

Adopt-A-Road Program

Safety Guidelines for Volunteers

**Your
safety
comes
first.**



Thank you for participating in the County of Brant's Adopt-A-Road program.

The Adopt-A-Road program has been established as a public service for volunteers to assist with beautification activities along our roads.

Groups or individuals agree to adopt a **1 to 5 kilometer section** of road to help keep it litter free for two years. This is achieved by collecting litter three times per year between April 15 and November 15.

Safety is our number one priority. Although volunteers are solely responsible for any injuries or damages that they may suffer or cause as a result of participation in the Adopt-A-Road program, our main goal is to avoid injury and damage altogether. Review this information before each clean-up session.

Volunteer Requirements

- Individuals under 12 years of age are not permitted on the worksite unless special arrangements have been made with the County of Brant's Adopt-A-Road representative.
- Youths (12-18 years of age) require signed permission from a parent or guardian.
- One adult over 19 years of age is required for every five/six youths.

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Glossary of Terms:

Worksite: Physical area on the side of the road you intend to clean.

Crew: 5 to 6 workers

Site Supervisor: Appointed leader of your crew (19 years of age or older).



Get Organized: Scheduling your clean-up session

- Work during daylight hours only, no sooner than one hour after sunrise and no later than one hour before sunset.
- No work is to occur on long weekends, during peak traffic hours, during the County's winter maintenance season November 16 to April 14, or any other times as specified.
- No work is to occur during bad weather conditions such as rain, fog or lightning.
- Volunteers must arrange a meeting location and then carpool to the worksite.
- Volunteers must have a cell phone available in case of an emergency.
- Volunteers must establish an adult Site Supervisor (19 years of age or older). There should always be one Site Supervisor for each crew (five/six workers).
- Volunteers must have received the safety training and should review the safety rules prior to heading to the worksite.

Site Supervisor Responsibilities

- Provide safety training and review the safety rules with the crew before heading to the site.
- Notify the County of Brant Adopt-A-Road representative at least 48 hours before the start of a litter pick up.
- Bring appropriate equipment and supplies to the site.
- Keep an adequate supply of vests, flags and trash bags on hand.
- Ensure that vests are worn at all times when on the worksite.
- Organize volunteers into crews and ensuring that they stay together.
- Know and monitor the physical capabilities of volunteers.
- Ensure volunteers take appropriate breaks and drink lots of fluids.
- Ensure volunteers are working in the appropriate locations.
- Have access to a mobile phone.
- Know the location of the nearest hospitals and the most direct routes to them.



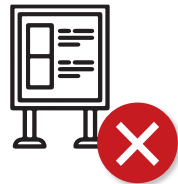
Personal Safety at the Adopt-A-Road Site

- ✓ Be mentally alert and do not engage in horseplay.
- ✓ Be in good physical shape, do not participate if you are feeling ill.
- ✓ Look out for your fellow volunteers.
- ✓ Always wear your safety vest.
- ✓ Wear protective footwear such as work boots or thick soled hiking boots to protect your feet. No open toed shoes or sandals.
- ✓ Wear a lightweight long sleeve shirt and long pants to protect from the sun, insects, prickly or poisonous plants.
- ✓ Wear a hat to protect from the sun.
- ✓ Wear work or gardening gloves to protect hands from sharp or jagged objects.
- ✓ Wear sunscreen and insect repellent.
- ✓ Bring any special items such as bee sting kits or personal medication.
- ✓ Bring plenty of fluids such as water, juice or soft drinks. Alcohol is strictly prohibited.
- ✓ Bring a first aid kit / medical supplies.

Avoid Distraction

Do Not Bring the Following to the Adopt-A-Road Site

- ✗ Pets.
- ✗ Headphones, stereos or gaming systems.
- ✗ Additional signs or advertising. Use only the posted Adopt-A-Road signs.
- ✗ Clothing that might impair your vision or hearing or that might distract motorists.




Transportation and Parking at the site

- Carpool to your worksite and use as few vehicles as possible.
- Park on the same side of the road as your work location.
- Park parallel to the road, at least 3 feet away from the pavement surface before unloading your crew.
- Place safety cones around your vehicle to make it more visible to motorists.
- Display the Adopt-A-Road "Road Worker" signs at both ends of your Adopt-A-Road segment before unloading your crew.
- Safely exit your vehicle: all passengers should disembark from the side closest to the ditch. No one should remain in a parked vehicle while work is in progress.
- Drive your crew to the opposite side when your crew switches sides, do not allow your crew to walk across the pavement.

At the Adopt-A-Road Worksite

- Stay within the boundaries of the worksite
- Collect litter only where safe to do so.
- Always work facing traffic so that you have time to react if necessary.
- Do not pick litter from the travel portion of the road, shoulder, medians, bridges, tunnels or culverts.
- Stay clear of water hazards such as rivers, ponds or marshy areas.
- Do not enter onto private property.
- Stay away from recently sprayed areas.
- Stay away from construction or road maintenance activities.
- Stay off parked equipment.
- Stay alert for poison ivy and other poisonous plants, stinging/biting insects, and wild animals.
- Avoid overexertion. If you are tired, take a break.



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only where
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Handling Litter at the Adopt-A-Road Site

- Do not touch or pick-up anything you cannot identify as it may be a hazardous item. Whenever participants encounter closed containers or other items suspected of being hazardous, participants shall mark the items with a flag and will not touch them. The Site Supervisor shall notify the County representative of the location of the hazardous items.
- Do not stamp or jump on any garbage bags to compact the trash as this may lead to personal injury or damage to the bag.
- Leave items too heavy to pick up (e.g. tires, furniture, wood pallets) where found. The Site Supervisor shall notify the County representative of their location.
- Place all filled bags at the designated pick-up location.
- Where appropriate, volunteers are encouraged to sort litter for recycling and disposal purposes. The group may keep any recyclable materials that they find. Used a bag/box to collect and remove these materials from the site.

Work Wrap Up at the Adopt-A-Road Site

Once all equipment is stowed and all volunteers are safely in transport vehicles:

- Site Supervisor will close both Adopt-A-Road worker signs, pick up safety cones, and enter the vehicle by the side closest to the ditch
- Site Supervisor will notify the police if any dangerous items or items of value are found.
- Site Supervisor will notify the County of Brant Adopt-A-Road representative that the work is completed
- Site Supervisor will notify County representative if any hazardous or large/heavy items were flagged during collection.

The County of Brant sincerely acknowledges the efforts of all the individual volunteers and groups involved in the Adopt-A-Road program. We thank you for contributing to cleaner and more beautiful roads in Brant.

*Have a good time before, during and after the work,
but remember, **your safety comes first.***

COVID-19 Disclaimer:

While participating in the Adopt-A-Road program, volunteers are encouraged to follow and practice the COVID-19 guidelines as outlined by the Province of Ontario.



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