
**Rules of
Department of Highways
and Transportation**

**Division 10—Missouri Highways and Transportation
Commission**

Chapter 14—Adopt-A-Highway Program

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**Title 7—DEPARTMENT OF
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION
Division 10—Missouri Highways and
Transportation Commission
Chapter 14—Adopt-A-Highway Program**

7 CSR 10-14.010 Purpose

PURPOSE: This rule provides the purpose for the Adopt-A-Highway Program

(1) The purpose of the Adopt-A-Highway Program is to increase public awareness of the environmental needs along Missouri's highways and to provide volunteer community support for anti-litter and highway beautification programs.

(2) This program will reduce litter along the highways, enhance the environment and beautify Missouri's roadsides.

*Auth: section 227.030, RSMo (1994).
Original rule filed Feb. 15, 1995, effective
July 30, 1995.*

**Original authority 1939.*

7 CSR 10-14.020 Definitions

PURPOSE: This rule defines terms used in this chapter.

(1) Adopted section means a particular section of state highway right-of-way designated by the commission to be adopted by the volunteer individual or group participating in the Adopt-A-Highway Program.

(2) Adopter means the individual or group approved by the commission to be a participant in the Adopt-A-Highway Program.

(3) Adopter representative means a group member designated to represent the volunteer group and serve as its liaison with the commission. Usually the person who signs the agreement is the adopter representative.

(4) Agreement means the written agreement between the volunteer individual or group adopting a section of highway right-of-way and the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission.

(5) Applicant means the individual or group applying for participation in the Adopt-A-Highway Program.

(6) Commission means the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission, or its authorized representative.

(7) Department means the Missouri Highways and Transportation Department.

(8) Litter means any unsightly matter that may include, but is not limited to, disposable packaging, containers, cans, bottles, paper and cigar or cigarette butts. Litter does not include hazardous, heavy or large items.

(9) Program means the Adopt-A-Highway Program.

(10) Program activity means litter pickup and/or beautification and/or mowing.

*Auth: section 227.030, RSMo (1994).
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7 CSR 10-14.030 Application for Participation

PURPOSE: This rule provides criteria for eligible adopters and application acceptance.

(1) Eligible Adopters. Eligible adopters include civic and nonprofit organizations, commercial and private enterprises and individuals. The program is not intended as a means of providing a public forum for the participants to use in promoting name recognition or political causes. The commission reserves the right to limit the number of adoptions for a single group.

(2) Acceptance of Application. The commission will have sole responsibility in determining whether an application is rejected or accepted and determining what highways will or will not be eligible for adoption.

(A) The commission may refuse to grant a request to participant if, in its opinion, granting the request would jeopardize the program, be counterproductive to its purpose or have undesirable results such as increased litter, vandalism or sign theft.

(B) Applicants must adhere to the restrictions of all state and federal nondiscrimination laws. Specifically, the applicant must not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin or disability. Such discrimination disqualifies the applicant from participation in the program.

(C) Applicants with a history of unlawfully violent or criminal behavior will be prohibited from participation in the program.

*Auth: section 227.030, RSMo (1994).
Original rule filed Feb. 15, 1995, effective
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**Original authority 1939.*

7 CSR 10-14.040 Agreement Terms

PURPOSE: This rule provides terms of the written agreement between the adopter and the commission.

Editor's Note: The secretary of state has determined that the publication of this rule in its entirety would be unduly cumbersome or expensive. The entire text of the material referenced has been filed with the secretary of state. This material may be found at the Office of the Secretary of State or at the headquarters of the agency and is available to any interested person at a cost established by state law.

(1) If an application is approved by the commission, the adopter representative shall execute a written agreement with the commission, and upon signing by both parties, the agreement becomes effective and provides for the group's participation in the program.

(2) Responsibilities of Adopter. The adopter shall—

(A) Abide by all provisions contained in the agreement and any other terms and conditions as required by the department;

(B) Abide by all safety requirements as listed in the department's Safety Tips brochure;

(C) Have all members of the group participating in the program activity attend a safety meeting conducted by the adopter representative, or designee, before participation in any program activity;

(D) Properly use all safety equipment provided by the department and perform the work in a safe and professional manner;

(E) Provide one (1) adult supervisor for every eight (8) participants between thirteen and seventeen (13—17) years of age and one (1) adult supervisor for every four (4) participants between six and twelve (6—12) years of age. No one under the age of six (6) will be allowed to participate in the program;

(F) Adopt a section of highway right-of-way for a minimum of three (3) years;

(G) Collect litter along the adopted section a minimum of four (4) times per year, or as required by the commission;

(H) Adopt for litter pickup a minimum of two (2) miles in rural areas and one-half (1/2) mile in urban areas. Shorter lengths may be permissible in special circumstances;

(I) Provide prior notice, as required by the commission before performing any program activity;

(J) Restrict program activities to the areas of right-of-way outside the pavement and shoulder areas;

(K) Perform program activity between the hours of one (1) hour after sunrise to one (1) hour before sunset and not during inclement weather;

(L) Prohibit members from possessing, consuming, or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs while participating in the program;

(M) Place litter in trash bags provided by the department and place filled trash bags at a designated location;

(N) Separate tires, batteries and other trash as needed for proper disposal according to local landfill requirements; and

(O) Indemnify and hold harmless the commission and department and their officers, employees and agents from any claim, lawsuit or liability which may arise from adopter's participation in the program.

(3) Responsibilities of Commission. The commission shall—

(A) Determine the specific section of right-of-way that is to be adopted;

(B) Install and maintain signs, if desired by the adopter, that conform with 7 CSR 10-14.050, at both ends of the adopted section;

(C) Provide the adopter with trash bags;

(D) Provide the adopter with safety equipment; and

(E) Remove and dispose of filled trash bags from the adopted section as soon as practical after the litter pickup is finished.

(4) Termination of Agreement. The commission reserves the right to terminate the agreement and remove the signs when, in the sole judgment of the commission, it is found the adopter has not met the terms and conditions of the agreement or there is concern about the safety of the adopters, traveling public or Missouri Highways and Transportation Department (MHTD) employees.

*Auth: section 227.030, RSMo (1994).**
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**Original authority 1939.*

7 CSR 10-14.050 Sign Specifications

PURPOSE: This rule provides the specifications of the signs used in the Adopt-A-Highway Program.

(1) The signs shall—

(A) Identify and recognize the adopter, but are not intended to be, an advertising medium;

(B) Be designated by the department regarding size, color, location, and text; and

(C) Have the actual name of the adopter with no telephone numbers, logos, slogans or addresses with verbiage kept to a minimum.

(2) The signs shall not contain wording which is obscene or profane, or implies an obscenity or profanity.

(3) The erection of a sign is not a requirement for participation in the program. The commission, at their sole discretion, may refuse to erect a sign under the program.

(4) The signs cannot be used as a memorial.

*Auth: section 227.030, RSMo (1994).**
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