

ON THE MOVE

New Hampshire Department of Transportation Newsletter



Late Spring 2023



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Mission Focused...Safety Minded

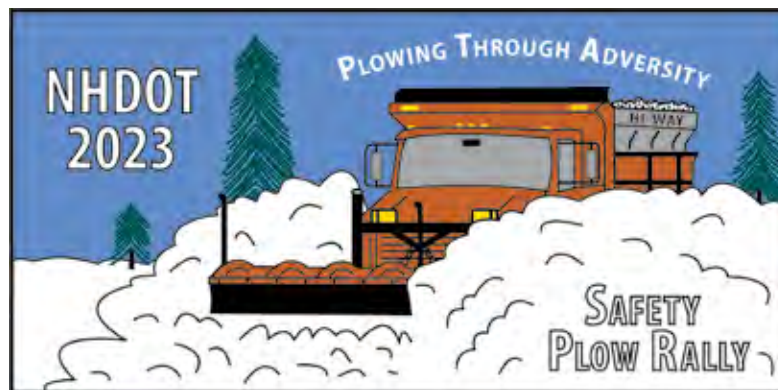
On May 18th I was privileged to attend the 44th Annual NHDOT Safety Plow Rally. It was a perfect weather day and an event that ran like clockwork. Having spent many years in the military, I appreciate precision planning and impressive logistics; this Rally proceeded as promised and delivered results!

Thanks to Alan Hanscom and the organizing committee who pulled the event together. I was impressed again by the Highway Maintenance professionals who competed, and those who worked to make the event a success.

Congratulations to the District 2 Team of Justin Smith and Cody Smith for taking home the top honors. Winning this event shows that you excel at accomplishing our NHDOT mission and that you know a lot about SAFETY! That's what this is all about, training to do our jobs SAFELY and with precision – we want everyone to have long, healthy and happy lives and careers at NHDOT.

I also want to commend those who worked on the innovations. Taking iron scraps "from the yard" and building new tools that make work safer and save wear and tear on backs, knees and other bones encapsulates a spirit that exists in the sheds – it shows we care about doing things better and taking care of our equipment. The

entries were impressive, and they all exemplified the 2023 theme, Plowing through Adversity. These are tough times, and the Division of Operations continues to do the outstanding work that the



people of New Hampshire rely on. While the Plow Rally showcases crucial winter maintenance skills, the summer construction, maintenance, and road marking season is upon us. Hot days and busy roads mean that our NHDOT summer mission is every bit as challenging as Winter Maintenance. Maintain your safety and risk-management mindset during this season and look out for each other.

Proud to be, NHDOT!

Andre Briere, NHDOT Deputy Commissioner



The 44th Annual Safety Plow Rally

Hillsborough County Agricultural Fairgrounds, New Boston NH

The plow rally is a friendly competition among two-person teams from the Highway Maintenance Districts, Turnpikes and Mechanical Services. Events include safety quiz, wing slalom, plow mount, mechanically defective truck and backing the Texas roll. It was a great day and a great event.

Special thanks to the District 5 staff that helped to make the event a success.

And the Winners Are...

Fifteen two-person teams of NHDOT Employees are tested on their safety knowledge and driving skills. Justin Smith and Cody Smith were the overall winners of the 2023 NHDOT Safety Plow Rally Contest.

Justin and Cody will be invited to attend the New England Snowplow Roadeo hosted by the American Public Works Association in Massachusetts in August. Our 2022 plow rally overall winners Tim Libby and Brad Bartlett from District 6 will also be invited to attend.

Safety Quiz – 1st place – Chris Washburn – 525 Canterbury and Mike Brown - Traffic

Mechanically Defective Truck – 1st place – Kyle Bryant and Tyler Spaulding - 124 Butterhill

Plow Mount – 1st place – Steven Greene and Robert Lariviere - 412 Temple

Wing Slalom – 1st place – Amy Morrison and Scott Glover - 613 South Kingston

Texas Roll – 1st place – Justin Smith and Cody Smith - 202 Wentworth

Backhoe Demonstration – Will Dimick - 115 Lincoln (42.98 seconds)

Overall Winners

1st Place – Justin Smith and Cody Smith - 202 Wentworth

2nd Place – Nick Comeau and Jack Gosson - 206 Bristol

3rd Place – Roy Magnussen and James Bilodeau - 607 Exeter

2023 Plow Rally Innovations

At every plow rally there is a group of energetic, inventive Highway Maintainers that turn scraps from around the shop into new products that save time, money, or just make the job easier (less back breaking). All six innovations were excellent but the judges had to pick one. This year's winner was the Front Plow Safety Mover developed by Eric Bellemore, 528 Salem. **Congratulations Eric!**

Innovation #1

The Guardrail Dolly is used to transport sections of guardrail from the trailer to the installation location safely. Once in position, the guardrail can be precisely positioned very easily. Designed by Randy Hill and Josh St. Laurent from District 4. Fabricated by Randy Hill, Eric Tower, and Zack Parenteau.

