

PennDOT Reminds Customers of October 2020 Federal Enforcement Deadline for REAL ID

By Rep. Emrick's Office

Harrisburg, PA – The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) reminds customers that in exactly one year, on October 1, 2020, federal enforcement of the REAL ID Act will begin at airports and secure federal facilities nationwide.

Beginning October 1, 2020, federally-accepted form of identification (whether it's a Pennsylvania REAL ID driver's license or ID card, a U.S. Passport/Passport Card, a military ID, etc.) must be used as identification to board a commercial flight or visit a secure federal building that requires ID at the door. REAL ID-compliant driver's licenses and photo ID cards have been available at the customer's option since March 2019.

To date, more than 400,000 Pennsylvanians have chosen to get a REAL ID-compliant product. Based on data from other states with optional REAL ID programs, PennDOT anticipates that approximately 1.3 million of its customers will get a REAL ID before the federal enforcement deadline of October 1, 2020.

"We are pleased that so many Pennsylvanians have been proactive, and have chosen to get their REAL ID," said Secretary of Transportation Leslie S. Richards. "We encourage our customers who are interested but haven't yet obtained one to start the process now,"

Federal regulations require that to be issued a REAL ID-compliant product, PennDOT must verify the below documents:

- Proof of Identity: Original or certified copy of a birth certificate filed with the State Office of Vital Records/Statistics with a raised seal/embossed or valid, unexpired, U.S. Passport;
- Proof of Social Security Number: Social security card, in current legal name;
- Two Proofs of Current, Physical PA Address: Current, unexpired PA driver's license or identification card, vehicle registration or a utility bill with the same name and address; and
- Proof of all Legal Name Changes (if applicable): Certified marriage certificate(s) issued by the County Court for each marriage, court order(s) approving a change in legal name, or amended birth certificate issued by the State Office of Vital Records/Statistics

If residents need to obtain replacement documents, they should contact the State Office of Vital Records/Statistics, Social Security Administration and/or obtain Certified Marriage Certificate(s) from the County office in which the marriage license was issued.

Customers can bring the required documents to any PennDOT Driver License Center. More info about document requirements, including a printable document checklist, can be found on the Document Check page of the PennDOT Driver and Vehicle Services website.

Customers who choose to get a REAL ID will pay a one-time fee of \$30, plus a renewal fee (current renewal fee is \$30.50 for a four-year non-commercial driver's license, \$31.50 for a photo ID). The expiration date of their initial REAL ID product will include any time remaining on their existing non-REAL ID product, plus an additional four years, unless the customer is over 65 and has a two-year license. This expiration date structure means that the customer won't "lose" time that they've already paid for. After the initial REAL ID product expires, the customer will pay no additional fee, beyond regular renewal fees, to renew a REAL ID product.

Customers have three options for obtaining a REAL ID product:

If a customer has been pre-verified, customers may order their REAL ID online and receive their REAL ID in the mail within 15 business days.

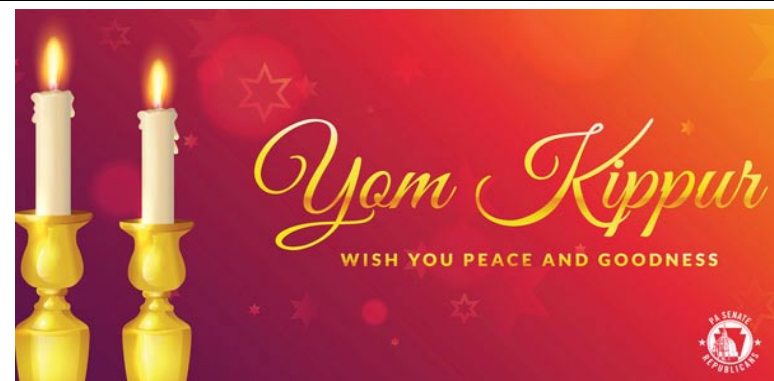
Customers can visit one of PennDOT's 63 Driver's License Centers, have their documents verified, pay the one-time fee, and their REAL ID product will be mailed to them within 15 business days;

Visit one of the 12 REAL ID Centers have their documents verified, pay the one-time fee, and receive their REAL ID product over the counter at the time of service.

Of the 12 PennDOT centers, seven are existing driver's license centers upgraded to allow for over-the-counter issuance of REAL ID (Williamsport, Wilkes-Barre, Rockview in Centre County, Erie, Altoona, Norristown and South 70th Street in Philadelphia). In addition to these upgraded sites PennDOT added 5 new locations, which are open for business:

- 1025 Washington Pike, Rt. 50, Bridgeville;
- 143 S. Gulph Road, King of Prussia;
- 1101 MacArthur Road, Allentown;
- 429 North Enola Road, Enola; and
- 2090 Lincoln Highway East., Lancaster.

More information about REAL ID in Pennsylvania, including frequently asked questions and information on documents required for REAL ID, can be found at www.penndot.gov/REALID.



