

Roadside Review

Winter 2006 Issue 42

A Quarterly Newsletter of the
Missouri Department of Transportation's
Adopt-A-Highway Program



Mark your calendars!

April is the month that many people spring clean their homes, but now attention is being turned outside to roadways, streams and yards.

No MOre Trash! is Missouri's litter-prevention program. The program is overseen by the Missouri departments of

Transportation and Conservation.

Last year was the first year of the month-long litter-prevention celebration and will continue again this year. The No MOre Trash! Bash is scheduled for April 2006. Join thousands of volunteers to clean up Missouri and work toward a litter-free state.

Last year's No MOre Trash! Bash was a success with 60,294 bags of trash off Missouri roads and out of Missouri streams. In addition to the bags of trash, groups picked up untold numbers of tires and other items too big to place in trash bags.



District 4 MoDOT employees in Henry County picked up enough trash to build a mountain during the No MOre Trash! Bash in 2005.



We urge you to schedule a litter pickup during April to raise awareness of No MOre Trash! Report your activity and we will recognize your efforts with a lapel pin. Watch your mailbox for further details. Imagine a litter-free Missouri...No MOre Trash! ■

ADOPTER SPOTLIGHT

When Shelli Catalano's son was killed in a motorcycle crash in March 2005, she wanted to do something to remember him. In order to pay tribute to him, she adopted a highway in Platte County on Route 152, "In Loving Memory of Rick Catalano."

Catalano knew she couldn't clean up the roadside all by herself. In an effort to find other people to help in the clean up, she posted a message on a motorcycle Web site her son belonged to. The post on the Sportsbike World Web site said, 'Mom' needed help in cleaning up her son's adopted site in November.

Catalano was surprised to see 25 people show up to help. They had seen Catalano's post and came out to help pay tribute to a fellow friend. To make things interesting, they had a contest to see who could find the weirdest stuff.

"I definitely won," Catalano said. "We found lots of rubber gloves but I found blue ones. One guy found an opossum that had recently been killed but I had him beat. I found a complete intact opossum skeleton."

Other items found were long underwear,



Friends and family of the late Rick Catalano stop for a quick photo during a special cleanup in September.

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New Safety Video Now Available

A new instructional video on staying safe while cleaning up the highway is now available to existing and new Adopt-A-Highway volunteers. The video walks adopters through protecting themselves from both the obvious and unknown roadside dangers.

The seven-minute DVD outlines safety precautions that should be followed at all times while working along the roadside. The video discusses safety items such as caution flags and vests that should be used when picking up trash as well as precautions for roadside work.

“Safety is always a concern,” said Roadside Management Supervisor Stacy Armstrong. “At MoDOT, we’re looking for ways to improve by providing the most up-to-date information so that volunteers will be safe when cleaning roadsides.”

The Missouri Department of Transportation is responsible for 385,000 acres of right of way, much of which is along the highways. Because of this large task, MoDOT started the Adopt-A-Highway program in 1987 to encourage members of the community to get involved and help clean up where they work and live.

Currently, more than 3,700 groups across Missouri participate in the Adopt-A-Highway program cleaning up 5,261 road-way miles. If MoDOT did the Adopt-A-Highway volunteers’ work, it would cost the department about \$1.5 million per year.

The video was mailed to existing adopters the first week of February. If you haven’t received your copy, please call 888-ASK-MODOT and ask for the Adopt-A-Highway coordinator.



Adopt-A-Highway volunteers wear their safety vests and follow all safety precautions while cleaning roadsides.

Start a Trend, Refer a Friend

Adopt-A-Highway has a limited-time special offer for all existing adopters if they refer a friend. The promotion called Start a Trend, Refer a Friend asks adopters to share Adopt-A-Highway information with someone.

If they decide to adopt, your record will show one bonus pickup or other activity. For example, if you pickup four times per

year, and you refer a friend, we’ll give you a fifth pickup as a bonus.

Simply have the new adopter mention this promotion when they sign up and we’ll take care of the rest. For more information, call 888-ASK-MODOT and ask for an Adopt-A-Highway coordinator. ■



ADOPTER SPOTLIGHT

Continued from page 1

shot gun casings and a blue stress ball.

2 The group’s next scheduled adopter date is in March on the one-year anniversary of Rick’s death. Catalano says they hope to keep cleaning up their highway stretch in Platte County on Route 152 for years to come.

