

PennDOT's New-Style Registration Sticker For Registered Vehicle Owners In the Philadelphia Area

As part of a pilot program aimed to reduce sticker theft, effective October 22, 2000, PennDOT will begin issuing a new-style registration sticker for owners of passenger vehicles and lightweight trucks with a registration address in the Philadelphia area. Since this new product is a registration sticker that is placed inside the vehicle's rear window, individuals receiving the new-style registration sticker will not receive—or need—a registration sticker for their license plate.

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding PennDOT's New-Style Registration Sticker

Q: Why is PennDOT introducing this new-style registration sticker?

A: PennDOT is introducing a new-style registration sticker as part of a pilot program aimed to reduce sticker theft. Although incidents involving registration plate sticker theft may not be a problem for most registered vehicle owners in the Commonwealth, it is a real concern for the unfortunate victims of this crime, mainly registered vehicle owners in the Philadelphia area.

In order to prevent having their registration sticker removed or cut off their license plate, some Philadelphia residents avoid affixing their valid registration plate sticker to their license plate altogether and instead put it in their wallet, purse or glove compartment. While these individuals are only trying to safeguard their vehicle—and themselves—against sticker theft, concealing a registration sticker creates problems for law enforcement attempting to identify properly registered vehicles from registrations that are expired. To verify registration that is not displayed on a vehicle, law enforcement must pull motorists aside, inconveniencing everyone involved. Additionally, concealing a registration sticker means that these registered vehicle owners are not in compliance with Pennsylvania law, which specifically states that proper proof of registration must be displayed on a vehicle.

To address these concerns, aid law enforcement and provide law-abiding citizens with a more secure form of registration, PennDOT is piloting a new-style registration sticker for certain registered vehicle owners in the Philadelphia area. This new-style registration sticker is placed inside the vehicle's rear window, enabling registered vehicle owners to display visible proof of registration that is legally required while providing them with a document that is less prone to theft and misuse.

This larger, more visible rear-window sticker also allows law enforcement to easily identify vehicles possessing valid registration. And because the rear-window registration sticker contains the license plate number associated with the vehicle, the new product also promotes proper registering, insuring and inspection of vehicles.

Last year PennDOT introduced a new standard-issue license plate that will only be sent to individuals having a current, valid registration. And earlier this year, in an effort to reduce the number of motorists driving with expired red "T" stickers,

PennDOT introduced the Temporary Registration Permit that replaces the red “T” stickers.

In conjunction with license plate reissuance and the Temporary Registration Permit, piloting the new-style registration sticker is just one more step in uncovering vehicle registration evasion.

Q: Who will receive the new-style registration sticker?

A: Individuals with one of the following zip codes on their vehicle registration(s) are included in the pilot program:

19102	19118	19127	19136	19145
19103	19119	19128	19137	19146
19104	19120	19129	19138	19147
19106	19121	19130	19139	19148
19107	19122	19131	19140	19149
19112	19123	19132	19141	19150
19114	19124	19133	19142	19151
19115	19125	19134	19143	19152
19116	19126	19135	19144	19154

Specifically, these registered vehicle owners having passenger vehicles and lightweight trucks not exceeding 9,000 lbs. Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) who renew, make application for registration for the first time (for newly-purchased vehicles or vehicles coming from out of state) or apply for replacement of a lost or stolen registration plate sticker will receive the new-style registration sticker.

Q: Who will not be receiving the new-style registration sticker?

A: Registered vehicle owners having a registration address listing any other zip code will not be receiving a new-style registration sticker. Also not receiving a new-style registration sticker are trucks having a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) over 9,000 lbs.— **regardless of zip code** — and the following vehicle types:

Antique vehicles	Mass Transit vehicles
Apportioned vehicles	Motor Homes
Classic vehicles	Motorcycles
Collectible vehicles	Mopeds
Commercial Implements of Husbandry	Municipal Government-owned vehicles
Commonwealth-owned vehicles	Omnibuses
Dealer vehicles	School Buses
Emergency vehicles	School vehicles
Farm trucks	Special Mobile Equipment
Fleet vehicles	Street Rods
Implements of Husbandry	Taxis
Limousines	Trailers

Q: When does this pilot program go into effect?

A: PennDOT will begin implementing this pilot program effective October 22, 2000. The new-style registration sticker will be issued over the next twelve months according to the registration renewal cycle. All owners of passenger vehicles and lightweight trucks not exceeding a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of 9,000 lbs. in the Philadelphia area renewing their vehicle registration will receive a new-style registration sticker. Besides those customers who renew their vehicle registration(s), the pilot program also includes customers applying for new registration (i.e., for a newly purchased vehicle or a vehicle coming from out of state) and those applying for a replacement registration sticker. PennDOT will pilot this product for vehicle registrations with a Philadelphia-area address only.

Q: Why is PennDOT introducing the new-style registration sticker to registered vehicle owners in the Philadelphia area only?

A: PennDOT chose to pilot the new-style registration sticker in the Philadelphia area because sticker theft occurs most frequently in this part of the Commonwealth. In fact, sticker theft occurs in Philadelphia more often than in any other geographic location in Pennsylvania.

PennDOT hopes to not only dramatically decrease sticker theft by introducing this new-style sticker but also provide law enforcement with an easier way of detecting unregistered vehicles. Piloting this program in Philadelphia will also allow PennDOT to measure this program's success for a large number of vehicles within a relatively small geographic location.

Q: Am I required to display the new-style registration sticker in my vehicle's rear window, or is it optional?

A: For those registered vehicle owners included in the pilot program, displaying the new-style registration sticker is **not** optional. Registered vehicle owners receiving the new-style registration sticker are required—by law—to display it inside the rear window of their vehicle as proof that the vehicle is properly registered.

Q: Will everyone included in this pilot program be required to display the new-style sticker immediately?

A: All those included in the pilot program receiving a new-style registration sticker need to place it inside their vehicle's rear window as soon as they receive it.

Q: What does the new-style registration sticker look like?

A: The new-style registration sticker is a bright yellow document approximately 3 ¾ x 3 ¾ in size and features the registration expiration date and corresponding license plate number in large black print. Acting as a protective coating and a security feature is a clear, plastic overlay that covers the registration information.

Q: What makes the new-style registration sticker different from the one on my license plate?

A: The new-style registration sticker contains many features that distinguish it from the standard registration plate sticker. Not only a larger document that lists the vehicle's

license plate number and registration expiration date, PennDOT's new-style registration sticker is also placed **inside** the rear window of the vehicle. Placement inside the vehicle deters theft and provides law enforcement with the visible proof of registration they need to detect properly registered vehicles.

Q: How long is the new-style registration sticker valid?

A: Like the standard registration plate sticker, the new-style registration sticker expires annually.

Q: Will I have to pay for the new-style registration sticker?

A: When you renew your vehicle registration or apply for registration for the first time, PennDOT will send you a new-style registration sticker at no additional fee. Should you request a new-style registration sticker for a current registration prior to renewing, the fee is \$7.50, the same as a duplicate registration plate sticker.

Q: Will an additional charge be added to my annual registration fee because of the new-style registration sticker?

A: No additional charges will be added to the registration fee as a result of the new-style registration sticker.

Q: If I am a registered vehicle owner included in this pilot program scheduled to receive a new-style registration sticker, how will I get this new sticker?

A: All registered vehicle owners included in the pilot program will receive the new-style registration sticker in the mail within three weeks of receiving their registration card.

Please note, that unlike the license plate sticker, **the new-style registration sticker is NOT INCLUDED WITH THE REGISTRATION CARD (and license plate, depending on whether you are applying for a new registration or scheduled to receive a replacement plate upon renewing as part of PennDOT's license plate reissuance program).** Registered vehicle owners will receive their registration card first and then receive separately, in the mail, a new-style registration sticker.

Q: If PennDOT is sending the new-style registration sticker in the mail only, how long will it take till I receive it?

A: Individuals included in the pilot program will receive the new-style registration sticker within three weeks of receiving their registration card.

Q: If I don't receive my new-style sticker until approximately three weeks after I receive my registration card, what do I put on my vehicle to show that it's properly registered?

A: Individuals who renew early and have a registration plate sticker that will not expire for several weeks simply need to sign their new registration card. The new, signed registration card (along with the existing valid registration plate sticker) will be proof that the vehicle is properly registered until the new-style registration sticker arrives in the mail, provided the license plate sticker does not expire before then. When the new-style registration sticker is received, registered vehicle owners will need to place it inside the rear window of their vehicle immediately.

For registered vehicle owners who have a license plate sticker that could expire before their new-style registration sticker arrives, PennDOT is issuing to all registered vehicle owners in the pilot program a document that can be placed in the vehicle's rear window **temporarily** until the new-style registration sticker is received. This document, called a **Proof of Registration, is issued along with the registration card** and conveniently provides motorists with visible proof of registration that is legally required until they receive the new-style registration sticker.

Q: How does this Proof of Registration work? When am I required to use it?