Innovation #2

The Guard Rail Sand Curb Scraper, aka "lil' scraper", removes sand curbs block drainage from going under the guardrail. This simple attachment, designed for maintenance, removes sand curb in the hard-to-reach areas under guardrail. The low-cost attachment is bolted to the drain holes of the ditching bucket and does not require any welding or cutting on state equipment. It can also be modified to fit on an excavator bucket. Designed and fabricated by James McMahon III from District 1.

Innovation #3

This Berm Remover provides a safe, quick, and efficient way for berms to be pushed back under sections of guardrail. Designed by Shawn White and Corey St. Cyr also from District 1. Fabricated by Shawn White, Corey St. Cyr, and Gary Marshall.

Innovation #4

The Salt Box Measuring Device allows Winter Maintenance personnel to quickly and more accurately measure the amount of road salt delivered. Designed by Shawn White and Corey St. Cyr. Fabricated by Corey St. Cyr and Gary Marshall.

Innovation #5

The Front Plow Safety Mover creates a way for the front plow to be easily and safely moved using loader forks. This is especially useful for maintenance and plow blade replacement as no one has to lay under the blade to access the bolts. Designed and fabricated by Eric Bellemore from District 5.

Innovation #6

The Tailgate Rack is used to safely store truck tailgates when not in use. Designed and fabricated by Dillon Lowe of District 1.

2023

PLOW RALLY





Reducing Roadway Fatalities

in New Hampshire

You've seen this message on the highway - ONE DEATH IS TOO MANY - but many people still race past it while taking calls, texting, eating or driving after one drink too many.

Nationwide there were more than 42,000 crash-related fatalities in 2022, about 117 people a day. This is a slight decrease from 2021, according to the National Highway Safety Administration (NHTSA). The numbers in New Hampshire, 42 fatalities as of June 15, 2023, are troubling - The NHDOT and a coalition of partners are **taking action**.

Highway Safety is a Shared Responsibility

In 2022 the coalition of NH Safety Professionals met and updated the New Hampshire's Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). This detailed plan (See the NHDOT website) defines the State's approach to making our roads safer for all users.

Every coalition partner is doing what they can to reach the goal: **reduce fatalities in NH by 50% by 2030**.

Bill Lambert, State Highway Safety Administrator, is leading the way for the NHDOT. "My goal is to socialize the SHSP within the department so that it becomes institutionalized through everything we do - every one of us has a role in highway safety."

The NHDOT Commissioners have emphasized project delivery and program management activities to focus on doing everything we can to make our roads safer:

- Project Delivery:
 - Road Safety Audits (RSAs)
 - Identify and Manage Highway Safety Improvement Projects (HSIP) funded projects.
 - Identify and implement highway safety systematic and systemic projects (guard rail, rumble strips, durable pavement markings, etc.)
 - Implement AASHTO Highway Safety Manual strategies throughout the agency.
 - Investigate highway safety concerns, develop and implement effective mitigation.



- Program Management:
 - Collaborate with highway safety stakeholders, including NH Department of Safety, NH Office of Highway Safety.
 - Develop effective public outreach and education material.
 - Complete annual reporting for Executive Office, FHWA, and others.
 - Shepard the action items identified in the SHSP.
 - Modify the SHSP through amendments as warranted and update periodically.
 - Data analytics to guide the highway safety program.

NHDOT, the NH State Police and the other coalition partners are meeting and working but ultimately, it's up to all of us. Former NHDOT Commissioner Victoria Sheehan summed up the sentiment among the coalition partners:

Ultimately, it is up to you—the citizens of New Hampshire—to affect true change. Professionals from agencies and organizations will work together to implement this Plan, but it is up to you to take responsibility for traveling safely on New Hampshire roads. Every road user - driver, passenger, bicyclist, or pedestrian - plays a role. It takes all of us to make an impact and reach our ultimate goal of zero roadway deaths.

Please BUCKLE UP, SLOW DOWN, and leave the phone alone - IT CAN WAIT!

Personnel Updates

New Hires:

Ryan N. Sadezwicz - Mechanical Div-Concord

Steven R. Marquis - District 1, Crew 13

Jeremy S. Beauchesne - District 5, Crew 14

Kevin H. Rousseau - District 1, Crew 9

Dana M. Merrill - District 2, Crew 3

Brian R. Frost - Right of Way

James S. Commerford - Highway Design

Kathy A. Whitney - District 3, Do 20

Johnathan M. Ober - District 3, Crew 16

Robert A. Dudley - District 3, Crew 24

Ronald L. Connell - District 5, Crew 26

James F. Riley II - Tpk-Dover Maintenance

Catherine M. Cullity - Material & Research

Jared J. Croteau - District 5, Crew 10

Corey C. Engel - Traffic Outdoor Adv

Joshua A. Santos - Human Resources

Joseph M. Barlow - District 6, Crew 3

Zackary D. Dube - District 2, Crew 4

Peter G. Jenkins - Traffic Dist Sign Crews

Johnathan M. Ober - District 3, Crew 16

Jacqueline A. Welvaert - Human Resources

Kathleen Fredericksen - Finance

Retirees:

