



## MoDOT Turning Dirt Into Clean Cash

Employees in the St. Louis District are not only sweeping up debris on area highways and making them safer for motorists, but now they're helping the environment and saving the department tons of clean cash. Thanks to a dedicated sweeping crew and a new mobile screening unit, MoDOT has the potential to substantially reduce what goes in our urban landfills, while at the same time producing usable fill, and saving taxpayers thousands of dollars.

Trash and debris that accumulates on roads is not only an eyesore, but can be unsafe for motorists. That's why MoDOT crews have



The pile on the right is a debris pile before it's been screened and the pile on the left is after it has been screened and is ready for use as fill.

been sweeping some state-maintained streets for many years. Most of what was swept up was sent to the landfill at a cost of \$45 per ton.

"We found almost everything we sweep off the roadway can be recycled either into usable fill for projects or just for cash," said Becky Allmeroth, St. Louis District Maintenance engineer. "We're not only saving valuable resources and money, but we're helping the environment and making the most of what we have at the same time."

In March this year, crews started using a new mobile screening unit and worked with the Department of Natural Resources to approve the screened sweepings as usable fill, thereby reducing landfill debris and saving hundreds of thousands of dollars in disposal costs. One cubic yard of sweepings weighs over one ton and thousands of cubic yards of sweepings are sent to landfills each year.

The new mobile screening unit can travel from building to building, working 40 hours a week screening the sweepings quickly and easily. Debris collected from the roadway is emptied from the sweeper, then screened by the mobile unit and the remaining material consists of dirt, gravel and grit for usable fill.

"Now up to 90 percent of what MoDOT sweeps up can be recycled and used back on various road operations, instead of going to the landfill," said Maintenance Superintendent Owen Hasson. "And we found something unique to do with our premium street sweepings."

*Adopters: If you find recyclable material in your pickups, we encourage you to recycle it. Please remember you are not required to pick up litter on paved shoulders. We don't want you to be in harms way!*

## ADOPTER SPOTLIGHT

### St. Joseph East Side Lions Club

It was 23 years ago that Missouri took up the Adopt-A-Highway program, and it was 23 years ago in 1987 that the St. Joseph East Side Lions Club adopted their first stretch of highway. The Lions Club was one of the very first AAH adopters in Buchanan County, and the man who signed the original agreement is still active with the group. Ken Beck,

senior marketing executive for Eagle Radio in St. Joseph, regularly puts on a vest and picks up trash.

To their credit, they adopted one mile of the busiest (and therefore most littered) sections of Interstate 29. When asked what their most "unusual" litter experience was, they



*Continued on page 2*

# MoDOT Clearing the Way for Winter Travel

*Improved Winter Road Conditions Map Available at [www.modot.org](http://www.modot.org)*

As Missouri nights get cooler and the days grow shorter, MoDOT crews are preparing for the upcoming winter by stocking buildings with salt and beet juice and ensuring plows and crews are prepared for the first snowfall.

“This snow season, winter operations will run like a well-oiled machine,” said Don Hillis, director of System Management. “Crews will tackle each storm with a specific plan based on the storm type. We will focus on keeping Missouri’s roads safe and passable.”

If motorists are unsure about the condition of the roads, they can check the Traveler Information Map on MoDOT’s website that now includes weather radar imagery. Viewers can see what is happening and what is coming their way. New categories to better describe winter road conditions include the following: Closed, Covered, Partly Covered, Mostly Clear and Clear.

“Paying attention when driving and slowing down during bad weather should be common sense, but after a long season of warm weather we can all use a reminder,” Hillis says. “We also want to remind motorists that although we’re working hard to make roads safe and passable for motorists, drivers need to drive cautiously, pay extra attention and drive defensively.”

MoDOT will focus on getting roads drivable in bad weather by treating the highest-traveled major roads and regionally important roads first until they are mostly clear. All the remaining less-traveled roads will be plowed to allow for safe travel concentrating on hills, curves and intersections. MoDOT crews will be using plows that can cover more roads in a single pass like TowPlows, wing plows and 14-foot plows.

The department has also developed a new rating system for storms, ranging from a Type 1 being the most severe with more than 12 inches of snow or more than ¾ inch of ice, down to a Type 5 that includes frost, flurries, freezing fog, blowing snow and refreeze. Crews

develop a specific plan based on the approaching storm type.

