

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 2020 calendar year:

Wednesday, March 11, 2020 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Berks County Agricultural Center

Active Transportation: Half Day, Roads Scholar II

The Active Transportation training course will discuss the latest research and guidelines for nonmotorized transportation modes. Many communities in Pennsylvania are encouraging more active transportation (walking, cycling, etc.) to enhance their community and foster healthy lifestyles. Corresponding to this encouragement of active transportation, communities are looking to develop active transportation plans to help create more facilities such as bicycle paths, sidewalks, trails, greenways, etc. This course will examine the safety and standards for these facilities, as well as how to develop an active transportation plan. The course will also highlight successful examples of local plans, practices, and policies in Pennsylvania.

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

Friday, April 3, 2020 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Muhlenberg Township Municipal Building

Project Oversight: Half Day, Roads Scholar II

This half-day course will provide training to help ensure local government maintenance projects are done in a manner to achieve maximum quality and longevity by providing the participants with the information needed to monitor these projects. Projects such as Liquid Bituminous Seal Coat, Asphalt Paving, Micro-Surfacing and Nova Chip require attention to detail to ensure a successful project. This course is intended to provide the participants the critical elements of these operations that need monitored so the life expectancy is achieved.

Intended Audience: Individuals responsible for performing roadway inventory and condition surveys as well as planning and programming functions such as: public works directors, street supervisors, roadmasters and crew foremen.

Thursday, April 16, 2020 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Berks County Agricultural Center

Liquid Bituminous Seal Coat: Half Day, Roads Scholar I

Individuals attending this course will be presented with the information necessary for the proper planning and execution of a seal coat operation. This pavement preservation technique is often used by local government agencies to extend the useful life of their roadways. The various types of seal coat operations will be included. The participants will be able to identify typical roadway distress that can be addressed by the use of a liquid bituminous seal coat. The latest materials, equipment, and techniques available for performing this operation will be presented. The process to ensure the correct aggregate and liquid bituminous material selection is achieved will be reviewed. Equipment calibration requirements and the operational sequence will be presented to assist the participants in ensuring a quality product is obtained.

Intended Audience: This course is intended for local government officials responsible for asset management, project planning, and inspection of seal coat projects, as well as the crews performing this work. This includes Public Works Directors, Supervisors, Road Masters, Foremen and Equipment Operators.

Friday, May 8, 2020 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Virtual

Stormwater Facilities Operations and Maintenance: Half Day, Roads Scholar I

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) and local municipalities have a variety of requirements that detail how the rate, volume and velocity of stormwater runoff are to be managed. This course reviews these regulations and the resulting requirements for the operation and maintenance of stormwater management facilities. The course provides an overview of the storm runoff process; a discussion of current regulatory requirements for new development as well as municipal obligations under National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) municipal storm sewer system (MS4) permits; identifies elements of sustainable stormwater management systems; and discusses operation and maintenance of stormwater facilities.

Intended Audience: Individuals who are involved in establishing local stormwater policies, reviewing development plans, inspecting construction of stormwater facilities, and operation and maintenance of stormwater facilities, including: elected officials, planners, public works directors, engineers, and operations and maintenance personnel.

Wednesday, June 3, 2020 8:00AM – 3:00PM

Location: Berks County Agricultural Center

Road Surface Management: Full Day, Roads Scholar I

This course provides the basics for developing a road surface management program to help local governments manage their pavements by providing an understanding of the concept and importance of road surface inventories and condition surveys. A review of the basic components of flexible and rigid pavements is discussed. Pavement condition evaluations and how to recognize common pavement distress is presented. Sample pavement ratings are performed by the participants. Repair strategies at the system and project level are discussed using the information presented in the course.

Intended Audience: Individuals responsible for performing roadway inventory and condition surveys as well as planning and programming functions such as: public works directors, street supervisors, roadmasters and crew foremen.

Wednesday, July 22, 2020 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Muhlenberg Township Municipal Building

Speed Limits and Speed Management: Half Day, Roads Scholar II

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.

Thursday, August 6, 2020 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Berks County Agricultural Center

Unpaved and Gravel Roads Common Maintenance Practices: Half Day, Roads Scholar I

This course addresses basic maintenance techniques for unpaved and gravel roads. Topics include the importance of good drainage, surface aggregate and dust control materials, and operational techniques. These techniques include blading, reshaping, regravelling and dust control. Driving Surface Aggregate (DSA) specifications and use are reviewed. Factors used to determine when to upgrade a gravel road by paving or seal coating the roadway are discussed.

Intended Audience: Individuals involved in the maintenance of unpaved or gravel roadways such as: Street supervisors, roadmasters, crew foremen, and equipment operators. This class does not qualify a municipality to obtain dirt and gravel road funds, but rather teaches them how to better use such funds.

Wednesday, September 16, 2020 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Muhlenberg Township Municipal Building

Introduction to Traffic Studies: Half Day, Roads Scholar I

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.

Thursday, October 8, 2020 8:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Berks County Agricultural Center

Pedestrians and Crosswalks: Half Day, Roads Scholar II

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.

Thursday, November 19, 2020 8:00AM – 3:00PM

Location: Berks County Agricultural Center

Salt and Snow Management: Full Day, Roads Scholar II

This course covers all aspects of winter maintenance operations. Topics include planning and organizing, public relations, material usage and application rates, equipment types and calibration as well as various operational procedures such as plowing and spreading. Other topics include CDL regulations, safety and environmental awareness. Also covered are the latest techniques in pre-wetting materials and anti-icing procedures for a more effective and economical operations.

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/>.