

Los Alamos County

Adopt-A-Road Program



LOS ALAMOS
where discoveries are made

Public Works Department

1000 Central Avenue
Suite 160
Los Alamos, NM 87544
505-662-8150

The Adopt-A-Road Program provides a great opportunity for both volunteer and sponsor groups to promote civic responsibility and community pride.

Welcome!

When you join Los Alamos County's Adopt-A-Road program, you become a vital part of a partnership that is dedicated to keeping Los Alamos clean and beautiful. No special skills or experience are required – just a commitment to the community and concern for the environment.

What it means to join the Adopt-A-Road Program:

- Your group can select a segment of Road you would like to sponsor. Groups can be family members, churches, businesses, organizations or even a group of friends!
- Your group agrees to pick up litter in your section of road at least two times per year, following all the safety guidelines in your agreement.
- This program is a two-year commitment.

Adopt-A-Road Requirements

A group requesting to adopt a segment of Road for litter control agrees to comply with the following requirements:

- All litter pick-up activities will be restricted to the areas of the right of way outside the pavement and shoulder areas.
- No person under the age of 12 will be permitted to pick-up litter within the highway right-of-way. All persons between the ages of 12 and 18 must be accompanied and supervised by at least one adult per 5 persons under the age of 18.

- Each group shall designate a Contact/Safety Representative. That Representative will be responsible for safety meetings, and for obtaining and returning vests and signs.
- Each scheduled litter pick-up must be scheduled with the Public Works Department to ensure proper coordination. The group shall obtain required traffic control signs, safety vests, and bags from the department during regular business hours. The group's representative, prior to clean up, should call the department to schedule a time to pick up and return the traffic control signs. (Only a limited number are available). A safety meeting will be conducted by the County's Adopt-A-Road Coordinator prior to each scheduled litter pick up. In this meeting, the members of the group should be apprised of the hazardous nature of the work that they will be performing.
- No litter pick up will be performed unless the group has placed the appropriate advance warning signs. Public Works will furnish the appropriate traffic control signs.
- All persons engaged in litter pick up will wear an appropriate safety vest. Public Works will furnish the appropriate vest.
- Vests and unused bags furnished by the department shall be returned to the department after each clean-up session.
- The adopting group will be responsible for disposal of all bags of litter they collect. (Coordinate with Environmental Services at 662-8163). There will be no fee for disposal of litter taken to the Eco Station in conjunction with a scheduled group event. *A pass will be given to the group leader and must be returned to the Public Works Department the day after the event.*
- If it is further understood by the adopting group that the Public Works Department will:
 - Erect a roadway sign that informs the public about the Adopt-A-Road program and recognizes the adopting organization's by name;
 - Furnish a set of appropriate traffic control advance warning signs (to be set up and maintained in place during litter pick-up activities by the adopting group) when available.
 - Furnish appropriate safety vests, gloves and litter bags for all persons involved in litter pick up for the adopting group.
 - If at the end of a nine-month period it is determined that the adopting organization has not conducted a cleanup activity, the department will cancel their agreement and remove their signs.

Safety

You will be participating in a volunteer community cleanup on a county road, your safety and the safety of others is extremely important to us. Please read and follow these safety guidelines:

Group leaders are responsible for conducting a safety briefing for all participants before the group departs to conduct an event. This safety briefing is a requirement for participants according to safety guidelines of the Adopt-A-Road program. This briefing is to assure all participants are aware and follow the program's safety requirements. There is a safety video available through Youtube.com that crew leaders must watch with their team as part of the pre-work session safety briefing. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=naMY0kfyERc>

Protect yourself and others by doing the following:

- ✓ Always work safely.
- ✓ Work facing on-coming traffic whenever possible and work one side of the road at a time.
- ✓ Do not enter the road or medians at any time.
- ✓ Be mentally alert.
- ✓ No horseplay of any type will be tolerated.
- ✓ Be a member of your team.
- ✓ Don't work in bad weather.
- ✓ Wear the proper gear and bring water.
- ✓ Do not wear headphones or earbuds or engage in other activity that could be distracting.
- ✓ Avoid places where snakes, fire ants or other insects/rodents may be located.

SAFETY DO

DO carpool to pick up sites to keep the number of vehicles on the roadside to minimum. Park in areas assigned during your on-site safety meeting, off the road as far away from the pavement edge as possible. Use parking lots and wide spots whenever possible.

DO wear the reflective orange safety vest provided for volunteers so you can be easily seen. Be sure you have it on from the moment you leave your vehicle at the pickup site.

DO wear light or bright colored protective clothing, hard-soled shoes, and sturdy work gloves. Participants should not wear short pants or tank tops.

DO use sunblock and wear a hat.

DO work only in daylight and in fair weather.

DO stay alert for noxious weeds and avoid them.

DO make sure all volunteers are familiar with these safety precautions.

SAFETY DON'T

DON'T pick up litter on the roadway surface at any time.

DON'T pick up litter close to the edge of the road or on any medians unless directed to during your individual on-site safety meeting. Stay on the right-of-way facing traffic and stay with your team.

DON'T cross the highway unnecessarily, cross only at designated locations. Designated crossing locations should be determined by your work leader prior to starting work.

