



KANABEC COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Chad T. Gramentz, PE, Public Works Director
903 Forest Avenue East, Mora, MN 55051
320-679-6300

Adopt-a-Highway Safety Tips

Remember

A highway is a dangerous place to be. Every crewmember should be:

- At least 12 years of age, unless otherwise permitted
- Mentally alert and using good common sense
- Of good physical condition
- Aware of their responsibility for the safety of themselves and others in their group
- Supervised under age 18

Plan Ahead

- Review safety precautions and take them seriously
- Assign work teams and leaders before you reach the site. Distribute trash/recyclables bags beforehand. Estimate the amount of time for your pickup and agree on a meeting place when you are done.
- Carpool to the site to reduce the number of vehicles along the road. Park vehicles on the shoulder in advance of the area and on the same side of the highway that crews are working.
- Bring along an adequate 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.
- Think about recycling appropriate materials that you gather. Designated bags to separate out recyclable materials from trash will be provided by the Highway Department.

While You Work

- Work only during daylight hours during good weather.
- Work one side of the road at a time. Minimize the number of times you cross the road.
- Whenever possible, face oncoming traffic. Stay alert and be prepared to move out of the way in an emergency. Stay with your team.
- Do not wear headsets which could prevent your 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 put syringes or hypodermic needles in the trash bag as they can easily puncture the bag and cause serious injury. Take care to dispose of them properly or return them to the Highway Department for disposal.
- Do not horse around or do anything to purposely distract drivers.



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What to Avoid

- Stay away from construction sites, mowing activities, open water, bridges, large culverts, overpasses or retaining walls that could be dangerous for pedestrians.
- Avoid poison ivy or other noxious weeds.
- Never try to pick up heavy, large or hazardous material. Notify the highway Department to pick up these items.

What to Wear

- Heavy duty gloves
- Heavy leather shoes or boots
- Light-colored clothing; a brightly colored cap
- Hat and long sleeves to protect against sunburn; sunscreen; insect or tick repellent
- High-visibility vests