

Georgia DOT Adopt-a-Highway Coordinators

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For more information, visit
Georgia DOT's Adopt-a-
Highway Program on the
Web at [www.dot.state.](http://www.dot.state.ga.us/informationcenter/programs/environment/adoptahighway)

[ga.us/informationcenter/
programs/environment/
adoptahighway](http://www.dot.state.ga.us/informationcenter/programs/environment/adoptahighway)

Contact Information

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Adopt-A-Highway Program

Georgia Department of Transportation

Adopt-a- Highway Program

Georgia's Adopt-a-Highway Program – a partnership between the Georgia Department of Transportation and Keep Georgia Beautiful – is a public service program that seeks the help of volunteers to remove litter from state roadsides and highways. In addition to saving taxpayer dollars, the program offers environmentally-conscious citizens an opportunity to contribute to a cleaner environment and to enhance the look of communities where they live or work. Volunteers of the program also serve as visible reminders to the public that we are all stewards of the land.

Georgians are proud of our beautiful state, but unfortunately, our roadways are becoming dumping grounds for illegal litter. The same state that inspired poet laureate Sidney Lanier to write of its beautiful rivers and trees is being threatened by litter, which is unsightly and expensive to remove. Roadside litter also poses a serious threat to motorists and wildlife.

Please help clean up our state by volunteering with our Adopt-A-Highway Program, a partnership between the Georgia Department of Transportation and Keep Georgia Beautiful. The following information will help you and your group get started so that you can join hundreds of volunteer groups already cleaning up Georgia's roadways. Thanks for helping Keep Georgia Peachy Clean!

How the program works

Each volunteer group adopts at least a one-mile stretch of state or federal highway and agrees to remove litter from both sides of the road at least four times a year for two years. A volunteer group may pay for litter removal services on their adopted section of highway.

The volunteer group's leader notifies the appropriate Georgia DOT office at least three business days prior to a scheduled pickup. The filled litter bags are left on the site at a predetermined location for Georgia DOT crews to pick up. Within one week after the pickup, the volunteer group will submit a status report to the district office.

Who can participate

Any civic-minded organization, business, individual, family, city, county, state, or federal agency is welcome to volunteer in the Georgia Adopt-a-Highway program. Each volunteer group must have at least six members, with three backup members. All members' names, addresses and phone numbers will be provided to Georgia DOT prior to acceptance of the application. Children aged 12 to 15 years must be supervised by adults at a rate of one adult for every three children. Children under the age of 12 are not eligible for participation in the program.

How to get started

- Organize your group and get commitments before you submit your permit application.
- Contact the District Coordinator for your part of the state. The District Coordinator can tell you whether a particular site is available for adoption or can, if you prefer, recommend a suitable site for you.
- Complete the permit application and submit it to the Georgia DOT General Office.
- The District Coordinator will notify you when you are approved and will assist you in getting started.

What else you should know

- There is no cost to participate in the program.
- Permits may be renewed every two years.
- You cannot transfer your permit to others.
- You or Georgia DOT may cancel anytime you are unable to meet the permit requirements.
- Permits may be temporarily suspended by Georgia DOT for safety reasons.

What Georgia DOT will provide

- Loan you safety vests which must be worn by all participants while volunteering on GDOT right-of-way.
- Provide you with free trash bags and dispose of the trash you collect and leave bagged at predetermined locations in your adoption area.
- Waive the permit fee for Adopt-a-Highway groups.
- Provide a safety training slide show on our website.
- Waive insurance requirements for volunteer participants.
- Place recognition signs on the side of the roadway with the Adopt-a-Highway logo and your group's name.

Why you should care

- Litter is unsightly and can destroy the natural beauty of a roadway and a community.
- Georgia DOT spends millions of dollars of taxpayer money removing litter from state roadways and highways, excluding the amount spent by local cities and counties. Your help with litter pickup will save funds and contribute to the overall attractiveness of a specific area.
- Litter-free roadways offer visitors a pleasant "welcome" to your city or county and make Georgians proud of our home state.
- Volunteers' presence reminds people not to litter.