A: You are required to use the Proof of Registration when you have a registration plate sticker or Temporary Registration Permit that could expire before your new-style registration sticker arrives. The Proof of Registration, when placed inside the vehicle's rear window **temporarily** will provide you with visible proof of registration that is legally required on your vehicle **until you receive your new-style registration sticker.**

You will find the Proof of Registration located directly underneath your registration card (or cards, depending on whether you request any duplicates). If you need to use the Proof of Registration, after verifying that the vehicle information on the document is correct, detach the Proof of Registration and place it inside the extreme lower left (driver's side) corner of your vehicle's rear window using several small pieces of clear cellophane tape. Keep the document flat against the glass by taping down all four sides, making sure the printed information is clearly visible from outside the vehicle. If you are replacing a Temporary Registration Permit that has expired or will soon expire, remove it from your vehicle's rear window before installing the Proof of Registration.

When you receive your new-style registration sticker in the mail, you will need to remove the Proof of Registration from your vehicle's rear window and replace it with the new-style registration sticker.

Q: How long is the Proof of Registration valid?

A: Since the Proof of Registration is only displayed in the vehicle's rear window **temporarily** until you receive your new-style registration sticker, the Proof of Registration expires 30 days from the date of issue. This 30-day expiration date is printed on the Proof of Registration document.

Q: The registration sticker on my license plate is still valid. Do I have to put the Proof of Registration inside my vehicle's rear window?

A: No. If you have a registration plate sticker that may not expire until after you receive your new-style registration sticker, you do not need to use the Proof of Registration document you received with your registration card. Simply sign the registration card and use this and your existing valid license plate sticker as proof that your vehicle is properly registered. When you receive the new-style registration sticker, place it inside your vehicle's rear window.

Q: I renewed my registration and received my new registration card but my registration plate sticker has expired or is about to expire and I haven't yet received my new-style registration sticker. Must I wait three weeks until I receive my new-style registration sticker before driving my vehicle?

A: No. Simply use the Proof of Registration document that you received with your new registration card. When placed inside your vehicle's rear window, the Proof of Registration **temporarily** provides you with visible proof of registration that is legally required on your vehicle until you receive your new-style registration sticker.

You will find the Proof of Registration located directly underneath your registration card (or cards, depending on whether you request any duplicates). If you need to use the Proof of Registration, after verifying that the vehicle information on the document is correct, detach the Proof of Registration and place it inside the extreme lower left (driver's side) corner of your vehicle's rear window using several small pieces of clear cellophane tape. Keep the document flat against the glass by taping down all four sides, making sure the printed information is clearly visible from outside the vehicle.

Keep in mind that the Proof of Registration is only a temporary document to be displayed until your new-style registration sticker arrives. However, **if you have an expired registration plate sticker, you are required to display the Proof of Registration inside your vehicle's rear window as proof that your vehicle is legally registered until you receive your new-style registration sticker.**

When you receive your new-style registration sticker in the mail, remove the Proof of Registration from your vehicle's rear window and replace it with the new-style registration sticker in the same exact location.

Q: I received my Proof of Registration and registration card, but I have a Temporary Registration Permit on my vehicle that could expire before I receive my new-style registration sticker in the mail? Must I wait three weeks until I receive my new-style registration sticker before driving my vehicle?

A: No. Simply use the Proof of Registration document that you received with your new registration card. When placed inside your vehicle's rear window, the Proof of Registration **temporarily** provides you with visible proof of registration that is legally required on your vehicle until you receive your new-style registration sticker.

You will find the Proof of Registration located directly underneath your registration card (or cards, depending on whether you request any duplicates). If you need to use the Proof of Registration, after verifying that the vehicle information on the document is correct, detach the Proof of Registration and place it inside the extreme lower left (driver's side) corner of your vehicle's rear window using several small pieces of clear cellophane tape. Keep the document flat against the glass by taping down all four sides, making sure the printed information is clearly visible from outside the vehicle. If you are replacing a Temporary Registration Permit that has expired or will soon expire, remove it from your vehicle's rear window before installing the Proof of Registration.

Keep in mind that the Proof of Registration is only a temporary document to be displayed inside your vehicle's rear window until your new-style registration sticker arrives. However, **if you have an expired Temporary Registration Permit, you are required to display the Proof of Registration inside your vehicle's rear window as proof of valid registration until you receive your new-style registration sticker.**

When you receive your new-style registration sticker in the mail, remove the Proof of Registration from your vehicle's rear window and replace it with the new-style registration sticker in the same exact location.

Q: Am I required to use the Proof of Registration if I have a registration plate sticker or Temporary Registration Permit that probably will NOT expire before I receive my new-style registration sticker?

