

**ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY PROGRAM**  
**INFORMATION SHEET**

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1. Each county has its own Adopt-A-Highway (AAH) Coordinator who is an employee of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). The AAH Coordinator coordinates the adoption process and works with each applicant to choose a two-mile stretch of state-maintained highway to adopt.
2. An adopting group enters into a four-year agreement with the NCDOT.
  - In the agreement a group agrees to clean its adopted highway a minimum of four times per year, or more if necessary.
  - Everyone who will participate in a roadside pickup must sign the agreement. Youth participation release forms must be submitted for volunteers 12 - 17 years of age.
  - A group may renew its contract at the end of each four-year period as long as the group has fulfilled its responsibilities to clean the highway and file required reports.
  - A group may cancel the agreement upon 30 days written notice to the NCDOT.
3. The AAH Coordinator will make the following items available to each group:
  - A safety video that all group participants must view prior to their first pickup
  - Written safety rules and guidelines for volunteers to follow while working on the roadside
  - Orange safety vests that must be worn during a pickup
  - Gloves
  - Pickup sticks
  - Orange bags for miscellaneous litter and blue bags for items to be recycled
  - "Litter Pickup in Progress" safety warning signs to be bolted to the AAH signposts during a roadside cleanup

The AAH Coordinator will also put up two signs; one at either end of the adopted highway to identify the group that has taken responsibility for cleaning the roadside.

4. After each pickup a group must report details of the pickup and notify NCDOT maintenance to pick up the orange bags from the roadside. The AAH Coordinator will inform groups of several ways to report pickups and ask to have their orange bags picked up.  
Pickup reports include the following information:
  - Date of the pickup
  - Number of bags collected
  - Number of people participating in the pickup
  - Number of hours the group as a whole worked
5. There is no cost for adopting a highway.
6. For safety reasons:
  - No one under 12 years of age may participate in the program.
  - A 21-year-old must supervise any volunteer 12 - 17 years of age.