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## Adopt-A-Road Clean-Up Spring 2025

- **Spring Dates:** The month of May is one of the two designated months for roadside cleanup on Emmet County Roads. Weather conditions certainly play a role in when roadside cleanup can be completed, therefore, flexibility is allowable outside the month of May if we are notified.
- Safety:Please conduct a safety review with your group, wear safety vests and protective<br/>clothing and familiarize yourself with hazardous waste and what to do if found. Links to<br/>the safety video, meth lab trash info, and other safety information can be found online<br/>at www.emmetcrc.org/adopt-a-road.
- Supplies: Program participants may pick up trash bags and safety vests during regular office hours at the ECRC office at 2265 E Hathaway Rd, Harbor Springs. Current office hours are listed on our website at <u>www.emmetcrc.org</u>.
- **Bag Pickup:** Adopt-A-Road trash bags <u>must be used</u> during cleanups for our crews to be allowed to pick up. Any household type bags will not be picked up by our crews. Please place trash bags as close together as possible and near a landmark or sign so that our crew can easily spot them. Notify our office by phone or email <u>info@emmetcrc.org</u> when clean-up has been completed.
- Photos: If you have any photos of your group during clean-up or in front of your sign, please send them by email to <u>cellis@emmetcrc.org.</u>
- **Permits:** If you do not plan to renew your permit, please let us know so that we can make your stretch of road available to another group and have your sign removed.

# Thank you for your continued support and helping to keep our roadsides clean!

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#### **GENERAL SAFETY RULES:**

- Road traffic travels at high speeds, and most drivers do not expect to see crews working along the roadside. Always be alert and use good common sense.
- Crew members should be in good health with good sight and hearing.
- Crew members must be at least 12 years of age unless otherwise approved.
- One person should be designated crew leader to ensure everyone follows all safety rules.

#### SAFETY RULES:

- Carpool to the site to reduce the number of vehicles on the road site.
- All vehicles should be parked well off the right shoulder. Do not park on paved shoulders.
- Parking is not allowed along curves, bridges or in such a manner to block intersection site vision.
- All occupants in vehicles should exit and enter the vehicle on the side opposite of traffic.
- Keep vehicles on the same side of the roadway as crew members.
- Work only one side of the road at a time.
- Crew members should not carry knives, machetes, axes, etc.
- Do not overfill or compact trash bags because of the danger of injuries from broken or jagged objects. Fill bags with what goes in easily, then start a new bag.
- Keep crews together for better visibility to motorists.

#### PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHER CREW MEMBERS:

- Face oncoming traffic as you work whenever possible. Be prepared to move out of the way of vehicles in an emergency.
- Stop working in bad weather, especially when there is poor visibility and wet or icy roads.
- Work during daylight hours.
- Avoid overexertion. Drink lots of water, especially on hot, humid days.
- Post a person to look out for traffic dangers.
- Have a refresher session on safety awareness each time a crew goes out.
- Never walk on the road.
- Avoid the use of headsets.
- All workers must wear the yellow/green safety vest supplied by the Road Commission. Other clothing should be light colored for increased visibility.
- Wear gloves.
- Watch your footing. Wear substantial leather shoes or boots with good ankle support. Stay off loose stones and steep slopes.

#### AVOID:

- Contact with poison ivy, poison oak and other noxious weeds.
- Areas which are being mowed or where other construction or maintenance activities are being conducted.

#### AND PLEASE:

- DO NOT pick up discarded syringes or hypodermic needles.
- DO NOT try to remove unknown or suspected toxic substances. Notify the Road Commission or the police of the location of these items immediately.

- DO NOT enter the roadway or the shoulder areas to pick up trash.
- DO NOT pick up suspected Meth Lab trash.

#### **IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:**

- Every crew member should have an adequate first-aid kit. Be prepared for serious injury.
- Select an emergency room/hospital and know the route to it from the work area.
- Every crew member should have transportation immediately available.
- Have a cell phone or vehicle with a CB radio if available.

#### METH LAB TRASH

Methamphetamine is made in illegal laboratories and has a high potential for abuse and addiction. Methamphetamine is closely related chemically to amphetamine, but the central nervous system effects of methamphetamine are greater. Street methamphetamine is referred to by many names, such as "speed," "meth," and "chalk." Methamphetamine hydrochloride, clear chunky crystals resembling ice, which can be inhaled by smoking, is referred to as "ice," "crystal," "glass," and "tina."

Over 300 different chemicals can be used in the production of the drug depending on the procedure used. The waste can be disposed of in many ways, sometimes on the side of the road. **The following reviews some of the waste generated by Methamphetamine Labs:** 

- Plastic pop/juice/water bottles with tubing coming out of the top.
- Propane cylinders (typically off gas grills) are used to transport anhydrous ammonia. This ammonia can burn your skin and cause very severe respiratory damage. These tanks, when used with the brass fitting, can explode when moved. The ammonia degrades the brass to the point where it can blow the fitting out of the tank, endangering individuals in the area. The brass fittings on the tanks will turn a blue-to-blue green color as shown in the picture on the next page. Some tanks have been modified with other fittings. If you find cylinders, DO NOT touch them, but note the location and report it to the nearest law enforcement agency.
- Coffee filters with red stains/powder or white residue.
- Empty medicine boxes and blister packs for over-the-counter cold and asthma medicines (products that contain ephedrine or pseudoephedrine).
- Lithium batteries that appear to be unrolled.
- Bags containing a reddish/white powder.
- Respirator masks.
- Rubber gloves.
- Plastic or rubber tubing, hoses, and clamps.
- Pyrex glass, corning ware, or other glass cookware.
- Bed sheets or pillowcases stained red or containing a white powdery residue.
- Engine starting fluid cans (punctured and drained of ethyl ether).
- Empty drain cleaner containers (lye).
- Kitty litter.
- Empty bottles of 'rubbing alcohol', acetone, toluene, or paint thinner.
- Empty cans of Coleman/Camping fuel (naphtha).
- Empty containers of sulfuric, muriatic, or phosphoric acid.

### If you come across what appears to be meth lab waste, DO NOT touch it, and report the location to your crew leader and local law enforcement agency.