

Tom Church Cabinet Secretary

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Press Release: Chaves, Eddy, Lea, Lincoln, Otero, De Baca, Roosevelt, Curry, & Guadalupe Counties

Adopt-A-Highway Fall Litter Pickup Southeastern New Mexico

Roswell – Volunteers participating in the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) District Two Adopt-A-Highway program should try to schedule their last fall litter pickup event before winter.

"Adopt-A-Highway volunteers take tremendous pride in keeping New Mexico looking beautiful," said District Two Engineer Tim Parker. "During these challenging financial times as we all try to maintain our highway assets with fewer funds, we rely on volunteers to help us keep our New Mexico roads clean and beautiful. If you see volunteers picking up litter, please drive with caution."

This year approximately 40 tons of trash were collected. District Two has 200 volunteer groups and 232 miles of highway adopted. The program saves NMDOT thousands of dollars, promotes civic responsibility, and removes trash from state highways. Volunteers wear safety vests when working within a highway right-of-way. NMDOT provides the vests and trash bags for free, and arranges to haul away the trash bags. Current volunteers include members of various civic groups, businesses and families.

Sections of highway are still available for adoption. Interested groups should check with the NMDOT District Two Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator Lorraine Crane at (575) 637-7200 for more information. Groups are asked to adopt a section of highway for at least two years, clean their adopted mile twice a year, and sign an agreement with the NMDOT. There is no fee to participate in the program. Adopt-A-Highway signs bearing a group's name are posted along the stretches of adopted highway.

Litter pickup events can take place any time during the spring, summer, and fall, or in coordination with any Keep New Mexico Clean and Beautiful event.

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Manon Arnett, Public Information Officer for the New Mexico Department of Transportation District Two at (575) 637-7210 (office) or <u>manon.arnett@state.nm.us</u>.