

Dear Interested Party:

Thank you for your recent inquiry regarding MCDOT's Adopt A Road (AAR) program. The AAR program enlists more than 5,000 volunteers who clean over 480 road segments in Montgomery County. Your participation in this program will help our County become a cleaner and more attractive place to live and visit. Due to budget constraints, there is very little funding for MCDOT to conduct litter pickup. We count on our program volunteers to remove unsightly litter from roadsides before it reaches local streams or clogs storm drains that feed into the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers and eventually, our water supply.

Please take time to review the attached AAR FAQs and Application which contains program guidelines and safety procedures, as this should answer many of your questions. There is no cost to participate and no limitation as to how long a road can be adopted. We provide, for free, a limited amount of safety equipment, such as safety vests, gloves, and trash bags to help with your volunteer efforts.

Also attached is a list of road segments that are available for adoption and sorted by City. Some roads on this list are identified as rural and require a brown rustic road sign be installed. Rustic Roads are historic and scenic roadways in an area where natural, agricultural, or historic features are predominant. Most Rustic Roads are narrow, windy and have no sidewalk. All other county-owned roads will require the purple AAR sign (see photos below). When filling out the application be sure to include two road segments (should your first choice not be available). If you are interested in a specific road and it is not listed, it could either already be adopted or not owned by the County. Roads located within a business district or municipality are not eligible. Roads that contain a route number are owned by the State and therefore, not eligible. One road can be adopted for the first six months of participation, if the participant follows program guidelines (submit regular cleaning reports) within these six months, a second road may be adopted.

The program guidelines require participants to **clean their adopted road segment as needed, with a minimum of six times a year (the equivalent to every other month) and to report these cleanings to us (if more cleanings are needed or the road does not require a lot of cleanings, we would still like a monthly report.** These reports let us know that you are meeting your commitment and are still active in the program. These reports also serve as a record of your activities should we receive complaints about the cleanliness of your adopted road segment. When submitting a cleaning report, include: the date of cleaning; total number of volunteers involved; number of bags of trash collected; and the type or gallon of trash bags used, such as tall kitchen trash bag, lawn/leaf bag, small grocery store bag or the AAR provided blue or orange bag.

In recognition for the volunteer's efforts, two signs are fabricated and installed bearing their company/group name. AAR signs are normally installed at the beginning and ending of the adopted road segment. All County signs, including AAR signs, are installed within the public right-of-way and are placed with the consideration of certain engineering factors such as line of sight and safety concerns as determined by MCDOT engineers. When choosing a name for the nameplate there is a **13-character limit (this includes spaces) per line, two lines max** (see photo of nameplate below). Slogans, messages, phone numbers, website addresses or any other information besides the volunteer's name is prohibited.

For questions or concerns email mcdot.outreach@montgomerycountymd.gov or call 240-777-7155 (press # to bypass greeting). You can also visit our website at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/adoptaroad. We appreciate your interest in keeping Montgomery County clean, green and beautiful! The success of our program is due primarily to citizen commitment — you and your organization, business or family will make a difference!

