

Clean-Up Day Safety Tips

DON'Ts

- DON'T pick up litter on the roadway surface at any time.
- DON'T pick up litter close to the edge of the road. Stay in the right-of-way facing traffic and stay with your group.
- DON'T pick up litter in the medians.
- DON'T pick up litter in construction or maintenance sites, in tunnels or on bridges and overpasses.
- DON'T cross the highway unnecessarily; cross only at designated locations.
- DON'T play around or do anything that would distract passing drivers or other volunteers.
- DON'T work during peak travel times when traffic is heavy. Never schedule pickups during evening hours.
- DON'T participate in litter pickups while under the influence of alcohol, drugs or prescription medications.
- DON'T overexert yourself. Take breaks, drink liquids and dress appropriately for the weather.
- DON'T bring small children or pets along on litter pickups.
- DON'T pick up materials that you suspect might be hazardous (ie., needles), or a container with an unknown substance. Do not pick up dead animals.
- DON'T try to lift heavy objects. Use correct lifting techniques, keeping your back as straight as possible. Keep the object you are trying to lift close to your body and let your arms and legs do the work.
- DON'T pick up litter on the highway side of a guardrail; never stand between the highway and a guardrail.
- DON'T pick up litter within 50 feet of a railroad crossing.

DO's

- DO carpool to pickup sites to keep the number of vehicles on the roadside to a minimum. Park in areas off the road as far away from the pavement edge as possible. Use parking lots and wide spots whenever possible.
- DO cluster full bags of refuse together in piles to assist with pickups.
- DO wear light or bright-colored reflective clothing (or safety vests) so that you can be seen.
- DO wear comfortable, hard-soled shoes and sturdy work gloves. Participants should not wear short pants or tank tops.
- DO use sunscreen and wear a hat.
- DO work only in daylight and fair weather.
- DO stay alert for noxious weeds and avoid them.
- DO make sure all volunteers are familiar with these safety precautions.
- DO stay alert for traffic, especially when crossing side roads and driveways. Use crosswalks when available.
- DO feel good about your beautification efforts and making our community a better (and cleaner!) place in which to live.