“We have a good time,” she said. “I enjoy going by the sign and seeing his name. A lot of people do.” ■

MoDOT
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Welcome New Adopters

November 2005 - January 2006

November 2005

Accurate Pest Control Services
Air Tight Storage
Culver-Stockton College Athletic Training
Dedicated In Loving Memory of Marjorie McGinness
Democratic Women's Club of Perry County
Earthscapes of MO, Landscaping LLC
Friends of Athens State Historical Site
Herculaneum Today & Tomorrow
In Loving Memory of Johnny A. Azzaro, Jr.
In Loving Memory of Our Son Steven P. "Stevie" Hughes Jr.
James River Basin Partnership
Kids Kastle Learning Center
Lee's Summit West HS Air Force JROTC, Unit MO-20051
Morgan County Democratic Club
Morgan County Historical Society
Phi Gamma Delta and Delta Zeta
Valero LP Pipeline & Terminals
Valero LP, Pump Station & Terminal
YMCA Y-Pals

December 2005

Aaron C. Schneider
Ava Rural Fire Department
Ava Victory Academy
Cooper Co. Probation & Parole, in Memory of Pacer L. Anderson
ESJCC Student Government Association

Family and Friends of Austin Anderson
Family and Friends, In Loving Memory of Janice E. Atha
Hillsboro High School Baseball Team
Hogue Family
In Loving Memory of Bert L. Vanatta, MoDOT Employee
In Loving Memory of Gomer Jenkins, Jr. Ret. MoDOT Geologist
In Loving Memory of Grant A. Richards, Loving Son & Brother
In Loving Memory of Linda M. Dougherty, Loving Grandmother
In Loving Memory of Ronnie Sondker, Family & Friends
In Memory of Edmund "Red" & Wilma Schuessler
Living Bread Church, Men's Ministry
Lou Wappel Athletic and Personal Training
Missouri Valley 4-H Club
Missouri Valley Honey, Augusta, MO
Schneider Real Estate
Soroptimist International of Carthage

January 2006

Abiding Love Baptist Church
Black River Beauty Academy
Congenital Heart Defects Families Association
Dave and Elaine Brumett
Employees of Sellers-Sexton

In Loving Memory of Bryan W. Curtis "Bubby"
In Loving Memory of CPL Jay Sampietro
In Loving Memory of Dewayne Wideman Family and Friends
In Loving Memory of Nikki Albert, Abbey Scott & Chrissy Lyon
In Loving Memory of Our Dad Larry Trembly
In Loving Memory, Glen & Betty Christopher and Leona Orr
Missouri Board of Probation and Parole District #21 Branson
Picture Hills Fitness
Schaefferkoetter Electric Inc.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Vietnam Veterans of America Inc. Chapter 859
Waste Management Upstream

MoDOT ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

Litter Cleanup

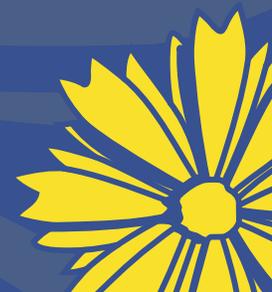


5,261 MILES

3,720 ADOPTERS

SAFETY TIP

Adopt-A-Highway volunteers beware. Work zones will soon be popping up all over Missouri roads making roadside pickup hazardous. For safety and convenience, adopters should steer clear of construction sites and work zones.



Roadside Review is a quarterly newsletter published by the Maintenance unit of the Missouri Department of Transportation. It is mailed to Adopt-A-Highway volunteers and other interested groups. After reading, please share this newsletter with others. Additional copies are available upon request.

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Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.



For more information about the Adopt-A-Highway program:

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TALKIN' TRASH

Litter Kills

Road debris – tire treads, construction materials, and car parts – are more than just eyesores on U.S. roadways. A study by the American Automobile Association (AAA) Foundation for Traffic Safety has found that 25,000 crashes and more than 80 deaths a year are caused by road debris.

Although the number of crashes caused by road litter is minimal compared to other causes, AAA officials still say the problem is a serious one that accounts for 1 percent of all traffic mishaps.

The Federal Highway Administration reports that road debris, along with stalled cars, cause as much as 40 percent of traffic congestion in the United States. Crashes resulting from road debris average out to about 68 per day.

Road debris includes substances, materials, and objects that are foreign to the normal roadway environment. Out of 36 states that pick up debris

on a daily or weekly basis, 87 percent reported tire treads as the most common item.

Texas and Florida were first and second among the most deadly states based on the most fatal crashes caused by road debris from 1999 to 2001 with 33 and 17 fatal crashes.

The AAA Foundation argues that better driver training and education, stricter law enforcement and more strict regulations on securing loads would help eliminate some of the dangers of roadway debris.

For safety reasons, adopters should not remove debris from paved areas such as the roadway and shoulder. MoDOT is responsible for removing debris from the roadways. ■