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**Ken
Field**

*Owner of Slate
Belt Energy
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Exclusively in the Blue Valley Times
How to Modernize for Fun and Profit

When I am asked to modernize a heating system I take a lot of factors into account. A home that was built in the 1950s with a boiler would have had big radiators. Some may have had cast iron baseboard but that was expensive even back then. The boiler may have been coal fired or it may have been one of the first oil fired systems. Most of those systems have been replaced once already but are still way behind the times. In many cases a lot of remodeling has been done in the house and some radiators may have been removed or possibly finned copper baseboard was installed. Another likelihood is that insulation was installed in the attic at some point. Any of those things will mean that I don't just take some numbers off of the dinosaur and match it up with something the same size. Much to the contrary, I can select the proper sized unit and match the new unit to the house as it sits today. The goal is to replace everything that has the potential to cause a problem in the next 20 years. Old valves need to be replaced and all moving parts because they have done their time. I could do the job cheaper if I left some of that stuff in place but I know that's just booking a trip to headacheville.

Many of the older systems had summer/winter hookups which means that they had to run in the summer too to make hot water for the faucets. Advancements in this area can save well over a hundred gallons of oil in the summer and reduce the work of the air conditioner by not having a 200° block of cast iron in the basement 24/7. There are still options to consider and I won't reduce the choices to a single one, but I will offer 2 or 3 choices and let the homeowner decide what suits their budget.

Sometimes people ask for a specific brand because they saw an advertisement or their friend has one or that's the brand they already have and it lasted 30 years. That's fine and sometimes they ask for the right brand but usually they pick something that makes me cringe when I think about how difficult most brands are to do annual service on. The question they should ask is "what do you recommend and why"? I'm always happy to share my experience and back it up with historical data. I can furnish more references than they have time to call and that's not a sales pitch.

Ken Field is the owner of Field's Service, Inc. and Slate Belt Energy Services. He has over 40 years of experience in heating, air conditioning and is certificated by RESNET and BPI in various areas of energy conservation. He can be reached at 610-599-8832 or at www.SlateBeltEnergy.com

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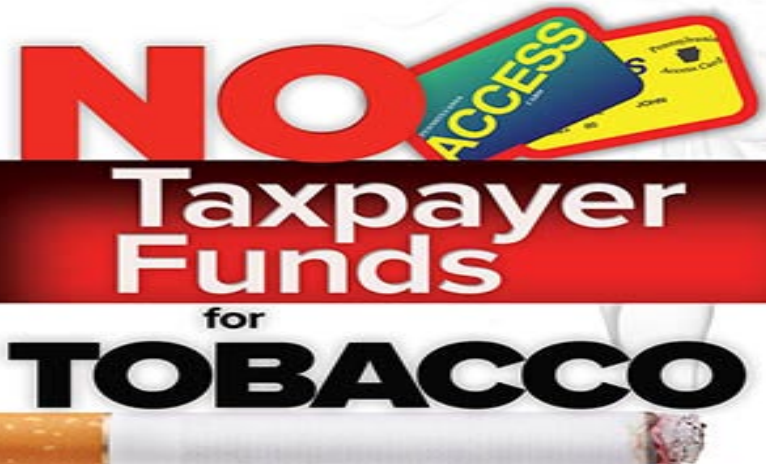
Remember: You are only going to pay one more bid than someone else was willing to pay.

First Step Seminar

By Senator Scavello

PEN ARGYL - "I'm happy to once again be partnering with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) out of Lehigh University to hold another First Step Seminar. This FREE event is for anyone looking to start a business. Topics will include: requirements for starting a business, obtaining financing, identifying licenses and application, the importance and function of a business plan, marketing plan, and financial plan. There will also be time for Q & A.

This FREE event will be held Tuesday, October 15th from 10am to 12pm at the Pen Argyl Borough Building (11 N. Robinson Ave., Pen Argyl PA 18072). You must register to attend and can do so here. Space is limited so I encourage you to register as soon as possible.



Prohibit The Purchase Of Tobacco Products Using Ebt Cards

By Michael Ortoski

HARRISBURG - The House recently approved legislation that would prohibit the purchase of tobacco products using public assistance funds on electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards.

Such benefits are intended to help Pennsylvanians who cannot afford life's essentials, not unnecessary items such as tobacco.

House Bill 847 would forbid the use of EBT cards, issued by the Department of Human Services (DHS) to administer public assistance benefits, to purchase tobacco or tobacco-related products. Personal funds on EBT cards, such as child support that is in arrears, would be exempt.

The Human Services Code already prohibits the purchase of liquor and alcohol with EBT cards. The bill now goes to the Senate for its consideration.

Hahn to Host Senior Expo

By Michael Ortoski

NAZARETH – State Rep. Marcia Hahn (R-Bushkill Township) invites senior citizens, their families and caregivers to her annual Senior Expo this Friday, Oct. 4, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Bushkill Township Volunteer Fire Company, 155 Firehouse Drive, Nazareth. "My staff and I are looking forward to again spending time with our neighbors and friends who come out every year," Hahn said. "With nearly 70 vendors scheduled to attend, this event is a great opportunity for them to check out the many local, state and federal service providers that are available." The Lehigh Valley Hospital Network will provide free flu shots. Anyone wishing to be vaccinated simply needs to show proof of identity. Door prizes will be awarded, and light refreshments will be served.

Questions about this or any state government issue should call Hahn's district office at (610) 746-2100.