

2024 Build a Better Mousetrap Innovation Challenge

Recognizing Innovative Inventions
and Improvements



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



Show Off Your Road Crew's Innovative Gadgets and Ideas by Entering the 2024 Build a Better Mousetrap Innovation Challenge

Has one of your employees recently built an innovative gadget or come up with a better way to do a job? If so, now is the time to show it off by entering the **2024 Build a Better Mousetrap Innovation Challenge**.

Municipalities must use limited budgets and resources to serve the needs of residents and innovation can be the mission-critical factor that helps bridge that gap. Local road practitioners continually implement incremental changes in their processes, tools, and services to reflect changes in technologies and best practices. In their roles as innovators, municipal staff leverage their considerable creativity, technical expertise, and diverse talent pool to suggest changes that are useful, valuable, and impactful to their local system. The Build a Better Mousetrap Innovation Challenge showcases the most clever and creative practices and tools from across the state. By sharing these innovations with one another, local road departments can adopt these new tools and practices, and deliver more efficient, cost-effective services to their communities.

LTAP is looking for projects that municipal employees or road crews designed and built. It can be anything from the development of tools and equipment to modifications to processes that increase safety, reduce costs, or improve efficiency or the quality of transportation. Technological innovations and unique use of new tools such as drones, apps, computers, smart phones, tablets, etc., are welcome.

If you have an innovation to share with other municipalities, submit your entry form by **March 1, 2024**. The LTAP Advisory Committee – a group made up of your peers – will judge the entry on recognized importance/ impact, originality, applicability to others, cost effectiveness, time savings, agency or community benefit, and the overall quality of the application. The winners will be chosen in March and recognized at the annual conference of the winners' respective municipal associations.

The top entries will be submitted to the national Build a Better Mousetrap recognition program. Winners of the national program will be announced at the annual LTAP national conference this summer.

To enter the recognition program:

Complete following entry form and **return it by Friday, March 1, 2024**

If you have questions Karen Atkinson can help.

Email: ltap@psats.org

Call: 717-763-0930 ext. 156



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration



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Past Build a Better Mousetrap: Pennsylvania Recognitions

The LTAP website (<https://gis.penndot.gov/ltap/>) has full descriptions of the past recognitions on the website under "News" or [click here 2023-2019 Past Recognitions](#).

2023 Build a Better Mousetrap: Pennsylvania Recognitions

Inlet Replacement Tools

London Grove Township, Chester County, PA
Contact: Shane Kinsey, Director of Public Works
skinsey@londongrove.org



Truck Tamper Transporter

Delaware Township, Pike County, PA
Contact: Rich Baio, Roadmaster
roadmaster@delawaretownship.pa.gov



Tar Kettle Turned Hydroseeder Project

Warwick Township, Lancaster County, PA
Contact: Brian Harris, Township Manager/Municipal Authority
Administrator
BHarris@warwicktownship.org



2024 Build a Better Mousetrap Entry Form

Agency Name:

Contact Person:

Contact Phone #:

Contact Email:

Contact Address:

County:

Entry Title:

What was the challenge?

How did you develop and implement your solution?

What labor, equipment, plans, or materials did it take to make the solution work?

What was the cost of implementation?

What was the positive impact/results/outcome of your efforts?

Email photographs to ltap@psats.org and include the municipality and the entry title. You may enter more than one innovation. Use separate forms for each innovation.

Return your completed form by **Friday, March 1, 2024**, to ltap@psats.org, fax it to 717-763-9732, or mail it to:



PennDOT LTAP
c/o PSATS
Attention: Karen Atkinson
4855 Woodland Drive
Enola, PA 17025

Questions? Call Karen 717-763-0930, ext.156 or email ltap@psats.org.