



ADOPT A COUNTY ROAD SAFETY LITERATURE

The Adopt A County Road program provides families, organizations, and community groups with an opportunity to give back to the community while enjoying teamwork, exercise, and scenic roadsides. Safety is a primary goal of the program. Because volunteers are essential to its success, the following guidelines are provided to help keep you and your group safe while cleaning up County roads.

The Group shall conduct at least two safety meetings per year.

❖ Proper attire

- Volunteers shall wear safety vests at all times during the cleanup.
- Volunteers shall wear gloves to protect hands from sharp objects and any poisonous plants, animals or insects that may be encountered.
- Volunteers shall wear closed-toed shoes during the cleanup. Leather shoes or boots with solid soles are recommended.
- Volunteers shall wear light-colored clothing and long pants or jeans. It is recommended to wear a hat and long sleeves to avoid sunburn.

❖ Road safety

- The Adopt A County Road group sign shall be mounted prior to performing the cleanup.
- The Group Authorized Representative shall ensure the traffic control signs are set out during the cleanup and removed after the cleanup.
- It is recommended that volunteers carpool to the cleanup to minimize parked vehicles in the right of way which may lead to a traffic hazard.
- Roadway traffic may not be hindered or stopped during the cleanup.
- Volunteers shall limit the cleanup to the ditch and avoid entering the roadway wherever possible.
- Volunteers shall limit activities to the public right of way.
- Volunteers should always work facing traffic. Never turn your back to oncoming cars. If you can see an out-of-control vehicle coming your way, it might be possible to avoid danger.
- The Group shall provide adult supervision when participants are minors (15 years of age or younger). The adult-to-minor ratio shall be 1:4 or better. Participation by children under the age of seven (7) is not recommended.

- Volunteers shall not walk on guardrails or lean over bridge railings.
- Trash/debris pickup at locations where space may be limited for vehicular traffic such as bridges, tunnels and overpasses should be avoided.
- Volunteers shall watch their footing and avoid steep slopes, trenches, and drop-offs.
- Volunteers shall avoid using headsets or headphones, as these may prevent them from hearing oncoming traffic.

❖ **Health concerns**

- Volunteers shall not pick up items that may pose a health hazard, including but not limited to needles, syringes, broken glass, animal carcasses, urine bottles, or heavy objects. If there is uncertainty, the County contact shall be notified of the item type and location.
- The Group shall have a first-aid kit available at all times. It is recommended that one or more volunteers be familiar with CPR and basic first-aid procedures.
- Several Group members should carry cell phones and be familiar with the phone number and driving route to the nearest hospital.
- Sunscreen and insect repellent are recommended for use during cleanup activities.
- The Group should maintain a list of volunteer allergies in case of an emergency.
- Drinking water shall be available at all times. Volunteers should avoid overexertion and drink water frequently.
- The Group shall prohibit participants from possessing or consuming alcoholic beverages while on the adopted section of roadway.