Paint the Plow Program

PennDOT's Paint the Plow Program began during the 2015-2016 winter season when first explored in Cambria County. In the years that followed, the program expanded into other areas of the state. Now an annual tradition, PennDOT is encouraging all high schools in Northwest Pennsylvania to participate.

The Paint the Plow Program is a way for PennDOT and the local community to cultivate public awareness and promote winter driving safety on state roadways. High school students are invited to paint creative, original artwork onto a PennDOT snowplow blade. The decorative blades reflecting each school individually, will have the opportunity to be visible during winter snow removal on various roadways in the region.

A panel of judges comprised of PennDOT representatives and individuals from the respective counties, will participate in selecting a "Judges' Pick" winner. The winning school's plow will be judged on its creativity and ability to incorporate a winter driving safety message while blending with the year's safety theme.

Additionally, photos of each painted plow will be posted on a PennDOT statewide online platform, where users will have the opportunity to vote for a "Fan Favorite." Voting will be open to the public for a designated voting period. Participants are encouraged to look out for a press release announcing details of the voting period.

Schools in Mercer County will have the opportunity to showcase their designed plow the annual Mercer County Open House on September 18, 2019. During that time, voting will be done by collecting donations for the State Employees Charity Association. Each penny counts as a vote. The plow which received the most votes/money will receive the "People's Choice" award.

Plows in other counties will be put on display at those facilities as available.

Applications to participate in the program are due now.

Paint the Plow

INFORMATION, GUIDELINES, TERMS & CONDITIONS

Description

Paint the Plow is a community outreach program in which students are invited to paint a PennDOT snow plow blade with original artwork to represent their individual school. In addition to being visible when in full service during the winter-weather months, the blades will potentially be used within the school's community to enhance public awareness, promote safety and foster greater appreciation of both PennDOT and the school's art program.

Participants

- The Paint the Plow program is open to high schools in Northwest Pennsylvania.
- Only students who are currently enrolled in the applicant school may participate in the execution and completion of the art project.
- School officials, such as faculty, general staff and/or administrators, may direct the selection of the design and students; however, they are not permitted to implement the design or participate in the performance of the work.

Theme

The school needs to incorporate a safe driving message, but can also include patriotic, state/local or weather-related motifs. This year's theme is ***Don't Rush in Ice and Slush.***

- Students may incorporate their school's logo, emblem or mascot into the design.
- Artwork must be original and in good taste; anything deemed inappropriate or not original will be precluded from the program at the sole discretion of PennDOT.
- Only non-partisan, non-political and non-violent material will be accepted.

Provisions

- PennDOT will deliver an approximately 12 feet long and four feet high plow, to a secure location at the school as specified by the school's staff. The school may need to perform prep work on the plow before painting can take place.
- Plow blades may NOT be removed from the specified location on the school's premises, and they cannot be modified with the addition of extra materials or ornaments.
- All submissions must be the original work of the submitter and must not infringe on the rights of third-parties, including but not limited to, intellectual property rights. By participating in the program, the school accepts responsibility for any third-party intellectual property claims which may arise from the school's submission and agrees to hold PennDOT harmless from such claims.
- Selection of paint materials to be used will be up to the students and faculty; however, consideration should be given to durable, enamel paints that will provide for coverage and better wear. A final clear coat is optional but may help the life of the paint.

- PennDOT will deliver the blade at a time specified by the school, and the department will pick up the blade. Each county has a different timeline for pickup. Specific arrangements for blade delivery and pick up dates and times, will be coordinated between the school host (teacher/principal) and the County Maintenance Manager.
- **All blade designs must be submitted for approval before painting of the blade can begin.** Designs can be sent in photo-form as an email or scanned to jkaufer@pa.gov. PennDOT reserves the right to reject blade designs for any reason, including but not limited to, blade designs which are not in accordance with these terms and conditions. If a blade design is rejected, a school may submit a new blade design. PennDOT will use reasonable efforts to review the new blade design to accommodate program participation. Schools should submit designs as early as possible and in accordance with these terms and conditions to prevent any delay in blade design approval.
- Once the design is approved by PennDOT, the painting process may begin.

Please Note: PennDOT does not provide financial assistance for supplies, materials or other items associated with this program.

Competition, Display & Promotion

- The competition will include a "Judges' Pick" winner, with one school being selected from each county. The panel of judges will be comprised of representatives from PennDOT District 1 and local community organizations or businesses. The judges will be provided specific parameters for making their selection.
- The competition will include a "Fan Favorite," which will be determined through an online campaign that is open to the general public. In this campaign, a photo of each plow blade and the name of the school will be posted online. The schedule and other voting information will be relayed to the school at a later date.
- All area media outlets will be notified and given the opportunity for coverage. A press release and photos will also be disseminated to these media outlets as well.
- All plow blades will be affixed to a truck assigned to a designated route within the school district and used during the winter season.

Please Note: The competition as outlined herein applies to the current program and is subject to change yearly.

Additional Information

- It should be expected that the design on a given plow blade will wear away once the blade is put into service for snow and ice removal.
- Typically, plow blades are in service during the winter-weather months. In the event of an early snow storm, PennDOT may need to use the blades to remove snow from the roadway.

All applications must be submitted by June 17, 2019.
LATE APPLICATION WILL BE ACCEPTED BASED ON AVAILABILITY.