June 2, 2009

Dear **Adopt A Road** Participant:

Here's information to help you in your volunteer work!

☼ **"REFRESH MONTGOMERY" SPRING CLEANING UNDERWAY** The "**Refresh Montgomery**" program kicked off on April 6. This program provides for three Highway Services crews to embark fulltime on a 6-8 week operation of **litter pick-up** countywide. Last year, Refresh Montgomery resulted in the collection of over 20-tons of trash from along county roads. This year's operations are on track to produce a similar result. The crews are to coordinate their work with our volunteer-based Adopt A Road program. For more information on Highway Services' spring activities including street sweeping schedules, visit the Highway Services' website within montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot or call MCDOT's Customer Service Center at 240.777.6000. Call the Center to report any issues you may have in handling your cleaning activities with this program.

☼ **SCHEDULING YOUR COUNTY PICK UP** We have sent a reminder memo to MCDOT's Customer Service Center advising the operators of our **special arrangement to have Highway Services crews pick up the bags** from your regular Adopt A Road cleanings. If you expect to collect more than four bags, we ask you contact the Center at 240.777.6000 (Mon-Fri, 700a-430p, or leave a message) BEFORE your cleaning so the bags will be out on the street a minimal period. When you call the Center, **please be sure to clearly identify yourself as an Adopt A Road participant at the beginning of the conversation!**

☼ **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT DOES SENIOR PROJECT WITH COMMUNITY OUTREACH** **Greg Murtland**, graduating senior at the McLean School in Potomac, Maryland, selected doing volunteer work with MCDOT as his senior project. The goal was to get a feel for what it is like to work in an office setting. Besides attending numerous meetings to shadow staff and providing support on outreach tasks, Greg made substantive contributions to the Adopt A Road website. Check out the new photos, a list of FAQs, and other improvements to the site at montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot.

☼ **PLEASE HELP US MONITOR TRASH LEVELS IN THE REGION** When you report your cleanings, please tell us how many bags you collect—it will provide a vital source of data which will be used in part to measure progress on the Trash Free Potomac Watershed Initiative.

FY09 totals to date:	**236 clean ups reported, 1523 bags of trash collected**
April 09:	**18 clean ups reported, 116 bags of trash collected**
May 09:	**11 clean ups reported, 90 bags of trash collected**

☼ **TOP CLEANING GROUPS AMONG THOSE REPORTING** This month we're inaugurating a new recognition of the volunteer group who reported the highest number of trash bags collected along a roadside in a recent month. And March's winner is the **Smokey Glen Farm Barbequers**, Inc. for collecting 16 bags! We will be sending a small token of our appreciation to the group's coordinator for the good reporting and the group's work in keeping Montgomery beautiful.

If you have any questions or comments on the program, contact us in the Community Outreach office at **240.777.7155, mcdot.outreach@montgomerycountymd.gov,** or the address below.

Sincerely,

Thomas D. Pogue
Community Relations Manager