



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY REGIONAL COORDINATORS

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Jim Foy 888-414-6368

NORTH REGION

Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Crawford, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Iosco, Kalkaska, Lake, Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Missaukee, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Osceola, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon and Wexford:
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GRAND REGION

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Ken Holifield 616-451-3091

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Ionia, Mecosta and Montcalm:
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BAY REGION

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Donald Krauss or Edna Webb 989-754-7443

SOUTHWEST REGION

Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren:
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Livingston, Monroe and Washtenaw:
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Oakland County: **Twyla Chinn-Lee 248-451-0001**
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ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY NEWS EDITOR

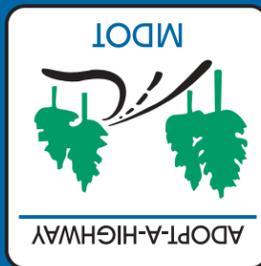
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MDOT is improving Michigan's total transportation system by efficiently delivering transportation products, services and information.

Prepared by: Specialized Technology Graphics 10/99

Michigan Department of Transportation
Maintenance Division
P.O. Box 30050
Lansing, Michigan 48909



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY NEWS

Spring 2002
Volume 13, No. 1

Check Out
page 3 for your
New 2002
Pick-Up Dates!

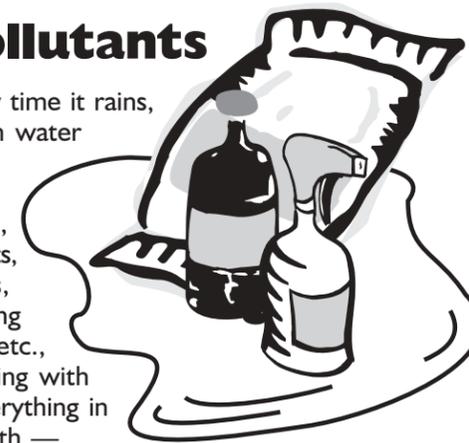
The Silent Pollutants

Every time it rains, storm water runs over yards, streets, roads, parking lots, etc., carrying with it everything in its path —

debris, dirt and pollutants. Because storm water drains directly into surrounding lakes and rivers without the treatment afforded by sewers and treatment plants, storm water pollutants are one of the most significant yet unrecognized groups of water contaminants.

Most contaminants are made up of common items used by residents and businesses, such as fertilizers, car oils and greases, yard clippings, soil and pet wastes. Here are some tips to follow to help keep our lakes and streams clear of storm water runoff pollutants:

- Never dump anything down a storm drain!



- Use an oil pan when changing oil to keep fluids off the pavement. Check with local body shops and quick lubes as to how to properly dispose of used oil.
- Dispose of pet wastes in a trash can.
- Leave grass clippings on your lawn as an alternative to fertilizer. If a fertilizer is necessary, choose a slow-release product and test your soil to determine how much fertilizer is needed.
- Wash your car on the lawn so excess water, chemicals and dirt are filtered through the lawn.
- Dispose of household hazardous wastes, such as harsh cleaners, paint, car fluids and batteries at a household hazardous waste center. Try using environmentally-safe alternatives or products with non-hazardous ingredients.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean up grass clippings and dirt.
- Keep a trash bag in your car...and use it!

Look for more articles about storm water pollution prevention in future issues. For more information about MDOT's Storm Water Management Plan, check our website www.mdot.state.mi.us/stormwater.

Take A Time Out

With road construction just about everywhere we turn, maybe you're wondering what to do if you see the tell-tale signs of progress — the amber-lit barricades or fluorescent orange cones — in your adopted section. Well, you can take a time out of sorts.

Contractors are responsible for trash pickup within their project lines. Be sure to file your litter report anyway; indicate that your section is involved in road construction and resume your efforts at the next regularly scheduled pickup period following construction.



Watch for signs that your section is undergoing construction before you and your group hit the roadsides this season. MDOT's web page, www.mdot.state.mi.us/, provides up-to-date construction information, or check with either your local MDOT region office or Transportation Service Center.

Pick-up Dates for 2002

Mark your calendars with this year's pick up dates...

April 27 - May 5

July 13 - July 21

September 14 - September 22



Praise for 'Pitch'n' Partners

Governor John Engler and State Transportation Director Gregory Rosine are showing their appreciation for groups who were "Pitch'n in for Pleasant Peninsulas." AAH volunteer groups who submitted their 2001 safety reports are receiving the certificates which feature the motto along with the image of wildflowers that can be seen along I-96 west of Lansing.

Governor Engler and Director Rosine wanted to recognize the tremendous efforts of all AAH volunteers in making Michigan's upper and lower peninsulas beautiful places to live, work and visit. Proudly and prominently display your certificate for all to see. You've earned it!

Emphasizing the importance of conducting a safety meeting and documenting attendance, groups who submit their safety reports underscore the importance of everyone following the safety rules. While we appreciate every group's effort to rid our highways of trash, we especially want to recognize those of you who value the safety of your volunteers by conducting the meeting and submitting the required reports.

Here's a tip to make it easier to submit your safety form: Make a master list of all of your group members that participate in pickups. Have members who attend the safety meeting initial their name before remitting the form. Make sure the form includes the date, group contact name, and phone number.

