

Conditions for Participation in Adopt-A-Highway

The Department allows volunteer groups to participate in beautification of the state by picking up litter along selected segments of the State Highway System as part of the Adopt-A- Highway Program. All volunteers and volunteer groups are subject to the following conditions:

1. Any organization, business, individual, family, city, county, state, or federal agency is welcome to apply for participation in the Georgia Adopt-A-Highway Program. Each volunteer group must have at least six members, with three backup members.
2. Children ages 12 to 15 are welcome to participate in litter pickup but must be supervised by one adult for every three children. Minors' waivers must include the name of the minor and the adult approving participation and signed by the child's parent or legal guardian. Children under 12 are not allowed to participate.
3. The Department will provide a sign acknowledging the segment of road has been adopted. GDOT will place the signs at the beginning of your adoption project area on both sides of the road. The schedule of sign placement and the size, content and location are at the discretion of GDOT. The participating group may apply for its name to be included on the signs if the group has signed the non-discrimination pledge portion of the Adopt-a-Highway application. Logos, insignias, slogans, phone or fax numbers, Internet addresses, ham radio IDs, or directions are not allowed.
4. Acknowledgement signs which are damaged by any means or for any reason, beyond normal wear and tear, will not be replaced more than once per twelve month period. Signs will not be replaced for groups who have not picked up litter within the previous 120 days.
5. Groups can only adopt routes considered safe and appropriate for such activities. Controlled access roads and roads with speed limits greater than 55 mph are unsafe for volunteer litter pickup and are not eligible for adoption.
6. Due to the normal conditions in the right of way, all volunteers are required to wear plain colored pants and shirts and a Department approved safety vest. Bare legs and open shoes are not allowed. Baseball caps are acceptable for sun protection. However, no words, slogans or designs are allowed on any clothing or headwear. The Department reserves the right to remove any individual(s) or group(s) whose participation in litter pickup causes a disturbance or unsafe condition on the road.
7. Every individual participant in litter pickup must fully complete the required waiver. The completed waiver must be submitted to the District Adopt -A-Highway coordinator no less than the second business day before beginning any litter pick-up. All release forms **must** be on file in GDOT offices **before** volunteers are given permission to do litter pickups on state-controlled roadways.
8. The Adopt-A-Highway Status Report must be completed and returned to the District Adopt-A-Highway coordinator no more than 7 days after completion of the litter pickup. The Department may remove a group from participation in the Program if pickups are not performed quarterly, the Status Report is not timely submitted, or if there are discrepancies between the Application, Waivers, or Status Reports.

9. Volunteer groups are expected to pick up their adopted sites at least once a quarter, for a minimum of four times per year.
10. Volunteers will wear GDOT-provided safety vests at all times during litter pickups which must be purchased from the Department. The Department will provide vests at cost. Groups must pay for all vests when they are picked up from the Department. Once purchased the group may reuse the vests for subsequent litter pickups provided they are in good condition.