

Cass County
ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY AGREEMENT

Cass County Government, hereinafter called the County, and _____, hereinafter called the Group, recognize the need and the desirability of litter-free highways and enter into this agreement to permit the Group to volunteer its efforts in maintaining litter-free highways.

The County recognizes the Group as the adopting organization for Highway_____, from _____, and the Group accepts the responsibility of pick up of litter on this section of highway and promoting a litter-free environment in the community for a period beginning_____, 200____, and ending_____, 20____, (minimum of two years).

By this agreement, the Group acknowledges the hazardous nature of litter pick up and agrees to the following terms and conditions:

- When participants are 15 years of age or younger the Group shall furnish adequate supervision by adults.
- Each Group shall conduct at least one safety meeting per year and not more than thirty days before commencing the initial work. Participants must attend such a safety meeting before participating in any work. The attachment to this agreement, "Safety Tips for Adopt-A-Highway Groups" shall be covered at all safety meetings.
- Groups shall adopt a section of roadway that is normally three miles in length.
- The adoption period shall be for a minimum of two years.
- The Group shall pick up litter in May, July, and September each year and such other times the Group deems appropriate.
- The Group shall dispose of trash in accordance with Federal, State and Local regulations. Groups are encouraged to recycle appropriate materials for their own benefit.
- The Group shall be considered an independent contractor and not an employee of the County for any purpose, such as worker's compensation, medical insurance, nor any job benefits normally provided to full-time classified employees. The Group shall save and hold harmless the County, its officers, agents, employees, and members from all claims, suits, or actions of whatsoever nature resulting from or arising out of the activities of the Group under this agreement.
- The group and each of the participants agrees to release the Cass County Government, its agencies, officers and employees (County), from any and all claims of any nature, including all costs, expenses and attorneys' fees, which may in any manner result from or arise out of this agreement.

Adopt A Highway Agreement
Page 2

The County agrees to:

- Erect a sign at each end of the adopted section of the highway, with Group's name or acronym displayed.
- Remove litter from the adopted section when unusual circumstances are discovered; i.e., large, heavy, or hazardous items are on the right of way.

If, in the judgment of the County, it is determined that the Group has failed to perform its duties, The County may terminate this agreement upon 30 days written notice to the Group, and remove the signs.

Attachment: Safety Tips for Adopt-A-Highway Groups

Name of Group

Group's President (Print)

Group's President (Signature)

Date

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Daytime Telephone No.

Nighttime Telephone No.

APPROVED BY:

County Engineer

Date

**North Dakota Department of Transportation
SAFETY TIPS FOR ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY GROUPS**

REMEMBER: You are working in a dangerous environment--a public highway.

Crew members should possess the following minimum qualifications:

- 1) Average intelligence.
- 2) Good physical condition, including sight and hearing.
- 3) Mental alertness.
- 4) A sense of responsibility for safety of public and crew.

Crew members should not carry knives, machetes, axes, etc. Do not attempt to compact (squeeze) trash sacks to gain room for more trash. Injuries from broken or jagged objects often result from this practice. Fill the sack with what goes in easily, and then get another bag.

Park all vehicles well clear of the roadway and at least ten feet from the shoulder's surface.

TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS, DO THE FOLLOWING:

Whenever possible, face oncoming traffic while you work. Be prepared to move out of the way of errant vehicles.

Discontinue work in inclement weather, especially in times of reduced visibility, wet icy roads, during electrical storms, and during other than daylight conditions.

Avoid overexertion. Drink plenty of water, especially on warm, humid days.

WHAT TO WEAR

Wear light-colored clothing at all times when working on the right-of-way.

Wear heavy gloves. Do not pick up discarded syringes, hypodermic needles, or broken glass.

Watch for footing. Wear substantial leather shoes or boots with ankle support.

Stay off rip-rap and steep slopes.

Wear a hat and long sleeves to avoid sunburn. You may wish to use a sunscreen lotion on sunny days.

SOME THINGS TO STAY AWAY FROM...

Do not attempt to remove known or suspected toxic/hazardous substances. This could include meth by-products such as containers with hoses duct taped to spouts, empty starter fluid cans, propane tanks with discolored valves, or coffee filters, or bags containing a grayish/white substance. Notify the Cass County Highway Department or the Cass County Sheriff's Department of the location of such items immediately. Do not enter the roadway or its shoulder areas, paved or unpaved, to pick up trash.

Pick up pop bottles and similar containers only with great care. They may contain HUMAN WASTE.

Do not pick up discarded syringes, hypodermic needles, or broken glass.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY...

Every crew should possess an adequate first aid kit. Be prepared for serious injury; select an emergency room/hospital, and know the route from the work area to the designated treatment center.

Every crew should have transportation immediately available.

If possible, bring a cellular phone or CB radio with a fully charged battery.