Everyone Needs A Break

Please slowdown and drive carefully throughout construction work zones. Highway workers are often working very close to the flow of traffic. Caution is essential to the safety of the driver and the workers during the 2002 Construction season. It is a fact that most injuries in work zones happen to drivers and their passengers. For the sake of our Adopt-a-Highway volunteers, your family and our workers, please **GIVE 'EM A BREAK.**

Remember These Work Zone Tips

- Work Zone violations are double.
- Slow down! Slower speeds saves lives.
- Don't drive aggressively.
- Obey work zone directions and merge early.
- Pay attention after dark hours to the work zone speed limits.

2002 Pickup Reminders

- Use only official "Adopt-A-Highway" trash bags.
- Place filled bags on the grass area adjacent to the pavement (but not on the paved portion).
- Do not pick up litter in the medians of the expressways.
- Do not use median crossovers to turn around. Go to the next interchange to safely re-enter the expressway.
- Do not pick up hazardous or unknown items which could present a safety problem for yourself or others. Please notify your local "Adopt-A-Highway" coordinator of the location of these items.
- Remove litter from as much of the grassed areas (even the unmowed portion) within your adopted areas as is possible to safely access.
- Please do not call your designated MDOT or county contact person prior to a regularly scheduled pickup. If your group cannot pick up during the designated time periods, please dispose of any trash you collect on your own.



MDOT NOTES

Another Record Construction Year Ahead

MDOT will again break the \$1.5 billion mark during the 2002 roads and bridges construction season. This our fifth year that we have broken the billion-dollar mark for work statewide. We will continue to fix the worst roads first. The department is moving closer to achieving its goal of having 90 percent of the state roads in good condition by 2007.

Our customers—one of our most valuable assets—deserves a big thanks for their patience and cooperation for over the last 5 years as we continue to inconvenience them while fixing the road. Without your support we could not reach our goals.

A Statewide Guide to Major Road and Bridge Repairs

Call our Communications office to request copies 517-373-2610 or stop in at you local MDOT Transportation Service Center (TSC). This guide will provide maps designating the construction zones throughout the state.

Construction Hotlines

We are scheduling work in a variety of ways to keep inconvenience to a minimum. When ever possible our crews work during off-peak hours and weekends. And in some cases we work around the clock. If you are planning an event or a special family reunion, please use our 24-hour construction hotlines to help your guest navigate through the 2002 construction .

In the West and Southwest, call **616-482-PAVE (7283)** or **1-888-305-PAVE (7283).**

In the Metro Region, call **1-800-641-MDOT (6368).**



Special kudos to Charlotte M. Speer and Vintage Ventures in Ann Arbor. This group has earned a place of distinction for several different reasons. Assigned a section in 1990, this busy group has produced stats that would put many others to shame.

Cleaning US-23 from Warren Road north to the Rest Area off ramp, Vintage Ventures averages 25 volunteers each pick-up date. This spirited crew posted the following figures:

General average number of bags/hours —

| | | |
|--------|-----------|-----------|
| • 2001 | 73.6 bags | 2.3 hours |
| • 2000 | 62.6 bags | 2.3 hours |
| • 1999 | 80.3 bags | 2.0 hours |
| • 1998 | 77.6 bags | 2.6 hours |

Spring (the heaviest pick-up time) —

| | | |
|--------|----------|---------|
| • 2001 | 116 bags | 3 hours |
| • 2000 | 112 bags | 3 hours |
| • 1999 | 148 bags | 3 hours |
| • 1998 | 129 bags | 3 hours |

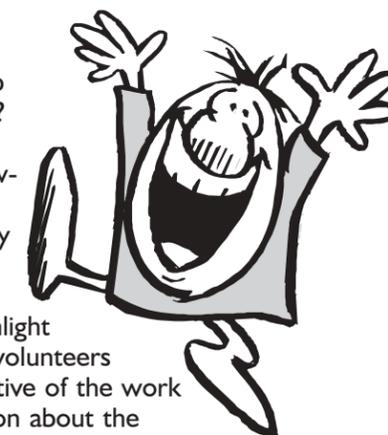
The amazing part of this group is that the average age of their volunteer is **86 years old!** Neither shy nor retiring, these outstanding octogenarians have been hard at work since their first pickup in Spring of 1991. Special thanks to Marie Wilson of Brighton TSC in Brighton for spotlighting this group and its contributions!

Spread the Word!

Do you know of a group that has unique qualities? Innovative members? Prodigious pick-up prowess?

Let us know so that they can get the recognition they deserve! We are always delighted to highlight the efforts of the AAH volunteers and are deeply appreciative of the work they do. Send information about the group to:

Brenda V. Peek, Communications
Metro Region, 18101 W. Nine Mile Road
Southfield, MI 48075 or fax to (248) 569-7718
or email to peekb@michigan.gov



Change of Address

Remember, after May 1, 2002, MDOT's new website will change to:
<http://www.michigan.gov/MDOT>.

Participating and Proud of it

Last year's "Adopt-A-Highway" vehicle placards were so popular we are including more with our annual pre-season mailing. Place one on the driver's side dash of each vehicle used to transport volunteers to the pick-up site. They will let law enforcement officers and others know your vehicle is parked there for the program. And, speaking of parking, always park your vehicles well off the paved shoulder. The Safety Rules also advise keeping vehicles away from curves, bridges, overpasses and highway medians.



Need Supplies? Videos?

Before heading out for more official AAH bags and vests, give your nearest supply location a call to confirm that someone will be there to assist you. Also, you can now pick up the safety video at these same locations! Business hours vary by location. Check the list included with the pre-season mailing for the nearest location and phone number.