyofberks.com

Or

Through the PennDOT LTAP website:

<https://gis.penndot.gov/ltap/>.