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School is Back in Session Be AWARE & Be CAREFUL!

School is back and school buses are out on the roads more often. While school buses are one of the safest modes of transportation, injuries and fatalities do occur. The "danger zone" around a school bus is an area that extends 10 feet from the front, back and side and is statistically the riskiest for students since this is a blind spot for bus drivers. Motorists are reminded to slow down in school zones, stop for school buses and stay alert to ensure the safety of students, bus drivers, motorists, and pedestrians.

The following is a quick refresher on Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law:

Yellow lights indicate the bus is preparing to stop and load or unload children. Drivers should begin to slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles, not speed up or try to pass the bus before it stops.

Drivers should always come to a complete stop at least 10 feet away from a school bus that has their red lights flashing and stop-arm extended. This is not a suggestion – it's the law.

All drivers must remain stopped until the red lights have been deactivated, the stop arm is withdrawn, and all children have reached safety.

This applies to motorists when they are behind or traveling alongside a school bus, as well as those meeting the bus or approaching an intersection where a bus is stopped.

On multiple-lane highways, those traveling in the opposite direction must stop unless there is a physical barrier such as a wall, full guide rails or grass median separating the lanes. Turn lanes or roads with ridged or grooved pavement dividers do not count as walls or medians, and in those areas, all traffic in both directions must stop.

Any driver convicted of violating the state's School Bus Stopping Law will receive a 60-day driver's license suspension, five points on their driving record and a \$250 fine.

To further increase safety of the students, the General Assembly passed legislation in 2020 that allows school districts to install and operate automated camera systems to enforce the School Bus Stopping Law. The purpose of the cameras is to capture the license plates of anyone illegally passing a bus with its stop-arm out and warning lights on. The recording is then sent to police, and after review, the participating school district may issue a violation to the vehicle owner, including a \$300 fine.

For more information on Pennsylvania's School Bus Stopping Law, please visit www.penndot.pa.gov/safety and click on "Traffic Safety & Driver Topics" and then "School Bus Safety."



Lommason Glen Road Repairs Underway

By Art Charlston

(WHITE TWP., NJ – August 19, 2025) – Warren County's project to reconstruct Lommason Glen Road (County Route 626) is underway, and once completed the reopened road will be better able to withstand large storms.

This is the fifth reconstruction project on Lommason Glen Road since the July 2023 storm event that caused a state of emergency and closed several roads throughout the county.

"I'd like to thank everyone involved with these reconstruction efforts," Warren County Commissioner Director Jason J. Sarnoski said, adding, "The initial push to stop further damage was calculated and timely and the work being done now is truly impressive. County staff, the engineers, and the contractors have all worked together to ensure that this massive reconstruction project delivers a safer and stronger road way for the residents of Warren County."

Sarnoski added, "This project was a lot to take on and I'm eager to see the final result."

Following the 2023 storm, immediate work was done to close the breach south of Hemlock Lane at Bridge Structure 23073, and a retaining wall was erected that more efficiently directs water flow to and through the bridge, with a stabilized bank of cemented-in large stones on the downstream side of the bridge.

Further work upstream extended an existing retaining wall to contain water flow and protect the County's road from undermining, and filled in a 20-foot-deep shoulder collapse that cut approximately halfway into one travel lane of the road. It required filling in with carefully chosen native stone from the creek, stabilization of the nearby existing embankment, and repaving of that segment of the road.

Work at the creek also occurred to remove many of the fallen trees that could potentially cause future problems if left undisturbed.

The design of all of the previous Lommason Glen Road projects, and the project now underway, were undertaken by Colliers Engineering and Design. Working closely with County Administration and the Department of Public Works, Colliers designed these projects to ultimately deliver the residents of Warren County a resiliently reconstructed road with improved drainage and protections against future significant storm events.

The current project encompasses approximately a half-mile of construction, which includes an initial phase of excavation of rock to allow for the installation of a continuous series of embankment stabilization structures. These include 1,200 linear feet of retaining wall supported by foundations that range from 2 feet to 5 feet deep, and approximately 1,200 linear feet of rip-rap filled gabion baskets.

Colliers and the County worked closely with the NJ Department of Environmental Protection to gain approvals for all work on Lommason Glen, ensuring that the natural environment of the stream, its surroundings, and the fish and wildlife have been protected throughout the process.

It is anticipated that Lommason Glen Road will reopen to the public in late 2025.