A: No. If you have a registration plate sticker or Temporary Registration Permit that may not expire until after you receive your new-style registration sticker, you do not need to use the Proof of Registration. However, if this is the case, make sure you do not remove your Temporary Registration Permit or registration plate sticker until after you have received and displayed your new-style registration sticker inside your vehicle's rear window.

Q: What if I throw my Proof of Registration away and need to use it. What should I do?

A: The Proof of Registration, issued along with your new registration card, is located directly underneath your registration card (or cards, depending on whether you request any duplicates). Should you throw the Proof of Registration away and are in a situation that requires its use, call 1-877-PA-NU-TAG (1-877-726-8824) immediately and one of our customer service representatives will advise you. Make sure to have your registration information (i.e. license plate number, title number or Vehicle Identification Number [VIN]) available so that the representative can assist you as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Q: If I go to a PennDOT Full-Service Driver and Vehicle Services Center or an On-Line Messenger service to renew my vehicle registration, request a duplicate sticker or apply for first-time registration, will I receive a Proof of Registration document with my registration card? Or is the Proof of Registration sent only to those who mail their paperwork directly into PennDOT?

A: The Proof of Registration is issued with the registration card to all individuals included in the pilot program, regardless if these customers visit an over-the-counter service or mail their paperwork directly into PennDOT.

Q: Why does the Proof of Registration expire one month from the date of issue? I thought I just renewed my vehicle registration for one year? Is my registration valid for only one month?

A: Once you renew your registration, you have paid for one full year of registration, as indicated by the annual expiration date printed on your registration card and the new-

style registration sticker you will soon receive. Since the Proof of Registration is only displayed in the vehicle's rear window **temporarily**, it expires one month from the date of issue, as indicated by the expiration date printed on the document.

Q: How long after I receive my new registration card and Proof of Registration can I expect to receive my new-style registration sticker?

A: You should expect to receive your new-style registration sticker from PennDOT within three weeks of receiving your new registration card and Proof of Registration. All new-style registration stickers will be sent to customers through the mail.

Q: If I request duplicate registration cards, will I receive just as many Proof of Registration documents?

A: No, only one Proof of Registration will be issued.

Q: Why is the new-style registration sticker being sent to me in a separate mailing?

A: In order to provide customers included in the pilot program with a registration sticker that is less prone to theft and misuse, PennDOT chose to design the new-style registration sticker to include the vehicle's license plate number. However, producing a registration sticker of this detail requires another printing after the actual vehicle record has been updated. Rather than delay the mailing of the registration card until the sticker is printed, PennDOT is returning the registration card to customers as quickly as possible as evidence of their vehicle being renewed and thus, properly registered. For this reason, the new-style registration sticker is mailed separately.

Q: Is it possible that PennDOT could expedite sending my new-style registration sticker through an express mail delivery service so I could receive it faster?

A: Unfortunately, PennDOT has no method of sending your new-style registration sticker through an express mail delivery service. However, allowing a sufficient amount of time for your registration to be renewed increases the possibility of your new-style registration sticker arriving before your registration plate sticker expires.

Q: Can I obtain a new-style registration sticker before it's time for me to renew?

A: Registered vehicle owners included in the pilot program who have a current, valid registration may opt to apply for a new-style registration sticker for their existing registration.

If you choose this option, please complete PennDOT form MV44 (available at any PennDOT Full-Service Driver and Vehicle Services Center, On-Line Messenger service, motor club, or by logging onto PennDOT's web site, www.dot.state.pa.us) and check the box marked "Replacement of registration plate, renewal sticker or weight class sticker." The fee is \$7.50. No additional charge is incurred when the new-style registration is issued at the time of renewal.

Q: If I receive a new-style registration sticker from PennDOT, can I also obtain a registration sticker for my license plate?

A: Registered vehicle owners receiving a new-style registration sticker will be unable to obtain a registration sticker for their license plate. If you are a registered vehicle owner included in the pilot program, however, you will no longer need a standard registration plate sticker.

Q: I'm a registered vehicle owner slated to receive a new-style registration sticker but prefer a registration sticker for my license plate. Can I trade my new-style registration sticker for one that goes on my license plate?

A: All registered vehicle owners included in the pilot program are required to use the new-style registration sticker and will be unable to exchange it for a standard registration plate sticker.

Q: If I move into the Philadelphia area from elsewhere in Pennsylvania, will I get a new-style registration sticker when I change the address on my vehicle registration?

A: No. A change of address on your vehicle registration will not generate a new-style registration sticker. Upon changing your address, PennDOT will issue a registration card reflecting your address change. You will, however, receive a new-style registration sticker upon renewing your vehicle registration.

