

Vol. 3, Issue 1 | Spring 2025

Spring is
in Bloom!

Fleet Management

In this edition:

Welcoming our new employees, and updates on
Lost and Found, Car Wash, recalls, telematics,
and more!

TEAM 
KENTUCKY[®]

FINANCE AND
ADMINISTRATION CABINET
Office of Fleet Management

Car Wash

The Office of Fleet Management is excited to announce that our new car wash is now open!

The car wash is located at 368 Warsaw Street in Frankfort, adjacent to the Frankfort Motor Pool location.

Car wash operating hours are 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET on Monday-Friday, weather permitting.

There is no charge for fleet-managed vehicles.

For additional help, contact the Help Desk: (800) 928-4649.



Employee Spotlight



Joseph Marks

Joseph Marks came to us straight from Berea College and has not disappointed. He joined the Inventory Section in November 2024. He is handling the Surplus of all vehicles turned in or salvaged, GPS removals and assignment information, and the title work with the clerk's office! He loves to hike and garden. He loves the new things he is learning in Fleet. We are happy to have him on our team.



Joshua Ohmer

Welcome, Joshua Ohmer, to our Fleet Management team. Josh graduated from Gateway Technical College, taking courses in all aspects of automotive repair. He has a thirst for knowledge and is very dedicated. We look forward to helping him grow and achieve his goals.



Annie Smith

Annie Smith was hired in the Billing section of the Inventory Department. She graduated from Bluegrass Community Technical College in May 2024 with an associate's degree in science and criminal justice. She has two children, ages 13 and 15. She enjoys spending time with her fiancé, kids, and Australian/Blue heeler mix Sadie Lou. They like kayaking, swimming, boating, fishing, hiking, camping, and painting.



Kristine Recktenwald

Kristine is OFM's new Training Development Specialist. Her father was in the military and she spent most of her life in the Maryland/DC area. She earned her bachelor's degree from Asbury University and is on track to complete her master's degree in May for Instructional Design. She has five children. Her favorite activity is to curl up with a good book and a cup of tea. She loves camping with her family. She looks forward to learning new things.

Lost and Found

Unfortunately, many motor pool customers often forget to retrieve personal items from fleet vehicles when returning them. When we find forgotten items in the cars, we attempt to notify agencies, but we still accumulate many lost and found items each year.

Fleet is not responsible for any items left in the vehicles upon return, but we do keep these items in our lost and found for sixty days to ensure agencies have ample time to retrieve them. Items not retrieved during the hold period will be considered abandoned and Fleet will dispose of items appropriately.

Please remember to check your vehicle carefully when dropping off returns to avoid leaving items behind.



Telematics: The Wave of the Future



What are telematics? Manufacturer computer modules (black boxes) on modern vehicles collect a variety of information about vehicle performance, driving events, vehicle location, and issues or faults. Manufacturers use the data to assist owners, diagnose issues, and improve future vehicle designs. Organizations managing fleets, like the Commonwealth's Office of Fleet Management, leverage the vehicle's collection of telemetric data to more effectively and efficiently manage its assets.

The Office of Fleet Management employs a third-party telemetry vendor, GeoTab, to organize and report data and information collected by the onboard systems. We directly track and use some of the GeoTab data. For instance, GeoTab collects and reports mileage data from the vehicle, eliminating the need for most state agencies to manually report mileage each month. We also monitor vehicle fault data to better manage vehicle maintenance and repair requirements or to assist with vehicle diagnostics.

Telematics: Continued



Perhaps more importantly, GeoTab Fleet provides each agency with the tools to actively and effectively manage the vehicles assigned to them. 200 KAR 40:020 explicitly assigns the responsibility, and therefore the accountability, to each agency head for ensuring drivers are using state vehicles in accordance with laws and regulations.

