



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

J. ERIC BOYETTE
SECRETARY

January 6, 2022

Litter Management System Report

This report is prepared pursuant to Section 6 of SL 2021-185.

In 2021 the Department of Transportation removed approximately 13 million pounds of litter from the roadsides across the state. The department relies on its network of volunteers, corporate sponsors, Sheriff offices, contractors, and DOT forces to achieve the litter cleanup effort.

The department uses the Litter Management System's website and interactive map to promote, train, and collect the data necessary to ensure a successful program. The Litter Management web site (<https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/environmental/litter-management/pages/default.aspx>) contains links to help direct those who are interested in the following programs.

- Adopt-A-Highway
- Sponsor-A-Highway
- Litter Sweep
- Swat-A-Litterbug

Adopt-A-Highway (AAH)

Established in 1988 the AAH program remains one of the strongest volunteer-based programs the department uses to address litter clean up. The Adopt-A-Highway program consists of volunteers from civic and community groups, including schools, religious, professional, and social organizations, as well as individuals and families.

The website allows for those groups to report their cleanup efforts four times a year and assist those interested in adopting new roads in their communities. The interactive map can show which roads are adopted and which ones are available.

2021 AAH Accomplishments

- Recyclable Material Collected: 91,755 lbs.

Mailing Address:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
1557 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH, NC 27699-1557

Telephone: (919) 707-2920
Customer Service: 1-877-368-4968
Website: www.ncdot.gov

Location:
TRANSPORTATION BUILDING
1 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET
RALEIGH, NC 27601

- Trash Picked Collected: 857,235 lbs.
- Total Pounds Collected: 948,990 lbs.
- Total Hours Volunteered: 87,852 hrs.

Sponsor-A-Highway (SAH)

The N.C. Department of Transportation's Sponsor-A-Highway Program provides businesses, organizations, and individuals the opportunity to sponsor litter removal on North Carolina roadsides while also advertising their company name. This public-private partnership includes service providers that are responsible for marketing, securing sponsors, installing, and maintaining signs and removing and disposing of litter using their own crews.

The website directs potential sponsors to the service providers that perform the cleanup on the one-mile sponsored segments and shows which segments are available for sponsorship.

Agreements entered by the sponsors and service providers are between these parties and do not include NCDOT. Furthermore, NCDOT is not involved in receiving nor providing any compensation regarding the statewide Sponsor-A-Highway Program or any agreement between sponsors and service providers.

2021 SAH Accomplishments

- Recyclable Material Collected: 193,185 lbs.
- Trash Picked Collected: 643,380 lbs.
- Total Pounds Collected: 836,565 lbs.
- Total Miles Sponsored: 674 Miles

Top Sponsors:

- Johnson Automotive 545 Miles
- Parks Automotive Group 16 Miles
- Hendrick Automotive 13 Miles
- Impex Auto Sales 11 Miles

Litter Sweep

The NCDOT Litter Sweep is traditionally scheduled for the last two weeks of April and September. Litter Sweep is the department's biannual statewide roadside litter removal initiative. Residents throughout the state participate in local efforts to help clean up North Carolina's roadsides.

In addition to volunteers, NCDOT maintenance crews devote one week of their time to pick up litter and collect litter bags placed on the roadsides by volunteer pickups. Volunteers are provided cleanup supplies, such as reversible orange (Trash) / blue (Recycle) trash bags, gloves, and orange safety vests from their local DOT county maintenance yard office.

The website provides the information for volunteers to organize and pick up litter.

2021 Spring and Fall Litter Sweep Accomplishments

- Recyclable Material Collected: 74,430 lbs.
- Trash Picked Collected: 2,320,050 lbs.
- Total Pounds Collected: 2,394,480 lbs.
- Total Hours Volunteered: 76,051 hrs.

Swat-A-Litterbug

One of the key features to the department's website is the Swat-A-Litterbug program. The program encourages the public to report people who litter to help make North Carolina roadways cleaner. The program provides every individual an opportunity to be an active participant in reducing litter on North Carolina roadways.

The department developed a new web application to assist the public in reporting those who litter. Upon receipt of the reported information, NCDOT will mail the registered owner of the vehicle that was reported a [formal notification](#), signed by the N.C. State Highway Patrol, that informs them about the littering offense, the penalties of littering and urges them to help keep North Carolina clean.

The department will typically send out between 10,000 to 12,000 letters annually to those who were reported.

Annual Interagency Reports on Litter Cleanup

For more information about the department's litter cleanup efforts, please review the Interagency Reports on Litter Cleanup submitted annually. The following link will take you to the previous year's report. <https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/environmental/litter-management/Pages/interagency-reports.aspx>