



Springfield Adopt-a-Street Program SAFETY GUIDELINES

While a positive difference will be made picking up litter, please make sure it is done safely. These guidelines were developed with each participant's safety in mind.

- Hold safety 'tailgate' meetings before each pick-up event.
- Sign and return all waivers to the Springfield Public Works Department before the start of the event.
- Carpool to minimize the number of vehicles at the site, and park clear of the roadway.
- Put on safety vests before getting onto the roadside.
- Wear gloves, leather shoes or boots, hats, long sleeves, and light-colored clothing. No open-toed or open-heel shoes.
- Place warning signs at the beginning and end of the work zone area.
- Face oncoming traffic while working.
- Maintain a working group of six to ten people. Work in pairs at a minimum. Working along is not authorized.
- Avoid working during peak travel times
- Do not work on holiday weekends.
- Stop work in inclement weather.
- Avoid overexertion.
- Do not remove hazardous substances. Report the location of these types of materials to the City of Springfield's Adopt-A-Street coordinator.
- Watch for snakes and sharp objects.
- Do not pick up items on bridges, in tunnels, or on overpasses.
- Stay clear of construction areas.
- Do not pick up items from the pavement or median.
- Participants between the ages of 12 to 17 years old, must be adequately supervised by one or more adults. Suggested ratio: one adult supervisor for every five youth.
- Drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration.
- Wear sunscreen.
- Do not over-stuff litter bags or compact them. When a bag feels heavy (about 10 pounds on average), secure it and start filling another bag. Place bags together, if possible, near the roadside or next to your Adopt-A-Street signage.
- No horseplay or waving of arms or legs could distract drivers.
- For younger volunteers, do not pick up broken glass, knives, or dangerous items. Instead, call these items to the attention of an adult volunteer.
- Stay alert and well away from the road.
- Do not wear headsets, listen to music, or talk on cell phones while cleaning the roadside.

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BAG IT, MOVE, IT OR LEAVE IT?

BAG IT

These items may be placed in a bag:

- Small empty containers or items made of paper, cardboard, plastic, Styrofoam, wood, rubber, glass, or metal, that does not have sharp edges.

MOVE IT

These items should be placed alongside your stacked bags at the edge of the shoulder:

- Items with dull, pointed edges that might tear a bag.
- Large items that would prevent a bag from being properly closed.
- Heavy items that could tear a bag provided the item can be moved without causing physical injury.
- Containers that are not empty if the contents will not spill when moved and the product can be identified as not hazardous. If it is suspected the item contains urine, do not move it.

LEAVE IT

If in doubt, leave it alone and notify an adult or the program coordinator. These items should be left where found:

- Sharp, large, or heavy items that could cause physical injury if moved.
- Any item in an unsafe location (within six feet from a traffic lane, unstable ground, etc.).
- Any item that cannot be identified or that may be hazardous.
- Unclosed or leaking items containing hazardous substances. Items may have labels such as explosive, toxic, harmful, corrosive, or poisonous gas written on the label.
- Do not attempt to pick up or recap needles.

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METH LAB AWARENESS INFORMATION

The roadside dumping of illegal meth lab waste is a serious problem in Tennessee. A dumped meth lab may look like trash, but it is extremely hazardous to your health and has a severe impact on the environment.

Do not let meth waste threaten your group's safety. If any of the following is sighted, do not approach to remove, instead, contact the Springfield Police Department at (615) 384-8422.

- Alcohol products such as isopropyl rubbing alcohol, denatured alcohol, etc.
- Empty pill bottles, blister packs of decongestant, or cold remedies.
- Containers of separated liquids of ANY color.
- Bottles that look like they contain urine or windshield wiper fluid.
- Unused matches without striker plates or washed striker plates.
- Corroded propane tanks or tanks with blue discoloration. Watch out! This means the tank is explosive!
- Battery fluid or muriatic acid.
- Kitty litter bags, especially if it has been opened then taped shut.
- Trash bags taped shut or with tubes inside.
- Containers with any type of tubing attached or inside.
- Anything put together or bundled with tape.
- Suspicious-looking tool boxes, coolers, or other convenient storage containers.

These items could be portable meth labs that have been tossed, hidden, or stored by the roadside.

THANK YOU FOR CONTRIBUTING TO HELPING KEEP SPRINGFIELD CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL!