

- Overstuff litter bags, or compact them. Remember to tie bag tops and place them together, iWWf possible, near the roadway shoulder.
- Mow straight up or straight down slopes.



### Always Be Prepared

- Be sure each crew has a first-aid kit.
- Have transportation available at all times.
- Know the location of and route to the nearest hospital or emergency room.
- Keep at least one cell phone with the group at all times, if possible.
- We suggest you take a certified first-aid class.

*Think safety first -  
and thank you for joining  
the Adopt A Highway  
program!*

For more information, call 1-888-ASK-MODOT (275-6636)  
[www.modot.state.mo.us](http://www.modot.state.mo.us)

## MoDOT Districts and Central Office

**Northwest District**  
3602 North Belt Highway  
St. Joseph, MO 64502  
(816) 387-2350

**North Central District**  
902 North Missouri  
Street/P.O. Box 8  
Macon, MO 63552  
(660) 385-3176

**Northeast District**  
South Route 61,  
P.O. Box 1067  
Hannibal, MO 63401  
(573) 248-2490

**Kansas City Area District**  
600 NE Colbern Road  
Lee's Summit, MO 64086  
(816) 622-6500

**Central District**  
1511 Missouri Boulevard  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
(573) 751-3322

**St. Louis Area District**  
1590 Woodlake Drive  
Chesterfield, MO 63017  
(314) 340-4100

**1-888 ASK MODOT**  
(275-6636)  
[www.modot.state.mo.us](http://www.modot.state.mo.us)



Missouri Department of Transportation  
Adopt-A-Highway Program  
P.O. Box 270  
105 West Capitol Avenue  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

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**Southwest District**  
3901 East 32nd Street  
Joplin, MO 64802  
(417) 629-3300

**Springfield Area District**  
3025 East Kearney Street/  
P.O. Box 868  
Springfield, MO 65801  
(417) 895-7600

**South Central District**  
910 Springfield Road  
Willow Springs, MO 65793  
(417) 469-3134

**Southeast District**  
2675 North Main Street  
Sikeston, MO 63801  
(573) 472-5333

**Central Office**  
105 West Capitol Avenue/  
P.O. Box 270  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
(573) 751-2551

# The Adopter's Guide to Safety



## Tips for Missouri Adopt-A-Highway Program

Missouri Department  
of Transportation

# Adopt a Mile of Missouri - And a Safety-First Attitude

*While you're making a difference picking up litter, mowing, beautifying, or planting natives on your adopted roadside, make sure you're doing it safely.*

*These guidelines were developed with your safety in mind. Please follow them at all times!*

## Volunteers Must

- Attend a safety briefing, led by your adopter representative and watch MoDOT's Safety DVD.
- Display caution flags on signs before performing adoptive work. Remove flags when finished.
- Wear a safety vest.
- Be aware of oncoming traffic.
- Be cautious when crossing roadways. Use crosswalks and signals whenever possible.



- Stay clear of construction projects, mowing operations and maintenance activities.
- Work only during daylight hours.
- Have at least one adult supervisor for every eight participants age 13 to 17, and one adult supervisor for every four participants age 10 to 12. Children 10 years and older may participate.
- Watch footing when walking on slopes and be cautious of holes and obstacles.
- Operate mowing equipment on roadsides only, not on roadways or shoulders.
- Remove litter before mowing. Do not throw debris onto roadways or shoulders.
- Look over the entire area for dropoffs, obstacles or hazards before mowing.
- Stay off steep slopes, (steeper than a 3-to-1 ratio) when using a riding mower.

## Volunteers Should

- Wear light-colored clothing, a hat, long sleeves, heavy work gloves and protective shoes or boots.
- Face traffic.
- Be alert for snakes, stinging insects, ticks and poison ivy.
- Wear sunscreen.
- Drink water to prevent dehydration.
- Carpool to work sites to reduce the number of vehicles on roadsides. Park all vehicles off roadways and shoulders. And, when pos-

sible, unload work crews on roadsides rather than on shoulders or highways.

- Be aware of any special needs of fellow volunteers.
- Be careful when using a litter-pickup stick.
- Be careful not to leave holes or depressions in the roadside following any beautification work.
- Remove all excess material after planting trees and shrubs.

## Volunteers Must Not

- Use or possess illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages before or while working on roadsides.
- Work on roadways, shoulders, medians, bridges or inside tunnels.
- Work during bad weather, extreme temperatures and peak travel times.
- Participate in horseplay or activity that might distract drivers.
- Work to the point of exhaustion.
- Work where herbicides recently have been applied. If in doubt, check with your MoDOT contact.
- Pick up, remove the lid from, shake or even touch any hazardous substances, like syringes or drug-making equipment, or any other suspicious litter. Instead, mark the area in some way and call MoDOT or your area's Missouri State Highway Patrol.