

EMMET COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

ADOPT-A-COUNTY ROAD SAFETY INFORMATION

GENERAL SAFETY RULES:

- Road traffic travels at high speeds, and most drivers do not expect to see crews working along the roadside. Be alert and use good common sense at all times.
- Crew members should be in good health with good sight and hearing.
- Crew members must be at least 12 years of age unless otherwise approved.
- One person should be designated crew leader to ensure everyone follows all safety rules.
- Carpool to the site to reduce the number of vehicles on the roadside, park well off the shoulder, and DO NOT park on paved shoulders, along curves, on bridges, or in such a manner that blocks an intersection or that impairs the site vision of traffic.
- Keep vehicles on the same side of the roadway as crew members when possible.
- Work only one side of the road at a time and keep crews together for better visibility to motorists.
- Crew members should not carry knives, machetes, axes, etc.
- Do not overfill or compact trash bags because of the danger of injuries from broken or jagged objects, fill only what goes in easily and then start a new bag.
- Fill bags with what goes in easily, and then start a new bag.

PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHER CREW MEMBERS:

- Face oncoming traffic as you work whenever possible. Be prepared to move out of the way of vehicles in an emergency.
- Stop working in bad weather, especially when there is poor visibility, fog, wet or icy roads.
- Work during daylight hours only.
- Avoid over exertion. Drink lots of water, especially on hot, humid days.
- Post a person to look out for traffic dangers.
- Have a refresher session on safety awareness each time a crew goes out.
- Avoid the use of headphones so that you can hear what is happening in your surroundings.
- All workers must wear the yellow/green safety vest supplied by the Road Commission. Other clothing should be light colored for increased visibility.
- Wear gloves to protect your hands, long pants, and substantial leather boots or shoes with good ankle support. Flip-flops, sandals, and open-toed shoes are NOT recommended.
- Watch your footing and be cautious near steep angles and deep ditches.
- Avoid contact with poison ivy, poison oak and other noxious weeds.
- Avoid areas which are being mowed or where other construction activities are being conducted.

AND PLEASE:

- DO NOT pick up discarded syringes or hypodermic needles.
- DO NOT try to remove unknown or suspected toxic substances. Notify the Road Commission or the police of the location of these items immediately.
- DO NOT pick up suspected Meth Lab trash ([see attached brochure](#))
- DO NOT enter the roadway or the shoulder areas to pick up trash.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:

- Every crew member should have an adequate first-aid kit. Be prepared in the event of an emergency.
- Every crew leader should have transportation immediately available and be familiar with the quickest route to the emergency room, or urgent care if needed, or call 911.
- Have a cell phone or vehicle with a CB radio if available.

[WATCH THE MDOT Adopt-A-Highway SAFETY VIDEO](#)