If you have changed the address on your registration but it's not time for you to renew, you have the option of applying for a new-style registration sticker for your existing registration. To do so, please complete PennDOT form MV44 (available at any PennDOT Full-Service Driver and Vehicle Services Center, On-Line Messenger service, motor club, or by logging onto PennDOT's web site, www.dot.state.pa.us). Please check the box marked "Replacement of registration plate, renewal sticker or weight class sticker." The fee is \$7.50.

Q: What if I reside outside the Philadelphia area and travel into the Philadelphia area with a registration plate sticker? Will I get cited for not having a new-style registration sticker displayed on my vehicle?

A: No. The standard registration plate sticker will continue to be a valid form of registration for certain types of vehicles in the Philadelphia area and for all registered vehicle types outside the Philadelphia area.

Q: What if I'm an individual included in this pilot program and travel outside the Philadelphia area, or into other states? Will I get stopped for not having a registration plate sticker? Will law enforcement recognize this new-style registration sticker?

A: PennDOT has gone to great lengths to educate state and local law enforcement offices in all areas of the Commonwealth about the new-style registration sticker for registered vehicle owners in the Philadelphia area. To further increase awareness, PennDOT has informed law enforcement of Pennsylvania's new-style registration sticker across the United States and Canada.

Q: I reside outside of the Philadelphia area but travel there frequently. Can I obtain a new-style registration sticker for my vehicle?

A: Until the pilot program has reached full implementation and PennDOT can measure the effectiveness of the new-style registration sticker in reducing sticker theft, only those included in the initial pilot program are eligible to receive a new-style registration sticker.

Also keep in mind that the standard registration plate sticker will continue to be recognized as a valid form of registration for certain vehicle types in the Philadelphia area and for all registered vehicle types outside the Philadelphia area.

Q: If I am included in this pilot program and go to a PennDOT Full-Service Driver and Vehicle Services Center or On-Line Messenger service to renew my vehicle registration, request a duplicate sticker or apply for registration, will I receive my new-style registration sticker on the spot along with my registration card?

A: No. Whether you visit a PennDOT Full-Service Driver and Vehicle Services Center, an On-Line Messenger service or mail your paperwork directly into PennDOT, **you will always receive your new-style registration sticker in the mail within three weeks of receiving your registration card.**

Q: Why can't I receive my new-style registration sticker when I go to a PennDOT Driver and Vehicle Services Center or On-line Messenger? Why do I have to wait for it to arrive in the mail?

A: In order to provide customers included in the pilot program with a registration sticker that is less prone to theft and misuse, PennDOT chose to design the new-style registration sticker to include the vehicle's license plate number. Printing the license plate number on the new product is an enhanced security feature that decreases the likelihood of theft and misuse. However, producing a registration sticker of this detail requires another printing after the actual vehicle record has been updated. For this reason, PennDOT must send all new-style registration stickers in the mail.

Q: What should I do if I don't receive my new-style registration sticker?

A: In the rare case that you do not receive a new-style registration sticker but the zip code listed on your registration card is included in the pilot program, please call 1-877-PA-NU-TAG (1-877-726-8824) immediately and follow the instructions given by the customer service representative. Make sure to have your registration information (i.e. license plate number, title number or Vehicle Identification Number [VIN]) available so that the representative can assist you as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Q: If I need to apply for a replacement new-style registration sticker because I never received it, will I be charged?

A: If you apply for a replacement new-style registration sticker within 90 days of your application being processed, PennDOT will issue a new-style registration sticker at no additional charge. Individuals applying for a replacement new-style registration sticker within the 90-day grace period should complete form MV44 (available at any PennDOT Full-Service Driver and Vehicle Services Center, On-Line Messenger

service, motor club, or by logging onto PennDOT's web site, www.dot.state.pa.us). Check the box marked "Replacement of registration plate, renewal sticker or weight class sticker," making sure your signature on the form is notarized. Individuals applying for a replacement new-style registration sticker after the 90-day grace period will be charged \$7.50.

When PennDOT processes your request, you will receive first a registration card and Proof of Registration, followed by the new-style registration sticker within three weeks. Until you receive your new-style registration sticker, detach and place the Proof of Registration inside the extreme lower left (driver's side) corner of your vehicle's rear window using several small pieces of clear cellophane tape. Keep the document flat against the glass by taping down all four sides, making sure the printed information is clearly visible from outside the vehicle.

When you receive your new-style registration sticker in the mail, remove the Proof of Registration from your vehicle's rear window and replace it with the new-style registration sticker in the same exact location.

Q: If I lost or misplaced my new-style registration sticker, do I need to apply for a replacement?