Fleet provides GeoTab access and training to agencies to better provide agency heads with the means to manage the use of assigned vehicles. Many agencies, like KYTC, are very actively employing GeoTab capabilities. KYTC's safety report card approach allows its leadership the opportunity to educate and/or address driver habits or issues before serious consequences arise. It also offers agencies the opportunity to recognize employees who are doing things right. In short, it's a tool that can help agency leadership develop and reward a culture of safe and responsible use of important state assets. If you want to know more about telemetric data and GeoTab, please contact Fleet.

Turn Around - Don't Drown!

It's never safe to cross through flooded roadways. When drivers choose to traverse high water, they're putting themselves and their passengers at significant risk. Please remember if you cannot see the bottom of the street, it is simply not worth the risk. Your safety and the safety of your passengers should be the main factors leading you to choose a safer route, or even delaying or canceling the trip altogether.

High water crossings also risk significant damage to the vehicle. Submerged wheel bearings often sustain damage, and it does not take a lot of water to compromise them. Wheel bearing failure at highway speeds can be dangerous and cause loss of control of the vehicle. Water intrusion into the transmission can lead to premature and complete transmission failure disabling the vehicle. High water crossings risk contamination contributing to early component failure. It can lead to failed bearings and seals, damaged electrical components, corrosion that impacts electrical connections and may contribute to or directly cause complete failure of the unit.

Crossing flooded sections of roads puts the engine at risk. The first ramification may be a stalled engine, and likely a stranded traveler, because the engine often will not restart. We may be able to tow the vehicle to a shop and undertake costly repairs, however, it is highly unlikely the engine will be repairable.

The National Weather Service is fond of saying "Turn Around, Don't Drown," and reminds everyone that it takes just 12 inches of fast-flowing water across a roadway to sweep away most cars. It doesn't take a whole lot more for trucks and SUVs to suffer the same fate. Be smart, don't risk lives, safety, or equipment. It's simply not worth it.

Recalls



Why are recalls important? Recalls are the manufacturers' means of officially informing owners about potentially serious design or production issues with the owners' vehicles. They provide owners with the information needed to address issues through their local dealers.

In many cases, timely action by the owner is key to preventing costly repairs to the vehicle or injury to the driver or passengers. When Fleet receives recall notifications, we send out notices to the agencies operating the vehicles. Fleet vehicles are assigned to agencies across the Commonwealth and per necessity, we rely on agencies operating the assigned vehicles to take timely action to address recall requirements.

At best, failure to act could constitute vehicle misuse and could result in avoidable damage to the vehicle. Even worse, inaction could cause a driver to be stranded or even result in personal injury.

Please take recall notifications seriously and take the required actions. Our help desk experts and professional maintenance staff are standing by to assist in any way we can.

Fleet Contact Information

Service	Email Inbox	Phone	Hours
Management (Emergency Services, General Questions/Responses)	Fleet.ManagementSupport@ky.gov	(800) 928-4649	(M-F) 7 AM - 5 PM EST
Motor Pool (Reservations, Kiosk Customers, New Customers, Non-State Passenger Requests)	Finance.MotorPoolServices@ky.gov	(502) 564-2260	(M-F) 7 AM - 5 PM EST
WEX Fuel Cards (Card Issues/Questions)	Fleet.ManagementSupport@ky.gov	(502) 564-4090	(M-F) 7 AM - 5 PM EST
Billing Questions (Vendors)	Fleet.MotorPoolBilling@ky.gov	(502) 564-2260	(M-F) 7 AM - 5 PM EST
Parts (Inventory Questions/Updates, Wrecks, Damage)	FleetVehicleAssetMgmt@ky.gov	(502) 564-4090	(M-F) 7 AM - 5 PM EST
Service (Garage Operations)	Fleet.ManagementSupport@ky.gov	(502) 564-4090	(M-F) 7 AM - 5 PM EST
Transportation Cabinet (Emergency Services - After 5 PM)	N/A	(502) 564-2080	(Everyday) After 5 PM EST

KECC EVENTS

The KECC payroll contribution “Guess the Vehicle Mileage” contest results are in, and the closest guess was from...



Joel Martin from the
Department of Revenue!



Got an idea for a newsletter topic?
Please email us at:
Fleet.ManagementSupport@ky.gov