

City of Oakland Park

Adopt a Street Program

Safety Guidelines

The safety of volunteers is the highest priority of the City of Oakland Park. Adopt a Street cleanup activities take place along active roadways and require attention to traffic, proper safety gear, and awareness of environmental hazards. All participants must follow these guidelines and the direction of group leaders.

General Safety

- Cleanups must take place during daylight hours and safe weather conditions only.
- Do not conduct cleanups during active construction or maintenance projects.
- Alcohol, drugs, or unsafe behavior will not be tolerated.
- Volunteers must remain alert and follow group leader instructions at all times.

Safety Gear and Clothing

- City provided safety vests must be worn at all times.
- Closed toe shoes or boots are required. Open toe shoes, sandals, or clogs are not permitted.
- Gloves should be worn when handling litter.
- Do not wear items that restrict vision or hearing, including hoods, oversized hats, or headphones.
- Sun protection such as hats, sunglasses, sunscreen, and long sleeves is strongly recommended.

Traffic, Roadway, and Parking Safety

- Volunteers must remain off the roadway and out of traffic lanes at all times.
- Medians, bridges, overpasses, and high traffic areas are prohibited.
- Face oncoming traffic when possible and work one side of the roadway at a time.
- Avoid peak travel times whenever possible.
- Park vehicles as far from the roadway as possible and on the same side of the street as participants.
- Carpooling is encouraged to reduce the number of vehicles at the cleanup site.
- If traffic conditions become unsafe, stop the cleanup immediately.

Health and Environmental Hazards

- Avoid hazardous or suspicious materials, including sharp objects, chemicals, weapons, or unknown substances. Report these items to City staff or Police.
- Do not lift heavy or bulky items alone.
- Be aware of wildlife and insects such as snakes, fire ants, and bees.
- Avoid poison ivy, poison oak, noxious weeds, and recently treated areas.

Youth Participation

- Volunteers under age 15 must be accompanied onsite by a parent or legal guardian at all times.
- Volunteers ages 15 through 17 may participate independently with a parent or legal guardian permission waiver on file.
- Group leaders are responsible for appropriate youth supervision.

Hydration and Emergency Preparedness

- Drinking water must be available for all volunteers.
- Each group must have a first aid kit onsite.
- Emergency transportation must be available, and group leaders should know the route to the nearest medical facility.

Acknowledgment

I certify that I am authorized to enter into this Agreement on behalf of the Group and that I understand and agree to the Safety Guidelines outlined above.

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____