ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

The following safety guidelines must be followed when participating in litter removal activities within the County’s rights-of-ways. Each volunteer should be provided with a copy of this briefing PRIOR to arrival at the work site. Our combined efforts to keep Pinal County beautiful are going a long way toward improving the appearance of our highways.

- All volunteers in the litter pickup program must receive proper safety training prior to reporting to the job site.
- Litter pickup should be performed only in daylight hours, curing good weather and during the hours agreed upon with your County representative.
- Safety vests must be worn by all volunteers at all times during the litter pickup project.
- Volunteers should assemble in an area away from the designated work site and car pool to reduce the number of vehicles at the litter pickup site. Vehicles must be parked 10 feet off of the roadway.
- Work as a group facing oncoming traffic at all times. Larger groups (more than 12 people) should split in half and work opposite sides of the highway.
- Do not cross the highway unnecessarily, cross as a group and only at designated locations. Designated crossing locations should be determined by the group supervisor PRIOR to starting the work.
- Do not distract motorists with horseplay or abrupt erratic movements. Horseplay of any kind is strictly forbidden. The highways are potentially very dangerous.
- Remain with the group to which you are assigned.
- Supervisors shall be assigned (prior to departing for the work site) to both adult and youth groups. Volunteers below the age of 12 are NOT permitted at the work sites.
- Do not pick up litter in the median or on any traveled portion of the roadway. Also, stay away from utility installations, culverts, drainage structures, and bridges.
- Keep away from highway construction or maintenance projects. County personnel will clean up those areas.
- Know what you are picking up. Do not pickup hazardous materials such as car batteries, animal carcasses, weapons, syringes, discarded chemical containers or any other object which appears questionable. Contact the Pinal County Public Works Department or the Pinal County Sheriff’s Office as necessary.
- Do not try to pick up heavy objects. When lifting, use correct lifting techniques, keeping your back as straight as possible. Keep the object you are trying to lift close to your body and let your legs and arms do the work.
- Use caution when you encounter the following: cactus, animals, steep slopes, sharp rocks, insects, barbed wire and other unusual circumstances.
- Assemble filled bags (3/4 full and tied) near a highway sign at one or two locations. This will ensure that bags are left within the right-of-way.
- Anyone under the influence of alcohol or narcotics must be asked to leave the work site. DO NOT let them work.
- Be sure that non-alcoholic beverages such as water and / or electrolyte fluids are available and are in sufficient quantity to meet your group’s needs. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.
- Be sure that first aid kits are available and that transportation is available to the nearest medical facility. It is also helpful if one person in the group knows CPR.
- Wear appropriate attire (COMFORTABLE CLOTHES, HATS, BOOTS, OR HARD SOLE, and CLOSED TOE SHOES). Volunteers should NOT wear short pants, tank tops or flip-flop footwear. Volunteers are expected to provide their own gloves.