A: Yes. If you lose or misplace your new-style registration sticker, you will need to apply for a replacement. To apply, please complete PennDOT form MV44 (available at any PennDOT Full-Service Driver and Vehicle Services Center, On-Line Messenger service, motor club, or by logging onto PennDOT's web site, www.dot.state.pa.us) and check the box marked "Replacement of registration plate, renewal sticker or weight class sticker." The fee is \$7.50.

When PennDOT processes your request, you will receive first a registration card and Proof of Registration, followed by the new-style registration sticker within three weeks. Until you receive your new-style registration sticker, detach and place the Proof of Registration inside the extreme lower left (driver's side) corner of your vehicle's rear window using several small pieces of clear cellophane tape. Keep the document flat against the glass by taping down all four sides, making sure the printed information is clearly visible from outside the vehicle.

When you receive your new-style registration sticker in the mail, remove the Proof of Registration from your vehicle's rear window and replace it with the new-style registration sticker in the same exact location.

Q: What is the fee for a replacement new-style registration sticker?

A: Like a replacement registration plate sticker, the fee for a replacement new-style registration sticker is \$7.50.

Q: If I go to one of PennDOT's Full Service Driver and Vehicle Services Center or visit an On-Line Messenger service to apply for a replacement new-style registration sticker, will I receive one on the spot?

A: No. Although you may apply for a replacement new-style registration sticker at any PennDOT Full-Service Driver and Vehicle Services Center or On-Line Messenger service, your new-style registration sticker will be mailed to you. You will, however, receive a registration card and Proof of Registration document on the spot.

Q: What should I do if I receive my new-style registration sticker before I receive my other registration materials?

A: PennDOT has designed this program so that registered vehicle owners will receive their new-style registration sticker within three weeks of receiving their other registration materials. In the rare event that you would receive your new-style registration sticker prior to receiving your other registration materials, please call 1-877-PA-NU-TAG (1-877-726-8824) immediately. Make sure to have your registration information (i.e. license plate number, title number or Vehicle Identification Number [VIN]) available so that the representative can assist you as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Q: What happens if my new-style registration sticker falls off my vehicle's rear window?

A: If your new-style registration sticker detaches itself from your vehicle's rear window, you may re-affix it to the inside lower left (driver's side) corner of your vehicle's rear window using several small pieces of clear cellophane tape. Keep the new-style registration sticker flat against the glass by taping down all four sides, making sure the printed information is clearly visible from outside the vehicle.

Q: Do I need to transfer my new-style registration sticker if I transfer my license plate to another vehicle I own or recently purchased?

A: Yes. Should you transfer your license plate to another vehicle you own or recently purchased, you are required to transfer the new-style registration sticker to that vehicle as well. If you have difficulty placing the sticker on the vehicle because it no longer adheres to the inside of your vehicle's rear window, simply attach the sticker using several small pieces of clear cellophane tape. Remember to keep the document flat against the glass by taping down all four sides, making sure the printed information is clearly visible from outside the vehicle.

After PennDOT processes your paperwork, you will receive a new registration card reflecting the transfer, followed by a new-style registration sticker within three weeks. At this time you will need to remove your existing new-style registration sticker from the vehicle you transferred it to and replace it with the most recent one PennDOT mailed you.

Q: What should I do if I sell my vehicle?

A: Should you sell your vehicle and have a new-style registration sticker in the vehicle's rear window, you will need to remove both the license plate and the rear window registration sticker from the vehicle. If you plan to transfer your license plate to

another vehicle you own or recently purchased, you will also need to transfer the new-style registration sticker.

If you are no longer using the license plate, you are required to turn the plate **and the new-style registration sticker into PennDOT immediately**. Send both the license plate and the new-style registration sticker in the same envelope to the following address:

PennDOT
Return Tag Unit
P. O. Box 68597
1101 S. Front St.
Harrisburg, PA 17106-8597

Q: Why doesn't PennDOT allow vehicle owners to put the standard registration plate sticker in the back window?

A: Although displaying a registration plate sticker in the vehicle's rear window may seem like a viable option, it raises several concerns for law enforcement and PennDOT. The registration plate sticker is made of reflective materials that when affixed to a license plate becomes easily detectable for law enforcement trying to verify proof of valid registration. However, the registration plate sticker is ineffective when placed inside the vehicle's rear window. Printing the license plate number on a larger registration document makes the new-style registration sticker more vehicle-specific and, along with its placement inside the vehicle, minimizes theft and misuse.

Q: Why doesn't PennDOT allow vehicle owners to put the standard registration plate sticker in the front window?

