

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-37**

**A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A PUBLIC WORKS  
ADOPT-A-ROADWAY PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Cochise County, owns and maintains a system of county roads withing Cochise County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors of Cochise County (“the Board”) wishes to keep these County Roads litter free and scenic for the enjoyment of residents and visitors in Cochise County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board wishes to educate volunteers of the risks in working along County maintained roads; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board seeks to acknowledge the efforts of volunteers with signage at one end of the volunteer permitted area; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board desires to create this program to allow County staff to quickly and effectively support volunteer efforts and promote the good works of said volunteers; and

**WHEREAS**, to meet these objectives and to guide its own program, the Board desires to use and follow an existing “Adopt a Roadway Program” (see Exhibit “A”) which has been created by and used in other counties with success.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Cochise County Board of Supervisors that the Adopt a Roadway program is hereby created and that the policies and procedures attached as Exhibit “A” are hereby approved. The Public Works Director is hereby authorized to make changes to the program within the annual county budget and based upon the changing needs of the County, subject to review and approval by the County Administrator.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of Cochise County, Arizona, this 16th of December 2025.

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Frank Antenori, Chairman  
Cochise County Board of Supervisors

**ATTEST:**

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Lara Loewenheim  
Clerk of the Board

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

 12/8/2025

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Bert Whitehead IV, Esq.  
Civil Deputy County Attorney



## EXHIBIT "A"

### **Cochise County Public Works Department Adopt a Roadway Program**

**Cochise County Adopt a Roadway Program's** mission is to provide opportunities for organized groups and/or individuals to make specific volunteer contributions for improving the appearance of Cochise County's roadsides while building community pride. This program was established by the Cochise County Public Works Department through which volunteers agree to pick up litter along a segment of roadway for a two-year period. Cochise County provides trash bags, reflective safety vests, and will pick up and dispose of all bagged litter collected by volunteers.

A Cochise County Public Works liaison will assist groups in selecting a roadway segment to adopt. Cochise County will also execute an agreement with volunteer groups, set up a cleanup schedule, and conduct safety trainings with volunteer coordinators.

Adopting groups can take pride in their contributions to the community and be confident that their efforts are increasing public awareness about litter control. Adopt a Roadway saves taxpayer dollars and gives organizations valuable opportunities to work together to make a difference.

Cochise County has over 1,400 miles of maintained roads. There are nearly 23.7 billion pieces of litter that are left on 8.3 million miles of roadways in the United States, equaling 2,855 pieces per mile. We invite you to be a positive change and keep Cochise County beautiful by Adopting a Roadway.





## EXHIBIT "A"

# Cochise County Public Works Department Adopt a Roadway Program

## How it Works

- Adopt a stretch of roadway (minimum of 1 mile) for a minimum of two years.
- Pick up litter at least twice a year.
- Adopt a Roadway signs will be posted with your group's name at your adopted roadway after your first volunteer clean-up
  - Groups that adopt a road segment will be eligible for a sign.
  - Signs may take up to 120 days to be fabricated and installed after the first cleanup is verified.
- Cochise County will provide volunteers with safety vests, litter bags, and safety trainings for volunteer coordinators free of charge.
- Volunteer coordinators must attend a safety training class every two years and must go over all safety information with their volunteer group before each cleanup.

## Who Should Adopt?

Almost everyone is eligible to adopt a Cochise County roadway

- Individuals, families, youth organizations
- Civic and non-profit organizations
- Businesses
- Religious groups
- Schools and school clubs

Individuals and groups may adopt sections of roadways to memorialize individuals who have passed away. The recognition sign may include the phrases, "In memory of," or "In honor of". Cochise County Adopt a Roadway program rules and guidelines apply to memorial and honor adoptions. Cochise County Public Works reserves the right to approve, disapprove, or edit names or acronyms that go on the sign. Signs cannot be used as an advertising medium, any kind of public form for public speech or political opinion. Whether an adoption is ended by Cochise County Public Works or volunteers, signs may not be purchased or kept. All signs are recycled and reused.





## EXHIBIT "A"

# Cochise County Public Works Department Adopt a Roadway Program

## RULES AND PROCEDURES

- I. **Eligibility** – the purpose of the County Adopt a Roadway program is to enlist residents/community members to keep the roads clean and safe by removing litter.

Adopt a Roadway is open to individuals or organized groups in Cochise County, Arizona. Some examples include, but are not limited to, scout groups (both boys and girls), students from schools within Cochise County, cycling clubs, running clubs, hiking clubs, civic organizations, youth groups, church groups, sports groups, for-profit organizations.

Individuals and groups may adopt roadway segments to memorialize or honor deceased friends or family members.

### II. **Rules and Conditions**

- The length of the adopted roadway shall be a minimum of one (1) mile and consist of **both** sides of the roadway.
- Only after the volunteer groups perform a cleanup activity will Cochise County Public Works Department initiate the process of fabricating and installing recognition signs.
  - Signs may take up to 120 days to be fabricated and installed.
  - Whether an adoption is ended by Cochise County Public Works or volunteers, signs may not be purchased or kept. All signs are recycled and reused.
- Cleanup activities should be at least twice a year. A group has six months to perform an initial cleanup before a roadway segment returns to AVAILABLE status and the permit is cancelled.
- No children under the age of 12 may volunteer. An adult 21 years of age or older must always supervise any volunteer between the ages of 12 and 17. The ratio must be maintained at one adult to every five minors. This ratio must be enforced at all times by the volunteer coordinator.
- No pets are allowed on the cleanup site.



## EXHIBIT "A"

### Cochise County Public Works Department Adopt a Roadway Program

- Cochise County Public Works will supply litter bags and safety vests free of charge. The safety vests must always be worn by all volunteers during the cleanup. The volunteer coordinator and each volunteer/volunteer guardians are responsible for inspecting the vests for defects and choosing an appropriate size before wearing.
  - Volunteers are encouraged to wear protective gloves, eye wear, proper clothing and use pick sticks. These items will **not** be provided by Cochise County Public Works.
  - Volunteers will appoint an Adopt a Roadway volunteer cleanup coordinator to oversee and coordinate cleanup efforts. The Adopt a Roadway volunteer coordinator must complete a safety course put on by the Cochise County Public Works Safety & Training Coordinator before supervising the first clean-up and every two years thereafter.
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- The Adopt a Roadway volunteer coordinator (and all volunteers/volunteer guardians) must read and comply with the safety requirements and sign all waivers and other documents requested by the Adopt a Roadway program coordinator and return them in a timely manner. The volunteer coordinator must conduct a thorough safety meeting with all volunteers prior to each clean up as safety is a paramount concern for Cochise County Public Works.
  - The Adopt a Roadway volunteer coordinator must complete and submit to the Cochise County Public Works liaison the volunteer waiver forms and minor consent forms prior to a scheduled cleanup.
  - After a scheduled cleanup the volunteer coordinator must complete the Clean-up Report form and send it to the Cochise County Public Works liaison.
  - A liability insurance certificate will not be required when cleanups are performed by volunteers.
  - **ASSUMPTION OF THE RISK:** Volunteer(s) and/or guardian(s) recognizes and understands that the activities with the Adopt a Roadway program shall include, but is not limited to, inherently hazardous activities such as working in a potentially dangerous environment, picking up trash and debris along roads, loading and unloading, and transportation to and from the volunteer work sites. Volunteer(s) and/or guardian(s) hereby expressly and specifically assumes the risk of injury or harm in these situations and releases and discharges Cochise County from and waives any and all liability for any injury, illness, death, or property damage resulting from the activities of the volunteer with Cochise County Adopt a Road program.
  - **HOLD HARMLESS CLAUSE:** Volunteer(s) and/or guardian(s), shall indemnify, defend and save harmless, Cochise County from any and all claims, demands, suits, actions, proceedings, loss, costs, and damages of every kind and description, including attorney's fees and/or litigation expenses, which may be brought or made against or



## EXHIBIT "A"

### Cochise County Public Works Department Adopt a Roadway Program

incurred by the County on account of loss of or damage to, any property, or for injuries or death of any person, caused by, arising out of, or contributed to, in whole or in part, by reasons of any act, omission, professional error, fault, mistake, or negligence of volunteer, its employees, agents, or representatives, or subcontractors, their employees, agents, or representatives, in connection with or incidental to the performance of this program, or liability arising out of any services provided, or duty performed, by any party as required by statute, law, purchase order, or otherwise. The volunteer(s)' obligation under this Section shall not extend to any liability caused by the sole negligence of the County or its employees.

- **INSURANCE**: All volunteers are expected and encouraged to arrive with their own health insurance plans in effect. Volunteers are not employees of Cochise County and are not provided any insurance coverage or workers' compensation by the County. All participation is at the volunteer's own risk.
  
- The volunteer coordinator who signed the Volunteer Agreement Form is required to ensure that a cleanup effort occurs along the adopted roadway segment at least twice a year for a minimum of two years.
- Notification 10 working days prior to a scheduled cleanup effort is required to be made to the Cochise County Public Works Department. Please contact the Adopt a Roadway liaison at 520-432-9361 to coordinate the cleanup date.
- The Adopt a Roadway agreement shall be issued for two years and is renewable, at Cochise County's discretion, if the volunteer organization has maintained its segment of the roadway to the satisfaction of Cochise County Public Works. If the volunteer group fails to fulfill its' commitment, Cochise County Public Works will return the roadway segment to an "AVAILABLE" status.
- Cochise County reserves the right to approve or deny the adoption of certain road segments based on safety considerations such as: traffic, volume, speed, road geometry, and shoulder width. Segments deemed too hazardous will not be available for adoption.
- Cleanup efforts shall be performed during daylight hours and in ideal weather conditions. Work shall not be conducted on holiday weekends, or within 24 hours of a holiday weekend unless specifically authorized.
- Political signs should not be removed by volunteers.
- Cochise County Public Works may impose additional conditions as needed.
- This program operates at the County's discretion and may be discontinued at any time. The County reserves the right to alter the contents of the program and/or modify adoptable segments in the program. It is the sole responsibility of the volunteer



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### Cochise County Public Works Department Adopt a Roadway Program

participants to obey all terms and conditions of the program and to monitor the required number of clean-ups to meet the terms of the program.

- Photos submitted by program participants become the property of the County and may be used to promote the Adopt a Roadway Program. By submitting photos, you also authorize the County to use the photos for social media advertising as it relates to the Adopt a Roadway program only. The County will not sell, distribute, pay for the use of, or use for any other purposes outside of the original intent of this program. The County reserves the right to blur or redact any derogatory or objectionable items from submitted photos.



### III. Getting Started

- Interested parties should contact the Cochise County Public Works Department at 520-432-9310.
- A representative will explain and discuss the Adopt a Roadway program with a responsible representative of the interested party emphasizing that the program involves significant physical work that must be done safely at least twice a year for a minimum of two years.
- A Volunteer Agreement Form must be completed by the applicant and approved by Cochise County Public Works.
- The volunteer coordinator submits the Release and Waiver of Liability Forms and any Minor Consent Forms signed by all volunteers for each cleanup effort.
- The volunteer coordinator attends a safety course conducted by the Cochise County Public Works Safety & Training Coordinator before the first clean-up is scheduled. (The course must be completed every two years.)



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### **Cochise County Public Works Department Adopt a Roadway Program**

- The Adopt a Roadway volunteer coordinator must call the Cochise County Public Works Department liaison at 520-432-9361, to schedule the date of the clean-up and request safety vests and litter bags at least 10 days prior to the desired clean-up date.
- Safety vests and litter bags are available for pickup at the Cochise County Public Works Departments Road Yards between the hours of 7a.m. and 4p.m. Monday through Thursday. (Please work with the Department's liaison to make sure your equipment is delivered to the Road Yard closest to you.)
- The volunteer coordinator must complete and return to the Cochise County Public Works Department the Activity Form within one week following the cleanup activity to the Road Yard in which they picked them up. Safety vests are yours to keep for the duration of your participation in this program. Vests must be returned at the end of your participation in this program.
- Volunteer groups may submit pictures of their cleanup activities to Cochise County Public Works Department Adopt a Roadway email at [adoptaroadway@cochise.az.gov](mailto:adoptaroadway@cochise.az.gov). These pictures will be used only to promote or show the progress of the Adopt a Roadway program.