

ADOPT-A-ROAD PROGRAM

POLICY NO. 19-13

PURPOSE:

The County recognizes the need and the desirability of litter-free roadways.

It is the intent of the Board of County Commissioners to establish a policy regarding the permitting of individuals and/or organizations to contribute toward the efforts of maintaining litter-free roadways.

DEFINITIONS:

- A. Adopt-A-Road Program – an individual or organization who “adopts” an approved section of roadway and volunteers to perform litter pick-up as set forth in the conditions specified herein.
- B. Roadways – local, collector, arterial roads, and roadside parks are included in the Adopt-A-Road Program. Medians are NOT to be included in the program due to safety concerns. The program does not include any state or federal highways; it is for county-maintained roads only.
- C. Rights-of-Way – as used in this policy, rights-of-way means any non-paved area next to a county roadway or publicly owned property.
- D. Individual – any participant eighteen (18) years of age or older or any participant eighteen (18) years or younger with adult supervision.
- E. Organization – any group that is a current valid corporate entity registered through the Florida Department of State Division of Corporations which can be verified through SunBiz.
- F. Department – the Hernando County Division of Transportation Services/ Department of Public Works.

POLICY:

It will be the responsibility of the Department of Public Works to administer and execute this policy in permitting of individual(s) or organization(s) to volunteer and adopt an approved section of roadway and perform litter pick-up, subject to the following conditions:

Conditions.

- 1. Any participant eighteen (18) years of age or younger shall be subject to the safety rules and regulations set down for participants over eighteen (18) years of age. One (1) adult supervisor, over the age of eighteen years of age IS REQUIRED for each five (5) participants eighteen years of age or younger. Parental/Guardian Consent is required for each participant under eighteen (18) years of age.

2. Each Individual/Organization shall ensure that participants do not bring person(s) to observe the activity and those who are not official participant(s).
3. Each Individual/Organization shall attend at least one (1) safety meeting per year. Individuals must attend a safety meeting conducted by the Department before participating in the first roadside cleanup. Organizations shall provide safety meetings for members prior to their first cleanup.
4. Individual/Organizations shall adopt a section of roadway that is a minimum of one (1) mile in length.
5. The Individual/Organization shall be required to adopt and participate in the program for a minimum of two (2) years.
6. The Individual/Organization shall pick-up litter a minimum of four (4) times a year.
7. The Individual/Organization shall obtain required supplies and materials from the Department during regular business hours. Items to be provided by the Department include trash bags, safety vest, and traffic control signs. The Individual/Organization will sign for the safety equipment and will be responsible for the equipment's return to the Department.
8. The Individual/Organization shall erect traffic control signs prior to a clean-up and remove them after the clean-up has been accomplished. The Individual/Organization Coordinator is responsible for the safety equipment and will be responsible for the equipment's return to the Department at the conclusion of their participation in the program.
9. The Individual/Organization shall place filled trash bags at specified locations at the adopted site for pick-up with the Individual/Organization Coordinator. A minimum of ten (10) bags are required for pick-up by the county. If less than the required amount of filled trash bags are accumulated, it will be the responsibility of the Individual/Organization to dispose of said trash either utilizing their local convenience center or curbside collection service.
10. Unused materials and supplies furnished by the Department shall be stored for the next pick-up with the Individual/Organization Coordinator.
11. The Individual/Organization shall remove litter during daylight hours only.
12. The Individual/Organization shall remove litter during good weather conditions only.
13. The Individual/Organization MUST advise the Department the day the first litter pick-up is to occur and MUST do so for all subsequent pick-ups. The Service Request can be made by telephone (352-754- 4060) or Web-Based Request at www.hernanadocounty.us/tranportation/.

14. The Individual/Organization MUST complete and provide to the Department a record of the work performed for each pick-up, utilizing Hernando County Adopt-A-Road Notification of Work Completed Form.
15. The Individual/Organization covenants and agrees for separate consideration that it will indemnify and hold harmless Hernando County and the Department, and any and all County officers, agents, and employees from any claim, loss, damage, cost charge or expense, including but not limited to, attorneys' fees, arising out of any act, action, neglect or omission by the Organization or Individual during the performance of this Agreement, whether direct or indirect, and whether to any person or property to which this indemnification agreement may apply. In the case of an Organization, the Organization agrees that each and every participant in the Adopt-A-Road Program shall be considered and deemed for all purposes to be an agent of the Organization subject to the responsibilities of this Agreement.

The Department agrees to accomplish the following:

1. Erect a sign at each end of the adopted section of roadway with the group's name or acronym displayed. All signs will be uniform.
2. Provide reflective vests, trash bags, and safety work zone signs.
3. Remove the filled trash bags as soon as possible after the litter pick-up.
4. The Department will not remove litter from the adopted section of the roadway. The Department will remove trash/debris (such as large undomesticated animals such as deer, bear, or large, heavy, or hazardous items) when found.
5. Provide safety training through the Department or other qualified means.
6. Applicant agrees to undertake a standardized written Adopt-A-Road Agreement between Hernando County and the Individual/Organization for roadside litter pick-up. Said standardized agreement may be revised by the Hernando County Legal Department on an as-needed basis. Said agreements shall be executed by the designated representative(s) from the Division of Transportation Services.

Adopted: August 13, 2013