

MDOT hosts Safety Message Contest

Special to Pelahatchie News

The Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) has brought back its annual Safety Message Contest for another year. Bring your A game and come up with the punniest, cleverest messages for your chance to win.

The contest began on June 1 and will end on June 15, 2022. That means there is still a chance to enter.

MDOT's traffic safety messages appears on DMS boards along highways and interstates throughout Mississippi. These messages, which are often related to current events and pop culture, are part of an effort to encourage drivers to change their actions behind the wheel. However, any local emergency messages and traffic updates automatically override scheduled messages on the DMS boards.

There is no limit to the number of messages one can submit, but guidelines include:

- The message must relate to traffic safety.
- Signs can only accommodate three lines and 21 characters per line, including spaces.
- Hashtags, phone numbers and



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website addresses are not allowed.

- No emojis.

For this year's contest, participants are encouraged to focus their messages on the following themes:

- Speeding
- Distracted Driving/Texting and Driving
- Seat Belt Safety
- Sober Driving
- Work Zone Safety
- Turn Signals/Blinkers
- Left Lane Driving Etiquette

Follow @MississippiDOT on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter and then comment with a message to enter.

Report town issues with the 311 Pelahatchie app



Photo by Pelahatchie News

311 Pelahatchie app icon

By Katie White

The Town of Pelahatchie has an app for its citizens to report important issues that affect residents' daily way of life. It's called the 311 Pelahatchie app.

There are several topics to choose from to help with specific needs. Some of the topics are ditch cleaning, power outages, down power lines, gas leaks, stray animals and more.

After selecting a topic, the app user has the option to also add a location, upload media such as photos or videos of the issue and utilize a digital form to sum-

marize the issue.

Karl Vanhorn, Mayor of Pelahatchie, said, "We check this app at least daily, and more often when time permits."

"The app was created through Central Mississippi Planning and Development back during Mayor Ross's term. It's a great tool for the town to have, and it allows our citizens to interact instead of calling the city hall Monday - Friday. They see something, and they can report it."

The app can be downloaded to a smart device easily and at no cost by searching for "311 Pelahatchie."



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