

STATE OF KANSAS



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Make a difference – Adopt a highway

Make a difference in your community and help the environment at the same time – join the Adopt-A-Highway program in Kansas.

The goal of the program is to clean along the roadways throughout the state to increase safety for motorists and pedestrians as well as improve the beauty of Kansas. This helps to raise awareness on the negative effects of pollution and the positive aspects of a clean community.

Burrton High School's Kansas Association for Youth (KAY) Club partners with the Burrton Lions Club to clean up a section of U.S. 50.

"I think it's valuable for the kids to take care of the land around their community," said English teacher Nathan Whitman, who sponsors the club's Adopt-A-Highway efforts. "There are always people who are hesitant at first and then feel fulfilled at the end of it."

To groups considering joining the program, Whitman would say: "Give it a shot. It's easy to do. It's an eye-opening experience and really shows you how much we need to take care of the environment. If no one does this, that garbage is just going to keep accumulating."

And he likes to think of it this way: "It's not just Kansans who are driving on the highway. What people see when they drive through does reflect on who we are as Kansans."

Any non-profit group that does not discriminate upon the basis of race, religion or gender can join, and there is no cost to the group. Members must be at least 11 years old and

have adequate adult supervision. Groups have clean-ups two to three times a year and are recognized for their efforts with signs marking their sections of highway. Since spring 1990, thousands of groups have participated, and some of the original groups are still active today.

Adopt-A-Highway groups are gearing up for the annual Clean Up Kansas Campaign which takes place during the month of April. This event, as well as the program, is sponsored by the Kansas Department of Transportation. All Adopt-A-Highway groups are encouraged but not required to participate in the statewide event.

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

For more information contact the KDOT office in your area (listed below).

KDOT – Pratt
(620) 672-7494

KDOT – El Dorado
(316) 321-3370

KDOT – Winfield
(620) 221-3370

KDOT – Great Bend
(620) 793-5408

KDOT – Wichita
(316) 744-1271

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700 SW Harrison St., 2nd Floor West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 Voice/Hearing Impaired – 711.