“We’ll keep a close eye on our response on every storm, we will do our best with our resources and evaluate how we can improve,” Hillis says. “The more efficiently we do our job this winter, the more funds we’ll have for resurfacing our pavements next summer.”

MoDOT also is putting more emphasis on calibrating salt spreader equipment to ensure all crews are putting down the right amount of salt at the right time. “Melting snow and ice is not just about putting out more and more salt,” Hillis says. “You have to give the salt that is put out on the roads time to work.”

MoDOT has more than 3,000 employees and more than 1,600 pieces of equipment ready to fight the winter storms. “Remember to give snowplows plenty of room to work, don’t tailgate and try not to pass plows,” Hillis says. “We want everyone to get home safely. Buckle up, and remember, when driving in ice and snow, take it slow.”

For information on road conditions across the state, safe traveling tips and a diagram on driveway clearing techniques, visit [www.modot.org](http://www.modot.org) or call 888-ASK MODOT. Recorded road-condition information is available at (800) 222-6400. ■



## ADOPTER SPOTLIGHT

*Continued from page 1*

2 mentioned the lottery tickets they found discarded in 1988. Ironically, it included a winning ticket worth five dollars. The discovery was featured in St. Joseph’s daily newspaper, the News-Press. In the caption, they encouraged other civic groups to “get involved” in the new highway litter pickup program.

In honor of their 23rd anniversary, MoDOT

went to their October breakfast meeting, and presented them with 12 litter pickers (hand-held grabbing tools). They have recently renewed their adoption for another three years, and we continue to be thrilled to have them as partners.

# New Adopters

May 2010 - October 2010

## May-2010

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Beta Zeta Lambda Chapt.  
Breckenridge School District  
Chris Harris, Agent State Farm  
Cub Scout Pack 945 Walker Elementary School  
Dedicated Associates of the Bethany Walmart  
Delta Sigma Phi Alumni, St. Louis Chapter  
Douglas County Democrats  
Eaton  
Emily, Abbi, James, Emily, Jon, Katie, Jacob & Ava Buhr  
First Baptist Church North Kansas City  
Greg & Rhonda Cautrell & Cole Sawyer  
Hogle's Creek Lodge AF and AM Hermitage FFA Chapter  
In Loving Memory of "Johnny Glade" "Papa John"  
In Loving Memory of "Pokey Clark" by Clark Family  
In Loving Memory of Chrissy Ewing  
In Loving Memory of Destry Errol Sherman  
In Loving Memory of Gary W. Hendrickson  
In Loving Memory of Kenneth Hardy  
In Loving Memory of Larry (Kettle) Coleman  
In Loving Memory of Nancy Jean Walser  
In Loving Memory of Our Son, Brother and Friend Nick Helton  
In Loving Memory of Rev. Ray Fagg  
In Loving Memory of Shari Andrea Zagar, Family and Friends  
In Memory of Samuel Langley & John Spencer  
Independent Order of Odd Fellows Chillicothe Lodge 91  
Johnson County Democrats  
New Hampton United Methodist Youth Group  
PAL  
SERPRO of Central and Southern Jefferson County  
Sullivan County Memorial Hospital  
Woodhurst Insurance Group

## June-2010

Big Spring RV Camp, Tube & Cabin Rental  
Blackberry Creek & Retreat B&B  
Bonhomme Township Federated Republican Women's Club  
Boy Scout Troop 2858 and Stockton Lake Elks Lodge #2858  
Camdenton High School Athletics  
Camp Tuckaho Staff  
Catron Fire Department  
Congenital Heart Defects Families Association  
Cripple Creek Rock Company Put it in a Can LLC  
CSI Hardwood Floors, Put it in a Can LLC  
Cub Scout Pack #69

