

## Montgomery County's Adopt A Road Program

The Adopt A Road program was the initiative of the Keep Montgomery County Beautiful citizen task force and is administered by the Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPWT). It encourages residents and businesses of the County to participate in a community activity by keeping roads clean and litter free. Currently, there are approximately 207 road segments that have been adopted under the program. Participants have agreed to keep their road segment as clean as possible, with at least six major road clean-ups per year. In exchange for their cooperation and participation, a sign bearing the name of the organization or individual may be erected to recognize the participant. However, a sign is not necessary to participate in the program.

This program helps in minimizing the accumulation of litter in the public rights-of-way. When left uncollected, litter and debris will be washed into the storm drains, and ultimately into the watersheds that feed into other water systems including the Chesapeake Bay. Since DPWT has no funded litter collection program, the Adopt A Road program is a valuable tool in helping to keep our roads and streams environmentally healthy as well as ensuring a high quality of life in Montgomery County.

A companion program, called Adopt A Highway, is operated by the Maryland State Highway Administration (MSHA) for State roads in the County and elsewhere in Maryland. For information about the State's program contact MSHA's Gaithersburg depot for roads in the western portions of the County at 301.948.2477, or their Fairland depot for eastern portions at 301.572.5166.

For more information on the County's program, contact the DPWT's Community Outreach office at 240.777.7155 or <a href="mailto:dpwt.outreach@montgomerycountymd.gov">dpwt.outreach@montgomerycountymd.gov</a>.

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