

Gillespie County Adopt-a-County Road Program – Additional Information

The Texas Department of Transportation Adopt-a-Highway Program focuses on State maintained highways. The intent of the Gillespie County Adopt-a-County Road Program is to focus on Gillespie County roads.

Program Outline

- An individual, family, community organization, governmental entity, youth organization, business, civic and non-profit organization, religious group, fraternity, sorority, or school may adopt a two-mile stretch of a County road.
- The two-mile stretch of a County road is adopted for a minimum of two (2) years.
- The adopting entity agrees to pick up litter four (4) times per year **or more** in some heavy traffic areas.
- Adopt-a-County Road signs will be posted at either end of the adopted section with the adopting entity's name.
- Adopt-a-County Road Program will provide volunteers with safety information, trash bags, traffic control signs and safety vests.
- Application is made to the Rural Addressing Department which will forward the application to the County Commissioner in the precinct where the requested adopted road is located.

Guidelines

- Participation in the Program is open to individuals, families, community organizations, governmental entities, youth organizations, private businesses, civic and non-profit organizations, religious groups, fraternities, sororities and schools.
- Program participants must agree to hold Gillespie County harmless and agree not to hold Gillespie County responsible for any injuries that they may suffer or damages they may cause or suffer as a result of participation in the Program.
- Individuals and groups can adopt a section of roadway to memorialize individuals or family members who have died. The recognition sign may include the phrase "in memory of", the name of the person in whose memory the section is adopted, and the name of the adopting entity.
- Only Gillespie County roads are eligible for adoption.

The Participant will:

- Obey and abide by all laws and regulations relating to safety and such other terms and conditions as may be required by the County for special conditions of a particular adopted section.
- Adopt a section of County road that is a minimum of two (2) miles [unless the total length of the road is shorter than two (2) miles] for a minimum of two (2) years.
- Pick up litter a minimum of four (4) times per year at approximately quarterly intervals unless the Commissioner of the precinct determines that less times per year is adequate. It is desired that one (1) of these pickups occur during the annual "Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off" event each April or during the first week in April and another pickup during the first week in September.
- Appoint an authorized representative of the participating group to serve as spokesperson.
- Furnish adequate supervision by one (1) or more adults for minor volunteers of a participating group who are 15 years of age or older, with at least one (1) adult for every three (3) children who are 7 to 14 years of age. Children under the age of seven (7) may not participate in the Program.
- Conduct a group safety meeting prior to each pickup day.
- Obtain required supplies and materials from the County during regular business hours.
- Set up traffic control signs during the cleanup and remove after cleanup.
- Wear County furnished safety vests during trash pickup.
- Place litter in trash bags. Remove trash bags and coordinate with the Gillespie County Community Service Department to discard to an approved disposal site.
- Return unused materials and supplies to the County within two (2) business days following each cleanup.
- Not possess or consume alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs while on the adopted section.
- Maintain a first-aid kit and adequate drinking water while picking up litter on the adopted section of road.
- Assignment of responsibilities to any other group is not allowed without consent of the County Commissioner of the precinct.
- Have the option of renewing an agreement subject to the approval of the County Commissioner of the precinct.
- Advise the County Commissioner of the precinct each time that litter has been picked up on the adopted road.

The County will:

- Work with the participating individual or group to determine the specific section of County road to be adopted.
- Erect at least one (1) sign on the adopted section with the participant's name displayed.
- Provide safety information, trash bags, traffic control signs and safety vests.
- If in the sole judgment of the County Commissioner of the precinct, it is determined that the individual or group is not meeting the terms and conditions of the agreement, the County may terminate the agreement and remove sign(s) upon 30 days' notice.

How to apply:

Request an application form from the Rural Addressing Department by calling (830) 997-1726 or go to www.gillespiecounty.org to print the form. Submit the completed form to the Rural Addressing Department located in the basement of the Courthouse, Room 106 or email to litterprogram@gillespiecounty.org. More detailed information is available on the application form.

Partners

Gillespie County Adopt-a-County Road Program plans to partner with "Keep Texas Beautiful" www.ktb.org and "Don't Mess with Texas" www.dontmesswithtexas.org. These are state wide organizations focused on reducing litter on Texas roads. Locally we partner with Gillespie Organizers Against Litter (GOAL) found on Facebook. **"Keep Our Community Beautiful"**.

Effective October 1, 2017