DON'T play around or do anything that will distract passing drivers or other volunteers

DON'T work during peak travel times when traffic heavy. Consult your department contact for a suitable and safe schedule. Never schedule pickups during evening hours.

DON'T leave children or pets locked in the car at work locations.

DON'T overexert yourself. Take breaks, drink liquids and dress appropriately for the weather.

DON'T participate in litter pickups while under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or prescription medications.

DON'T bring small children or pets along on litter pickups.

DON'T pick up materials which you suspect might be hazardous, or a container with an unknown substance. Do not pick up dead animals.

DON'T try to pick up heavy objects.

The most important tip is to use good judgment and stay alert!

In Case of Emergency

1. Every crew should possess an adequate first aid kit while working.
2. In case of an emergency, call 911 and follow all directions provided by dispatchers.
3. Have transportation immediately available.

Volunteer Agreement and Release of Liability

The Adult Group/Organization or Minor Group/Organization Forms must be signed by each volunteer participating in the cleanup. All participants under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian signature. A copy must be sent to the Program Manager (lacpw@lacnm.us) and the group leader should keep the original. A new form must be completed for each event to capture any new volunteers.

The Equipment Kit

The Equipment Kit is designed to provide Adopt-a-Road volunteers with the necessary materials and tools to have a successful and safe cleanup event. The Adopt-A-Road Coordinator will arrange for a Safety Orientation to all adopting volunteer groups prior to their first cleanup and will supply the Equipment Kit. The following items are included in the Equipment Kit:

- Litter grabber tool
- Trash bags
- Recycling bags
- Safety vests
- Disposable gloves
- Sharps containers

Event Completion Form

After each cleanup, the group leader must complete the online event completion form on the website. Taking photos of the event is encouraged, please share with Louise Romero so they can be uploaded to the Los Alamos County website.

Adopt-A-Road Coordinator

The County's Adopt-A-Road Coordinator is the current County's *Transportation Safety Specialist* in the Traffic & Streets Division.

The coordinator is responsible for assisting with identifying adoptable segments of road and processing the application. The coordinator will plan for you to obtain the Equipment Kit. If you have any questions contact Martin Rivera, Transportation Safety Specialist at 662-8113.

List of potential streets that are available for adoption.

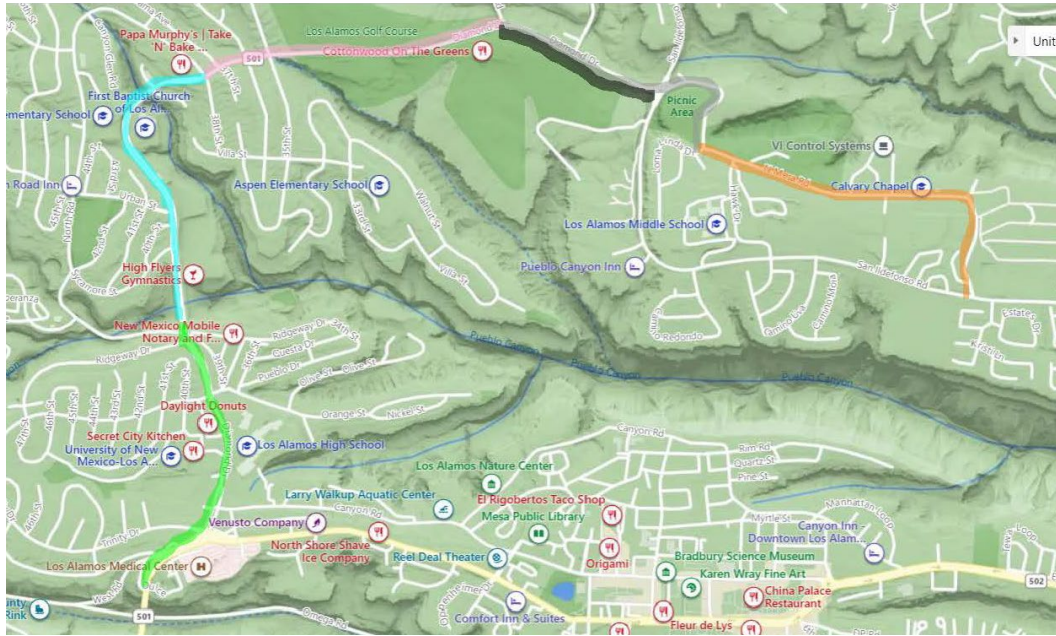
Central Avenue (1.5 miles)

- New roundabout to Oppenheimer 0.75mi (blue)
- Oppenheimer to Diamond 0.75mi (red)



Diamond Drive (2.6 miles)

- Omega Bridge to North Road 0.7 mi (green)
- North Road to Arkansas/38th Street 0.75mi (cyan)
- Arkansas/38th to Club Rd. 0.7 mi (pink)
- Club Rd. To Loma Linda on N. Mesa Rd 0.75 mi (gray)
 - *Club Rd. to Roundabout option to end at Roundabout 0.4 mi (black)*
- Loma Linda to San Ildefonso 0.8 mi (orange)



List of potential streets that are available for adoption

Overlook Road (0.75 miles)

- Meadow Ln. to overlook scenic lookout 0.75 mi (yellow)