Dawn Bradley  
Eagle Rock Community Church ERCC  
ERDCC Personnel Club  
Five-O M/C South Central Chapter, Steel Horse Posse  
Fraternal Order of Eagles #3948  
Girl Scouts Service Unit 759  
Goude-Herskind Beaver-Chandler Families  
Howard "Doug Albin "Love" Howard Jason Micky  
In Loving Memory of Arthur L. Belanger Jr., Wife, Debbie  
In Loving Memory of Clint Overstreet  
In Loving Memory of Harold R. McEntire & Satch & Betty McEntire  
In Loving Memory of Jennifer Mae Lincoln, Jessica Lee Dees  
In Loving Memory of Keith Donnell & Heather Donnell  
In Loving Memory of Quincy Postmaster, Wilma L. Dull  
In Loving Memory of Ricky Uehlin  
In Loving Memory of Sherri K. Street, Loretta Ipock  
In Memory of Charles Butch Gardner  
In Memory of John Pursley Jr., Your Loving Family  
JC Penney Store 920  
Kindall Store of Olga  
Kindred Spirit Animal Rescue Center, Inc.  
Kingston 42 School  
Lakewood Hills Homeowners Association  
Lasalle Retreat Center  
Legion Riders Chapter #82, Windsor, MO  
Mona, Vie, Renee, Cipolla Distb., Put it in a Can LLC  
RIP Jorden Jourdain, We Miss You Devon Barrett Family  
Skidmore Volunteer Fire Department  
Steve and Deborah Wilson  
The Garden City Fall Festival Committee  
The Nemes Family  
The Victoria United Methodist Church & Victoria Community  
Warrior Brotherhood Veterans M/C, Missouri

## July - 2010

Arnold Auto Body and Glass  
Centertown Antiques  
East Perry County Cultural Alliance  
Elm Point Animal Hospital  
Employees of Kawasaki Maryville Plant  
Ethical Society Mid Rivers  
Fordland Community Betterment Association  
Girl Scout Troop #8005  
In Loving Memory of Andrew J. Throop "Andy"  
In Loving Memory of Brock Ray Gaston  
In Loving Memory of Cary J. Johnston

In Loving Memory of Cheryl E. Zachery  
In Loving Memory of Don & Liz Shelby by Ron & Barb Shelby Family  
In Loving Memory of Heidi Strodman  
In Loving Memory of Kyle Scott Phelps by the Phelps Family  
In Loving Memory of Lisa Marie Caradonna, Love You Babygirl  
In Loving Memory of Michael T. Roberts  
In Loving Memory of our Guardian Angel Cameron Tippetts  
In Loving Memory, McKenzie R. Kisling "Kenzer"  
In Memory of Stephen C. Hendrickson Jr., Forever Your Family  
Jefferson FFA  
Kaci Testerman  
Lake Bloomers Garden Club  
Lakeside Exteriors Incorporated  
Lakewood Property Owners Association  
McElroy Family  
Mikey Creamer Family & Friends  
Mizzou Medicine M.O.V.E.  
Napoleon Clover Leaf 4-H Club  
Ozark Kiwanis Club  
St. Francois County Rotary Club  
Summit Villa Assisted Living Home  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints  
The Meroney Family, John, Melissa, JD Shamus & Ciara  
The Poland Family  
The Powers Family  
The Shepherd's Fold Ministry, Inc.  
Tower Rock Vineyard & Winery

## August - 2010

Adair County Drug Court Alumni  
ALMOOS'T Heaven Bed and Breakfast  
Always In Our Hearts, David T. Armstrong, DA Family & Friends  
Bloomfield FFA  
Central Methodist University  
Chillicothe Student Council  
Cotton Gardens  
Dave's Taxidermy  
Duly Baptist Church  
Elm Spring Baptist Church  
Family Career Community Leaders  
Franklin County Drug & DWI Court Alumni  
Freedom of Roadriders, Forr Local 42

