

SAFETY INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

Remember

A roadway is a dangerous place to be and if volunteering on trails, parks or other County land, there may be other traffic (pedestrians, bikes, motorized vehicles, animals, wildlife, etc.). Every group member should possess these qualifications:

- Mental alertness and good common sense.
- Good physical condition, including sight and hearing.
- Sense of responsibility for safety of self and others.

Plan Ahead

- Review safety precautions and take them seriously.
- Assign work teams and leaders before you reach the site. Distribute trash bags beforehand.
- Estimate the amount of time for your pickup and agree on a meeting place when done.
- Carpool to the site to reduce the number of vehicles at the site. Park vehicles off the roadway as far as possible and on the same side of the highway or in designated parking area.
- Bring along a cell phone and a first aid kit. Identify the nearest hospital and know how to get there in an emergency.
- Don't overexert yourself. Bring along a supply of drinking water and take breaks.

While You Work

- Work only during daylight hours during good weather.
- Work on one side of the road at a time if cleaning along the highway or roadway.
- Whenever possible, work facing oncoming traffic. Stay alert and be prepared to move out of the way in an emergency.
- Stay with your group.
- Do not wear headsets which could prevent you from hearing traffic or other hazards.
- Do not crush collected trash to make more room in the bag; broken or jagged objects could cause accidental injuries.
- Do not horse around or do anything to purposely distract drivers or others on the trail.

What to Avoid

- Avoid construction sites, mowing activities, open water, bridges, overpasses, or retaining walls that could be dangerous for volunteers.
- Avoid poison ivy or other noxious weeds.
- Stay away from recently applied herbicides.
- Watch for broken glass, sharp metal objects and boards with exposed nails.
- Do not pick up dead animals.
- Never try to pick up heavy, large, or hazardous materials. Notify Highway Department for pickup if along a roadway or Natural Resources Management if on a trail or other County land.
- Do not pick up syringes or hypodermic needles. Notify Highway Department if on the roadway or Natural Resources Management in on a trail or County land for pickup.

What to Wear

- High-visibility vests
- Heavy gloves
- Heavy leather shoes or boots
- Light colored clothing / brightly colored cap
- Hat and long sleeves to prevent sunburn.
- Sunscreen and insect or tick repellent