



KENT COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

POLICY

No.
507

Effective Date
07-24-1990

Revised Date

Adopt-a-Road Program

Policy authored by Engineering Division-Permits

The Kent County Road Commission is concerned about the environment and desires to maintain the natural beauty of its roadways. With help from members of our community, the roadways of Kent County can be kept free of litter and debris. The Road Commission has implemented an Adopt-A-Road Program with the following characteristics:

Roads - Most primary and paved secondary roads are in the program. Some primary roads are excluded because of the dense populace.

Participation - Any group with seven or more persons can participate. Group participants must have a minimum of one adult for every three persons under the age of 16.

Sign up / Permit - Permit applications are taken annually from January 1st until March 1st. Applications requesting duplicate roads will be awarded on a first come basis. The permit helps track which roads have been adopted. It also enables the Road Commission to keep a database for informational mailings. Permits expire after six years. Groups may reapply for a new road or wait one year and reapply for the same section. (This gives different groups the opportunity to apply for popular sections of roads.)

Cost - There is no initial cost to participate in the program. The Road Commission supplies the initial set of signs that recognize a group's participation in the program. Any signs damaged, defaced or destroyed may be replaced at the group's expense. The Road and Park Commission also supplies the initial set of required orange vests. Thereafter, the adopting group shall replace the vests at its own expense.

Clean-up Frequency – Clean-up dates are scheduled three times a year. The Road Commission will assign the dates each spring. Any group failing to participate in clean up for two periods during the year will have their permit revoked. All participants are encouraged to take pride in their adopted stretch of road. However, trash accumulated due to clean-ups done more frequently than those scheduled by the Road and Park Commission must be disposed of by the group and at its own expense.

Trash Bags – Trash bags are available from March to September at any of the three Road Commission locations – Central Complex @ 1500 Scribner Avenue NW (near downtown Grand Rapids), North Complex @ 11777 White Creek Avenue (Cedar Springs) or South Complex @ 4949 South Complex Drive SE (near the airport).

More information – More information about the Kent County Road Commission Adopt-A-Road Program is available from the Permit Department.

Permit Conditions for Adopt-A-Road Program

Adopt-A-Road permits are subject to the following conditions:

1. The permit grants the permitted those rights specifically stated and no other.
2. Issuance of the permit does not relieve the permittee from meeting any and all requirements of law, or other public bodies or agencies.
3. The permittee shall save harmless the Kent County Road Commission, the Board of Road Commissioners, and all officers, agents and employees thereof against any and all claims arising from operations covered by this permit.
4. All applications must be submitted before March 1st to participate in the current year.
5. Assignments will be made on a first come basis. Groups must agree to pickup litter a minimum of 3 times a year during designated dates. The actual dates will be assigned by the Road Commission Maintenance Division. The assigned sections of roadway will be a minimum of 1 mile up to a maximum of 4 miles.
6. The permit expires after 6 years. Groups must reapply for a new road (if desired).
7. The group must consist of 7 or more persons, all identified by name, address and phone number. A group contact person must be identified.
8. Group participants must have a minimum of 1 adult for every 3 persons under the age of 16.
9. All participants must wear orange vests while working in the right-of-way. The Road Commission will supply the initial set of vests. Thereafter, the adopting group shall replace the vests at its own expense.
10. Participants must attend a safety meeting conducted by the adopting group prior to their first pickup each year. Safety tips to be used as a guideline are available from the Road Commission.
11. All trash must be placed in bags provided by the Road Commission. Those objects too large or heavy shall be placed next to the bags. Full bags are to be placed in designated locations for pickup. No bags or objects are to be placed on the shoulder of the road. Also, no personal household trash of group members will be accepted.
12. Groups failing to follow the guidelines or that do not participate in trash pickup for 2 periods of the year will have their permit revoked.
13. The Road Commission will supply the initial set of signs that recognize a group's participation in the program. Any signs that are stolen, damaged, defaced or destroyed may be replaced at the group's expense.
14. The Kent County Road and Park Commission shall retain the right to revoke any permit at any time. The permittee, upon request of the Road Commission, shall immediately cease operations and surrender the permit.
15. Issuance of a permit and/or participation in the Adopt-A-Road Program does not indicate that the Kent County Road and Park Commission or Kent County supports or endorses any organization or position.