*Continued on page 4*

# New Adopters

May 2010 - October 2010

Giles Ranch  
 Impact Church of St. Louis  
 In Loving Memory of Billy Ray Roderman, by Roderman Families  
 In Loving Memory of Bowser Miller, Miller-Ford Family  
 In Loving Memory of Grandparents O'Day, Powers & Williford  
 In Loving Memory of Janet Sue Richards  
 In Loving Memory of Jessica Nicole Pettengill  
 In Loving Memory of Kenneth O. & Mary M. Stevens  
 In Loving Memory of Kevin James Mullane, We Miss You  
 In Loving Memory of Larry James Crowder, Son, Grandson, Nephew  
 In Loving Memory of Megan Alyssa Eller, Family & Friends  
 In Loving Memory of Ryan Lee Smith  
 In Loving Memory of Tina Meyer and Vivian Ulbrich  
 In Loving Memory of Tom Marcum, Family and Friends  
 In Loving Memory of William "Bill" Ingram  
 In Loving Memory, Scott Givens, Forever Loved  
 In Loving Memory, Timothy P. Leavy Always In Our Hearts  
 In Memory of Family and Friends, Rustic Oak Cabin Steakhouse  
 In Memory of Joan & Terry Baker, Amber Entzel King Solomon Lodge, Prince Hall F & M, Ft Leonard Wood, MO  
 Lake Professional Hearing Aid Center  
 Lex La-Ray Family Career Community Leaders  
 Liberty Driving School  
 Mackenzie Arnold and Vincent Arnold  
 Nestle Purina Petcare Company  
 Polk County Bike Club  
 Prince Hall Builders JA Walkes Youth #1, Fort Leonard Wood, MO  
 Rock House Church  
 THF Realty  
 UKHFI Temple 203, AEAONMS Oasis of St. Robert  
 Wayne's Handyman Service  
 William "Bill" Ingram  
 XI Zeta Chapter, Phi Thata Kappa, Jefferson College  
 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Psi Eta Zeta Chapter

**September - 2010**

Harley and Sarah Winfrey and Family  
 In Loving Memory of Carl Mann, Jr.  
 In Loving Memory of Grandparents O'Day Powers & Williford  
 In Loving Memory of Kendall Lewis Jones

In Loving Memory of Randy Ring, his Loving Family  
 In Loving Memory of Thomas R. Riffle  
 In Loving Memory of Tom Turner and Gene Cleveland  
 In Loving Memory, Aaron E. Bayless, Forever In Our Heart  
 In Loving Memory, Forever In Our Heart, Brian M. Wichmann  
 In Loving Memory, Jessica Merrill, It's All Good  
 Kirby, Norris and Dennis Families  
 Lake Professional Hearing Aid Center  
 McCollum Electrical and Plumbing  
 Nestle Purina Petcare Company  
 Rock House Church  
 The Crawford Family  
 The Strathmans, Kevin, Suzanne, Paul, Marquita, Alex, Koe, Lil

**October - 2010**

2 Lane Towing and Repair LLC  
 ALF Campers Chapter, Family Campers and Rvers  
 Alpha Sigma Alpha  
 Beta Alpha Psi, Kappa Nu Chapter, Truman State Univ.  
 Boy Scout Troop 390  
 BT Freedom Ladies, In Memory of James Ramsey  
 Canton FFA  
 Carpenter Floorlayers Local 1181  
 Cripple Creek Rock Company, Put it in a Can, LLC  
 David Lee Quessenberry  
 Delta Chi Fraternity  
 Essential Kneads Dayspa and Cafe LLC  
 Five-O Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club  
 Hannibal Medical Campus  
 Humansville FCCLA  
 In Loving Memory of Alissa Deanna Goedecke Blanton

In Loving Memory of Barbara J. White  
 In Loving Memory of Camron Lee Bridges  
 In Loving Memory of David M. Watkins Sr. by Phyllis & Kids  
 In Loving Memory of Jesse James Crook, Sadly Missed Family  
 In Loving Memory of Justin Nade, Forever Your Family  
 In Loving Memory of Larry Morgan, Husband and Father  
 In Loving Memory of Mason A. Murray and Michael A. Bailey  
 In Loving Memory of Ron Atkins  
 In Loving Memory of Todd Kevin Schmitt, Kelsey Jo Schmitt  
 In Loving Memory, Hero David Wayne Embrey, Dad, Son, Brother  
 In Memory of Lance and Laura Garten  
 In Memory of Michael Omar Surrisi, Forever Young  
 In Memory of Sergeant Elly Angelene Magruder  
 Kirksville Leadership Institute and Home Depot  
 L.E. & Vera K. Montgomery and Family  
 Lee's Summit Medical Center  
 Mo Valley Community Action Agency Chariton County Team  
 Perryville High School FCCLA  
 Plattsburg Chamber of Commerce  
 Priority Physical Therapy  
 Rankin Landscaping and Maintenance  
 Shome's Black and Tans  
 Southridge Baptist Church  
 Student Athletic Training Association  
 TBHS Chapter National Honor Society  
 The Hyatt Place  
 The World Is My Flower Garden  
 Unity Church of Peace  
 US 50 Cruisers

# Thank You New Adopters!

## MoDOT Using New Products to Salvage Highway Signs, Save Money

Vandals “tagging” signs with spray paint is costly for taxpayers and unsafe for motorists, so MoDOT is fighting back. Rather than replace defaced signs, MoDOT is now cleaning them when possible. The department is the first state in the nation to test various types of paint remover and put them to use on highway signs. Cleaning a sign rather than replacing it saves as much as \$1,000 depending on the sign’s size.

