



PennDOT Maintenance Business Model

To maintain the effective flow of water around the state's roadways, pipe replacement and pipe cleaning are essential. Controlling water flow is one of the most important aspects of maintaining pavements. Uncontrolled water flow will damage both the pavement surface as well as the area under the pavement, causing deterioration.

Pipe replacement is a year-round activity and installed prior to a resurfacing project and typically completed with a crew of eight using a backhoe, dump trucks and compactors. Because of its durability and ease of handling, most pipe replacements are plastic, however concrete and metal pipe may also be used.

Pipe replacement operations consist of cutting the pavement, excavating a trench, installing the pipe, filling the trench, compacting the fill material, and then restoring the pavement surface.

Pipe cleaning is necessary to ensure that stormwater consistently flows thru the pipes unobstructed. This activity can be completed mostly year-round. Most pipes are cleaned with a high-pressure sewer cleaner to remove debris build-up, which may occur at the inlet and outlet ends and throughout the length of the pipe.

To ensure that water reaches the pipe, additional activities are needed such as ditch cleaning and shoulder cutting. Clearing tail ditches at the outlet end ensures the water flows away from the pipe. Where applicable, inlets may need to be cleaned.

PIPE REPLACEMENT & CLEANING

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

Common maintenance activities may not 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 25,400 bridges. Core maintenance operations are planned on reoccurring cycles to effectively manage and preserve our assets.

Activities such as crack sealing, patching, surface treatment, shoulder cutting and side dozing; in addition to keeping our drainage systems functional through pipe replacement, flushing and ditch cleaning are key components of the maintenance business model. These ensure that we are effectively managing and preserving our assets, while also dedicating resources to system improvements.

Combined with other activities such as successful winter maintenance, line painting, vegetation management, signing, bridge maintenance and litter cleanup, PennDOT is making improvements, enhancing equity in our organization and transportation systems for all people, and –as always—aiming at a safer, more connected Pennsylvania.

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