

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The time is always right to adopt a highway

It's never too late to participate in the Kansas Department of Transportation's (KDOT) Adopt-A-Highway program. With nearly 10,000 miles of highways in Kansas, new groups can always join.

"There are highways available to adopt all across the state," said Dale Kirmer, KDOT Staff Maintenance Engineer and Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator. "KDOT really appreciates all the Adopt-A-Highway groups and the great job they do."

There are about 800 groups participating in the program. Many of the urban stretches of roadway have been adopted, but numerous sections in the rural areas are available as well.

Groups are asked to sign a two-year agreement with the program, and several groups have been with the program since it started in Kansas in 1990. Other groups that have previously participated in the program are now rejoining and getting involved in the program again.

"Organizations find that the Adopt-A-Highway program is a great way to be active in the community," Kirmer said. "They can help the environment while improving safety and making Kansas look great all at the same time."

Groups clean their sections of roadway three times a year at their convenience. Most choose to schedule a clean-up time in the spring, summer and fall.

Adopt-A-Highway groups are gearing up for the annual Clean Up Kansas Campaign which will take place during the month of April. All Adopt-A-Highway groups are encouraged but not required to participate in the statewide event. Motorists are asked to use extra caution as people with bright orange vests will be working next to the highways.

Any non-profit group that does not discriminate upon the basis of race, religion or sex can adopt a section of roadway. Youth groups with members at least 11 years old are also eligible. KDOT provides each group safety training, trash bags, orange vests and signs for their adopted stretch of highway.

For more information, contact the KDOT office in your area.

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To adopt a section of highway, KDOT phone numbers listed below

(Ask for the Adopt-A-Highway coordinator in the KDOT office located closest to you.)

Northeast Kansas

Topeka, (785) 296-2291

Horton, (785) 486-2142

Osage City, (785) 528-3128

Wamego, (785) 456-2353

Kansas City Area -

Bonner Springs, (913) 721-2960

Olathe, (913) 764-0987

North Central Kansas

Salina, (785) 823-3754

Clay Center, (785) 632-3108

Mankato, (785) 378-3166

Marion, (620) 382-3717

Ellsworth, (785) 472-4447

Northwest Kansas

Norton, (785) 877-3315

Phillipsburg, (785) 543-2163

Atwood, (785) 626-3258

Hays, (785) 625-9718

Oakley, (785) 672-3113

Southeast Kansas

Chanute, (620) 431-1000

Iola, (620) 365-2161

Garnett, (785) 448-5446

Independence, (620) 331-3760

Pittsburg, (620) 231-7560

South Central Kansas

Hutchinson, (620) 663-3361

Pratt, (620) 672-7494

El Dorado, (316) 321-3370

Winfield, (620) 221-3370

Great Bend, (620) 793-5408

Wichita, (316) 744-1271

Southwest Kansas

Garden City, (620) 276-3241

Syracuse, (620) 384-7821

Ulysses, (620) 356-1531

Dodge City, (620) 227-6122