



PennDOT Maintenance First

Shoulder grading involves the shaping and stabilizing of unpaved roadway shoulder areas.

This maintenance operation is usually programmed between April and November. A shoulder grading crew utilizes about 10 workers to operate graders, dump trucks, a roller and power broom.

PennDOT grades shoulders to eliminate the drop-off between the roadway and the shoulder and to allow water to drain away from the road surface. If ruts are allowed to form and remain on the shoulder, water can enter and damage the edge of the pavement.

The outside edge of the shoulder is cut toward the road. The cut material is then regraded over the shoulder to fill in low areas and ruts. The material is then swept from the roadway and compacted with a roller.

SHOULDER GRADING

PennDOT Maintenance First

Although Pennsylvanians see PennDOT crews on the roads year round, they may not always realize the scope or importance of all of the work we do.

More common maintenance activities such as Shoulder Grading don't receive as much public attention as building new bridges or highways, but they are integral to the maintenance of the state's 40,000 roadway miles and 25,000 bridges.

For more information, or for additional copies of the Maintenance First cards, please contact PennDOT's Press Office at 717-783-8800 or your local PennDOT District Press Office.

The Maintenance First Series was developed to help educate our customers about our more common maintenance operations.



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