Barry White - Bridge Maintenance (44)

Duane Call - Construction/Engineering Audit (38)

Peter Stamnas - Commissioner's Office (36)

Brian Cassel - Construction/Engineering Audit (34)

Randolph White - Mechanical Services (15)

Deborah Louzier - Finance (13)

Charles Fowler - District 6 (12)

Promotions:

Gregory Tedeschi - Civil Engineer VI, Construction/Engineering Audit

Michael Servetas - Director of Operations, Commissioner's Office

Donna Harris - Highway Maintainer III, District 4

Douglas Smith - Highway Patrol Foreman, District 5

Travis Spencer - Highway Maintainer III, District 1

John Scully - Highway Maintainer III, District 6

Todd Tetley - Engineering Tech IV, Materials & Research

Casey Shingleton - Business Systems Analyst I, Planning & Community Assistance

Emily Thompson - Engineering Technician III, Construction/Engineering Audit

Jennifer Anderson - Supervisor IV, Turnpikes

Jeremy Spaulding - Highway Maintainer III, District 5

Curtis Morrill - Civil Engineer V, Highway Design

Jonathan Hebert - Civil Engineer V, Highway Design

James Lentz - Highway Maintainer III, Turnpikes

Mark Moran - Civil Engineer V, Construction/Engineering Audit

Bruce Vanlandingham - Plant Maintenance Engineer II, Mechanical Services

Raymond Hamel - Welding Shop Manager, Mechanical Services

Susan Klasen - Assistant Director of Operations, Commissioner's Office

Keith Ballard - Highway Maintainer III, District 6

Matthew Faidell - Geological Exploration Tech III, Materials & Research

Dana Lacasse - Civil Engineer V, District 3

Daniel Davis - Bridge Maintainer III, Bridge Maintenance

Cole Williams - Bridge Maintainer III, Bridge Maintenance

Francis Strout - Bridge Maintainer III, Bridge Maintenance

Thomas Santos - Engineering Technician III, Highway Design

Lee Baronas - Principal Engineer, Traffic

Daniel Kendall - Equipment Mechanic Foreman II, Mechanical Services

Service Awards

10 Years:

Tony A. Fligg - District 2

Donald R. Fortier - Mechanical Services

Jennifer E. Reczek - Bridge Design

Elaine Y. Clark - Bridge Maintenance

15 Years:

Joseph R. Dussault - Turnpikes

Kathleen S. Corliss - Highway Design

Margarete A. Baldwin - Rail & Transit

Carolyn J. McDermott - Turnpikes

Christopher J. Garland - District 4

20 Years:

David C. McLam - District 2

Louis G. Albert - Bridge Maintenance

25 Years:

Adam P. Shackford - District 3

Jay J. Nevin - Bridge Maintenance

Eric S. Healey - Traffic

Seth R. Beane - Bridge Design

William J. Dusavitch - Mechanical Services

Andrew S. Brundle - District 1

30 Years:

Richard R. Gagnon - Mechanical Services

Douglas W. Hinton - Traffic

Edward L. Godfrey - District 5

35 Years:

Marc G. Laurin - Environment

Douglas R. King - District 2

John W. Corcoran Jr - Turnpikes

David L. Scott - Bridge Design

Ralph W. Sanders - District 6

40 Years:

Arthur F. Eaton - District 6

Committed to
Excellence, Safety,
Innovation, and
the Future...

Around the NHDOT

Winter Help

T Tyler Juranty works for the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services collecting data and samples for a variety of tests on drinking water. He's on the go throughout the year running tests and attending workshops and this winter he helped the NHDOT as well. Tyler "answered our call" for help and assisted plowing Routes 28 and 111 out of the Salem Shed (514). Tyler was one of 90 state employee "volunteers" with CDL licenses and plowing experience that helped get the NHDOT through another winter. It's hard work running a plow truck - often after a normal work day - that requires constant attention and dedication to the task. The NHDOT is grateful for our full-time workers and all the volunteers that supported us this winter and we hope they come back next fall.



Tyler Juranty attended the Plow Rally as a special guest. Thanks again for helping the NHDOT this winter.

Tyler is always welcome at the NHDOT, in fact he started here in the traffic bureau's pavement markings crew and moved to Highway Maintenance, in District 5, before completing his environmental sciences degree and shifting to the NHDES at their Franklin wastewater treatment plant. There, he kept his plowing skills sharp, clearing snow from the facility and its access road. From Franklin, he transferred to his current position where he makes use of his scientific skills all over the state.

Governor:
Chris Sununu

Commissioners:
Bill Cass

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www.nh.gov/dot

NHDOT People



Bill Lambert, (left), Highway Safety Engineer, received his 30 year certificate and pin from Commissioner Bill Cass (right).



Edward Godfrey, 527 Crew, HM3, received his 30 year certificate and pin.

Cover Photo: Judges watch and score the "Texas Roll" Contest.