



## Caltrans Adopt-A-Highway Program Fact Sheet

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- The Caltrans Adopt-A-Highway Program was established in 1989. California was the 20th state in the nation to develop an Adopt-A-Highway Program.
- The Adopt-A-Highway Program allows the public to donate materials, equipment, and services for roadside maintenance or enhancement.
- In addition to the aesthetic benefits of cleaner and more beautiful roadsides, participants help to prevent potential pollutants from entering our waterways.
- There are approximately 4,000 active groups, representing an estimated 35,000 participants.
  - 75% of the groups are volunteers who perform the services themselves.
  - 25% of the groups are sponsors who hire a contractor to perform the work on their behalf.
- The Adopt-A-Highway Program provides a great opportunity for both volunteer and sponsor groups to promote civic responsibility and community pride.
- An Adopt-A-Highway courtesy sign is erected to recognize participants for their contributions.
- During the past 17 years, Adopt-A-Highway participants have:
  - Collected litter from over 4,000 locations.
  - Cleaned graffiti from more than 300 freeway walls or structures.
  - Planted trees and wildflowers at 375 sites.
  - Maintained historic mission bells along the El Camino Real.
- More than 12,000 shoulder-miles of highway are adopted—over 65% State Highway System.
- Program participants pick up nearly 250,000 bags of trash from California's roadsides each year—enough bags to reach from Stockton to So. Lake Tahoe or from Bakersfield to Disneyland!
- Adopt-A-Highway Program efforts represent a \$15 million savings to California's taxpayers each year.

