

New Hope police have new tool to control speeding

Curt Yeske

Electronic Non-Radar Device.

New Hope police have a new tool in their effort to control speeding along the borough's streets.

The new speed detection system is known as Enradd, an acronym for

Chief Mike Cummings said four of his officers have undergone training in the use of the device and will begin trials with it in the near future.

He said the system will be first deployed in the Riverwoods devel-

opment where residents have had issues with speeding motorists and have asked for help. Cummings said that for about the first 30 days the police would issue warnings but after that speed violators would be given citations.

"We have some major roads, including state highways that run through town," said Larry Keller who as mayor is in charge of the police department. "The idea is to get drivers to be a little more respectful of the speed limits when they come into town, where the streets tend to be narrow and there are crowds of tourists on the sidewalks."

The system consists of two U-shaped aluminum bars that are placed across the street from each other and a receiving unit that is packaged in a moderately sized suitcase located in a patrol car. One of the bars has two transmitters. The other bar has two receivers. Two beams of light coming from the transmitters are spaced exactly three feet from each other.

The operation is simple. As a car passes through the invisible beams the system calculates the elapsed time it took the vehicle to travel from one beam to the other. The result is relayed electronically to an officer in a patrol car. The preferred option is

for the officer at the site to radio ahead to another car farther down the street that would stop the offender.

The system is in fairly wide use in Pennsylvania because only state police are authorized to use radar in tracking speeders.

Cummings said his officers will still deploy a Vascar system unit which is linked to a hand-held stopwatch with a simple computer.

Vascar requires that white lines or squares be painted on the roadway a certain distance from one another to mark the measured space.

"That's the good thing about the new system," said Cummings. "We don't need to paint white lines or anything. All we need to do is set up the system. We could use it in one spot for an hour and pick it up move it to another place in just a couple of minutes."

"The best thing about Enradd is that it removes the human element. The whole thing is electronic and not subject to human error that might occur in using a stopwatch," said Cummings.

Enradd can be used day or night and can detect the speed of any moving vehicle from a bicycle to a tractor trailer, says its manufacturer, the YIS Cowder Group of York.

The system itself must be recal-

ibrated every 60 days. Some departments conduct tests with their own vehicles before timing other vehicles in a speed trap.

The borough council frequently hears of speeding on the local streets by quarry trucks and other vehicles. As part of its overall effort to calm traffic the borough succeeded recently in getting the State Dept. of Transportation to reduce the speed on Main Street to 25 mph.

But speeding issues continue to resurface.

At the last council meeting residents of New Street were assured that the speeding on that hilly, narrow thoroughfare would be one of the first places the Enradd system would be used.

Public hearing set for estuary, bay water quality

Delaware River Basin Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, Sept. 23, to receive comments on a proposed rulemaking to update the commission's water quality criteria for toxic pollutants in the Delaware Estuary and Bay.

The hearing will be held at the DRBC's office building on 25 State Police Drive in West Trenton, N.J., beginning at 2:30 p.m. and continuing until all those who wish to testify have the opportunity to do so. To register, contact Paula Schmitt at 609-883-9500 x224.

Written comments on the proposed rulemaking must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 1, and may be submitted by e-mail to regs@drbc.state.nj.us, or by mail to: Regulations c/o Commission Secretary, DRBC, P.O. Box 7360, West Trenton, NJ 08628-0360.

Comments may also be faxed to Regulations at 609-883-9522. In all cases, include the commentator's name, address and affiliation in the comment, and include "Water Quality Criteria" in the subject line.



Mum sale

The New Hope Eagle Fire Company will hold its Fall Mum and T-shirt Sale 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 17, 18 and 19 at the Eagle Firehouse on Sungan Road and Route 202. The annual event brings financial support to the company. Eagle Fire Company Vice President Richard Mangan and volunteer Rosemary Sickles of New Hope Manor assisted in last year's sale. Photograph by Gordon Nieburg.

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Fox Chase Salutes its 30 Top Docs

Philadelphia magazine's annual "Top Doctors" issue is an important standard for those seeking excellent medical care in the Philadelphia area – listing doctors that were selected among the region's best by a national survey of professional peers.

We congratulate our 30 Top Docs – fully one-in-four Fox Chase physicians made this year's list.

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