“We are always looking for ways to be more efficient,” said MoDOT Director Kevin Keith. “These products provide a new avenue that will help us meet our five-year direction for cutting costs.”

While there are many paint removal products on the market, many of them will render a highway sign “dead,” meaning they strip away the materials that make the sign reflective at night. MoDOT performed extensive research and testing to find products that wouldn’t damage the sign’s reflectivity or leave a shadow where the spray paint or paintball mess was.

“We were delighted to find products already on the market that would clean the signs without hindering their visibility and readability,”

said Jen Harper, an organizational performance engineer with MoDOT.

To test the paint removers, MoDOT plastered all types and colors of highway signs with spray paint and paintballs, and then allowed the paint to dry under simulated weather conditions such as extreme heat and cold. The paint was then removed with the trial chemicals, and the sign was tested in a laboratory that replicates night-time driving conditions.

MoDOT crews recently put the products to work on several signs near LaMonte in Pettis County with positive results. The agency plans to share its findings with other states.

Incidents of vandals painting highway signs is growing, perhaps with the popularity of paintball as a sport. The problem isn’t restricted to rural areas, either. Even interstate signs have been targets.

“Every time we have to replace a vandalized sign, that means less money is going to fix our roads and bridges,” Keith said. “The destruction penalizes everyone who uses our highway system.”

A video showing how the paint removal products work is available online at [www.modot.org](http://www.modot.org). ■



*Hannah Baalman, a 6-year-old 1st grader from Keytesville, won a new bicycle and helmet during the 2010 Missouri State Fair. Baalman’s name was drawn from hundreds of entries after she completed a scavenger hunt in the MoDOT Highway Gardens during the 10 days of the fair. Cecil’s Cyclery in Sedalia donated the bike, and MoDOT donated the helmet. This summer was the seventh year MoDOT hosted the State Fair scavenger hunt.*

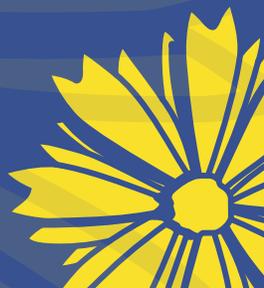
MoDOT ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY  
*Litter Cleanup*



6,100 MILES  
4,243 ADOPTERS

### SAFETY TIP

Watch where you walk! We sometimes get so wrapped up in picking up trash we’re not careful where we step. Be careful and avoid wash-outs caused from rains in the fall. Leaves often cover holes and ruts, so wear boots and step carefully!



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.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact:

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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:

**888 ASK MODOT**  
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## TALKIN' TRASH

### MoDOT Keeps Billions of Pounds of Waste from Landfills

More than 8,417,020,000 total pounds of waste has either been recycled back into our roads or been kept from area landfills since 2005, thanks to MoDOT efforts.

"There's no reason to dump materials into our landfills that can be recycled," says Joe Schroer, MoDOT field materials engineer. "We embrace being green and we're getting better every day."

MoDOT has recycled 3.56 billion pounds of industrial waste from mines, steel furnaces and power plants, as well as shingles and tires over the past five years. Industrial waste is usually disposed of in landfills, but MoDOT has recycled every pound for future uses. Area landfill managers tell MoDOT that 3.56 billion pounds is the equivalent of 89,000 semi-truck loads that would fill the Empire State Building four times.

Adding to the grand total is reclaimed material. Many of the miles of pavement you drive on and projects you see across Missouri are made of recycled material; in fact, MoDOT has recycled 4.86 billion pounds of reclaimed material that's been used on construction projects since 2005.

MoDOT's environmental efforts continued to grow over the past five years with 2009 being the greenest. Last year, more than two billion pounds of waste from construction projects was recycled. In addition, 6.2 million pounds of waste material (paper, cardboard, aluminum, electronics) was recycled.

"MoDOT wants to be a leader for recycling, conserving and being environmentally aware," said Schroer. "We hope to increase our efforts in the future." ■