A: Placement of a registration sticker on the front windshield may seem like a viable option but raises serious concerns for law enforcement trying to verify registration on a moving vehicle. Either the officer would have to pull the motorist to the side of the road, stop the vehicle and verify the registration; or the motoring officer would have to pass the vehicle in question on the highway and try to verify registration by looking at his or her rearview mirror, creating a dangerous situation.

Q: Why can't I continue putting my registration plate sticker in my wallet, purse or glove compartment?

A: In order to be in compliance with the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, proof of registration must be displayed on a vehicle. Although concealing a registration plate sticker in a wallet, purse or glove compartment makes registration sticker theft difficult, this practice creates problems for local law enforcement trying to identify properly registered vehicles from expired registrations.

Q: I do not live in the Philadelphia area but I received a new-style registration sticker. Why? Do I need to display it?

A: Yes. Although registered vehicle owners included in the pilot program are predominately in Philadelphia, there may be scenarios where residents living outside the Philadelphia area may receive the new-style registration sticker. Individuals leasing a vehicle and having a registration card with the leasing company's Philadelphia-area address will fall into this category.

Q: If I am a registered vehicle owner not included in the pilot program, can I receive a new-style registration sticker?

A: Only registered vehicle owners included in the pilot program are eligible to receive a new-style registration sticker.

Q: When will the new-style registration sticker be introduced to my area?

A: There are no immediate plans to introduce the new-style registration sticker to other areas of the Commonwealth.

Q: Why don't you send everyone included in the pilot program a new-style registration sticker immediately instead of waiting till the registration is renewed to send it?

A: In order to keep taxpayer costs at a minimum, PennDOT chose to issue the new-style registration sticker over the next twelve-months according to the registration renewal cycle. Issuing 520,000 new-style stickers in this fashion also allows PennDOT to gather feedback from customers and law enforcement throughout the year and gauge the effectiveness of the pilot program, as well as make any necessary changes or improvements along the way.

Q: Why isn't the new-style registration sticker being issued to heavier vehicles?

A: Of the 560,000 registered vehicles in the Philadelphia area, only 7% are vehicles other than passenger cars and lightweight trucks. Given these statistics, PennDOT chose to pilot the program to the largest majority of vehicles in this area, mainly passenger vehicles and lightweight trucks.

Q: The number on my license plate does not match the number printed on my new-style registration sticker. What should I do?

A: Although this situation would be extremely rare, in the event that the number on your license plate does not match the number printed on the new-style registration sticker, please call 1-877-PA-NU-TAG (1-877-726-8824) immediately and follow the instructions given by the customer service representative. Make sure to have your registration information (i.e. license plate number, title number or Vehicle Identification Number [VIN]) available so that the representative can assist you as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Q: I live in Philadelphia but when I renewed, I received a registration sticker for my plate instead of my rear window. What should I do?

A: Keep in mind that only passenger vehicles and lightweight trucks with certain zip codes are receiving a new-style registration sticker. All other types of vehicles are not included in the pilot program. However, if your zip code is included in the pilot program and you did not receive a new-style registration sticker, please call 1-877-PA-NU-TAG (1-877-726-8824) and one of our customer service representatives will advise you. Make sure to have your vehicle information readily available so the representative can assist you as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Q: I lease a vehicle from a company in Philadelphia and their address is on my vehicle registration. I received a new-style registration sticker but do not reside in Philadelphia. Can I trade in my new-style sticker for a registration plate sticker?

A: Individuals who lease a vehicle from a company in the Philadelphia area but live somewhere else in the Commonwealth will receive a new-style registration sticker, if the leasing company's address is listed on the registration card. Registered vehicle owners in this situation are required to use the new-style registration sticker and will be unable to receive a registration plate sticker.

Q: I am a resident of Philadelphia and lease my vehicle from a company outside the Philadelphia area. Because the leasing company owns my license plate, their address is on my vehicle registration and I received a registration plate sticker. Since I reside in Philadelphia, can I trade my registration plate sticker for a new-style registration sticker?

A: Depending on the lease agreement, Philadelphia-area residents leasing a vehicle from a company outside the Philadelphia area will continue to receive a registration plate sticker. Individuals in this situation are required to use the registration plate sticker and will be unable to receive a new-style registration sticker.

Q: My rear window has been replaced. What should I do with the new-style registration sticker?

A: Remove the new-style registration sticker from the damaged window and affix it to the replacement window. Should you have difficulty re-installing the sticker to your replacement rear window because the adhesive strips no longer adhere, simply affix the new-style registration sticker by using several small pieces of clear cellophane tape.

Some individuals may opt to apply for a replacement sticker. To do so, please complete PennDOT form MV44 (available at any PennDOT Full-Service Driver and Vehicle Services Center, On-Line Messenger service, motor club or by logging onto www.dot.state.pa.us) and check the box marked "Replacement of registration plate, renewal sticker or weight class sticker." The fee is \$7.50.

Q: I am about to surrender my license plate to PennDOT to serve a 90-day suspension for not having insurance on my vehicle. Am I also required to send in my new-style registration sticker?

A: Yes. Those serving a 90-day suspension for insurance purposes are required to send in their new-style registration sticker along with their license plate into PennDOT. Please send the license plate and new-style registration sticker in the same envelope to the following address:

PennDOT
Bureau of Motor Vehicles
Financial Responsibility Section
P. O. Box 68674
Harrisburg, PA 17106-8674

Q: I have a standard-issue license plate and received a new-style registration sticker. I have since applied for one of PennDOT's Special Fund plates or Special Organization plates. Will I get another new-style registration sticker?

A: Yes. Since the number on your new license plate will be different from the one your standard-issue plate, PennDOT will send you another new-style registration sticker.

Q: I have a lightweight truck with a cap and received a new-style registration sticker. Do I place the sticker in my truck window or in the cap's window?

A: Individuals having a lightweight truck with a cap receiving a new-style registration sticker should place their new-style registration sticker inside the rear-window of the cap on the lower left (driver's side) corner, making sure the sticker is flat against the glass and clearly visible from outside the vehicle.

Should the cap on your truck have no rear-window, place the new-style sticker inside your vehicle's rear on the lower left (driver's side) corner.

Q: I have a convertible. Where should I put the new-style registration sticker?

A: Individuals having vehicles with convertible tops receiving the new-style registration sticker are still required to install the new-style registration sticker inside their vehicle's rear window.

Q: The windows on my vehicle are tinted. Am I required to use the new-style registration sticker?

A: Yes. Registered vehicle owners having vehicles with tinted windows are required to display the new-style registration sticker.

Q: My vehicle does not have a rear window and I received a new-style registration sticker. What should I do?

A: If your vehicle does not have a rear window and you received a new-style registration sticker, please call 1-877-PA-NU-TAG (1-877-726-8824) immediately and one of our customer service representatives will advise you.

Q: Why don't I receive the new-style registration sticker with my registration card like I used to?

A: In order to provide customers included in the pilot program with a registration sticker that is less prone to theft and misuse, PennDOT chose to design the new-style registration sticker to include the license plate number. However, producing a registration sticker of this detail requires another printing after the actual vehicle record has been updated. Rather than delay the mailing of the registration card until the sticker is printed, PennDOT chose to return the registration card to customers as quickly as possible as evidence of their vehicle being renewed and thus, properly registered. For this reason, PennDOT is unable to provide the new-style registration sticker along with the registration card.

Q: What if a law enforcement officer cites me for not having registration sticker on my license plate?

A: Again, PennDOT has gone to great lengths to educate state and local law enforcement offices in all areas of the Commonwealth of the new-style registration sticker for Philadelphia-area residents. To further increase awareness, PennDOT has informed law enforcement offices of Pennsylvania's new-style registration sticker across the United States and Canada.

Q: Will inspection stations and mechanics know about this new-style registration sticker?

A: PennDOT is making sure that all inspection stations and mechanics within the Philadelphia area and statewide are fully informed of PennDOT's new-style registration sticker pilot program.

Q: What if I go to an inspection mechanic who refuses to inspect my vehicle because he/she is not aware of this new-style registration sticker?

A: Again, PennDOT is going to great lengths to ensure that all inspection mechanics not only in the Philadelphia area but statewide are fully informed of the new-style registration sticker pilot program. Although the chances of something like this occurring are extremely rare, if this should occur, please call PennDOT's Vehicle Inspection Division at (717) 787-2895 immediately and follow the instructions given the customer service representative.

Q: What will you be looking at during this pilot program and how will you evaluate the new-style sticker's success in reducing sticker theft?

A: Throughout this pilot program, PennDOT will be actively gathering feedback from our customers, state and local law enforcement and other concerned stakeholders. We will be collecting data to measure the product's effectiveness in reducing sticker theft as well as gathering feedback on the product's overall design, durability and acceptance of the general public.

Q: How long will the pilot program last?

A: This is the first time in over forty years that PennDOT has designed and piloted a new-style registration sticker for registered vehicle owners. Since the pilot program's impact in reducing sticker theft and the public's acceptance of this new product are yet to be measured, it is extremely difficult to predict a definite time period this pilot program will run.