

# Dean C. Ringle, P.E., P.S., Franklin County Engineer

# Media Advisory

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**For Immediate Release**

## **Drivers' Skills to be Tested at Franklin County's 29<sup>th</sup> Snow Fighter Rodeo Competition**

**(Franklin County, Ohio – October 15, 2014)** --- Dean C. Ringle, P.E., P.S., Franklin County Engineer announces that he will host Franklin County's 29th Snow Fighter Rodeo on Thursday, October 16, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Franklin County Engineer's West Maintenance Facility located at 4444 Fisher Road. Nearly 70 snow plow drivers from the engineer's office will compete. Six local townships will participate in the training portions.

"The rodeo is a great opportunity for the snow plow drivers to test their skills and safe driving practices," said Dean Ringle. "Participants are judged for their abilities to maneuver through a difficult obstacle course, and in backing their vehicles. It is our goal to prepare the drivers for every type of on-the-road situation and hazard."

Other competitions at the rodeo involve the operation of front-end loaders, and a trouble-shooting station where drivers are asked to inspect a truck for possible mechanical problems.

"To ensure our readiness for winter, all county drivers must also complete a comprehensive classroom and on-the-road training program," said Dean Ringle.

The Snow Fighting operation is comprised of 102 action-ready employees. During inclement weather, the Snow Fighters work from three regional headquarters in two twelve-hour shifts. They combat hazardous snow and ice conditions on nearly 982 miles of county roads and municipal thoroughfares.

During the 2013/2014 winter season, the Franklin County Engineer's Office used approximately 13,500 tons of salt and just over 124,000 gallons of anti-icing liquids. We also provided nearly 2,300 tons of salt and over 210,000 gallons of anti-icing liquids to local communities and public entities.

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