



# ADOPT-A-ROAD PROGRAM

LEWIS COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS – SOLID  
WASTE DIVISION

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## **Lewis County Adopt-A-Road Program**

The Solid Waste Utility, a Division of the Lewis County Public Works Department, has established a Countywide Adopt-A-Road Program to provide volunteers and businesses an opportunity to contribute to a cleaner environment, enhanced roadsides, and the protection of wildlife habitats. The County Adopt-A-Road Program also raises the public's awareness to the increase of roadside trash and also promotes and establishes the stewardship of public lands by citizens with cooperation between the public and government to resolve a common problem.

The problem of litter in Lewis County is serious. Lewis County is rural in nature and especially susceptible to litter problems as it spans almost 2,500 square miles, with over 1,000 miles of County roads.

### **How Does the Program Work?**

Participating volunteers and businesses may adopt a minimum of a one-mile section of a County roadway the County deems appropriate, in accordance with rules adopted by the County;

1. The Adopt-A-Road Program shall include, at a minimum, litter control for the adopted section four times per year. The County shall not accept adopt-a-road proposals that would have the effect of terminating classified employees or classified employee positions.
2. A volunteer group or business choosing to participate in the Adopt-A-Road Program shall submit an application for the requested section of road to the Lewis County Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Utility Division. The County shall review the proposal for consistency with County policy and rules. The County may accept, reject, or modify an applicant's proposal.
3. The County shall seek partnerships with volunteer groups and businesses to facilitate the goals of this program.
4. An organization whose name: (a) Endorses or opposes a particular candidate for public office, (b) advocates a position on a specific political issue, initiative, referendum, or piece of legislation, or (c) includes a reference to a political party shall not be eligible to participate in the adopt-a-road program.
5. In administering the Adopt-A-Road Program, the County shall:
  - a. Provide a standardized application form, registration form, and contractual agreement for all participating groups. The forms shall notify the prospective participants of the risks and responsibilities to be assumed by the County and the participants;
  - b. Require all participants to be at least fifteen years of age;
  - c. Require parental consent for all minors;
  - d. Require at least one adult supervisor for every eight minors;
  - e. Require one designated leader for each participating organization, unless the County chooses to coordinate a consortium of participants;



- f. Assign each participating organization a section or sections of a County road, or other County-owned site, such as a park or event venue, for a specified period of time;
  - g. Recognize the efforts of a participating organization by erecting and maintaining signs with the organization's name on both ends of the organization's section of road, which will be erected after the group's second clean-up event;
  - h. Provide appropriate safety equipment. Safety equipment must be reserved two weeks prior to a clean-up event, and returned within seven days of the clean-up event
  - i. Shall cancel or suspend any clean-up events that are scheduled during inclement weather or state-mandated quarantine requirements;
  - j. Provide safety training for all participants;
  - k. Maintain records of all injuries and accidents that occur;
  - l. Pay for proper disposal of refuse littered along the roadside;
  - m. Establish procedures and guidelines for the adopt-a-road program.
6. Nothing in this section affects the rights or activities of, or agreements with, adjacent landowners, including the use of rights-of-way and crossings, nor impairs these rights and uses by the placement of signs.

### **Additional Information**

Additional information regarding the guidelines for adopt-a-road programs in Washington State can be found in Sections 47.40.100 and 47.40.105 of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW).