



# Making the Best 4-H Clubs Better –Version 2.0

## Roadside Clean-Up Safety Plan

### Requirements:

- **Contact state, county, or township officials to discuss roadside clean-up plans and procedures well in advance of the clean-up. They may provide gloves, vests, garbage bags, cones and signage, and other support for the clean-up, and they will arrange to pick up the filled garbage bags from the roadside following the clean-up.**
- Participants must be enrolled 4-H project members. No Cloverbuds or younger siblings are allowed to participate or be present on-site.
- Participants must wear a safety vest.
- Participants must wear gloves and sturdy footwear. No sandals or flip-flops permitted.
- Supervisors must be familiar with safety and clean-up procedures and must have an adequate first aid kit and completed and signed permission to participate and emergency contact forms on-site.
- Supervisors should carry cell phones for ease in communicating with other adults up and down the line.

### Safe Clean-Up Procedures:

- It is recommended that there be at least one adult supervisor (18 years of age or older) for every two children 8-14 years of age participating on the work crew, and one adult supervisor for every five participants 15-17 years of age. At least two screened and oriented adult 4-H advisors must participate.
- An adult supervisor should always work between the edge of the road and the children participating in the clean-up.
- The youngest participants should work closest to the property line.
- Do not cross the road until guided to do so (after one side has been cleaned). The group should not clean both sides of the road at the same time, as this presents a challenge for motorists.
- The area to be cleaned will be from the edge of the road to the property line on both sides of the road.
- The standard for cleaning is to pick up anything that is the size of a candy wrapper or larger.
- Do not touch, disturb, or pick up dead animals
- Do not touch, disturb, or pick up any items you are unsure of, such as needles, syringes, diapers, sanitary napkins, chemicals, or pesticide containers.
- Report the location of dead animals or hazardous or potentially dangerous items to state, county, or township road officials. These officials will handle picking up and disposing of these items and will make any necessary reports to law enforcement.
- Full garbage bags are to be tied up and left far enough off the edge of the road so as not to interfere with or be struck by traffic.
- Items too large or too heavy to be placed in garbage bags should be left as is and clearly marked to be dealt with by road officials.
- Do not burn anything.
- Stay away from pockets of water.
- Clean your hands thoroughly before eating.



**Shuttle Vehicle Procedures:**

The safety rules and procedures for operating shuttle vehicles and guidelines for drivers and participants using these vehicles are also important. Again, emphasize that these rules and procedures are there for the safety of your group and the motoring public. As before, take your time and make sure you cover each item.

- All shuttle drivers must be licensed and insured. They must obey the rules of the road. Explain that they should drive defensively, in a safe and courteous manner.
- Never drive against the flow of traffic.
- Only back up when it is safe to do so.
- When slowing down and stopping to pick up or drop off participants, use the shuttle's four-way flashers.
- Never park a vehicle just over the top of a hill.
- Always get in and out of the shuttle vehicle on the side that is farthest away from the travel lanes.
- Only approach a shuttle vehicle after it has come to a complete stop.
- Do not try to get in or out of the shuttle vehicle until it has come to a complete stop and the shuttle driver tells you to get in or out.
- Do not carry more people than the vehicle is designed for.
- Do not ride (or let anyone ride) in the back of a pick-up or on the tailgate.
- Everyone in the vehicle must wear a seat belt.
- When travelling as a passenger, do not impede or obstruct the driver of the shuttle vehicle.
- When driving, do not use your cell phone to text or talk. Wait until parked before using it to communicate with other adults involved in the clean-up.

**Special Procedures:****Bridge Crossing Procedures**

- Youth should cross only with adult supervision.
- No more than three to cross at a time.
- Cross on the same side of the road as you were cleaning.
- The adult supervisor should follow the youth so that they are always visible to him/her.
- Walk briskly across the bridge. Do not dawdle or run.
- When a vehicle approaches on your side of the road, stop walking and face the road with your back to the bridge. Once the vehicle has passed, resume walking.

**Railway Tracks Crossing Procedure**

- Youth should cross only with adult supervision.
- Never stand closer than 15 feet from the tracks when waiting to cross.
- Stop, look, and listen. When the tracks are clear, cross briskly as a group.
- Never stand by the tracks waving. The color of the safety vests indicates danger, and the engineer may try to stop the train.
- Never place (or allow youth to place) any objects on the tracks.

**Review:**

Briefly review the major points of the training session, touching on:

- The safety check lists.
- Safe clean-up procedures.
- Shuttle vehicle safety procedures.
- Bridge and railway tracks crossing procedures.