



ADOPT-A-SAFETY PATH PROGRAM

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The West Bloomfield Adopt-A-Safety Path Program (AASP) provides a unique opportunity for community groups, neighborhood associations, businesses, families and other civic minded groups to become involved in an important community stewardship effort. Program participants will become part of township efforts to beautify our environment, maintain our safety path network, save taxpayers' dollars and promote an overall positive community image. Participants also obtain prominent recognition and publicity for their community service activities including the placement of an Adopt-A-Safety Path sign containing the group's name in the area of the adopted safety path.

The objectives of the program is to create a strong working relationship between the township and its volunteers that not only keeps our safety path network clear of obstructions, litter and debris but also promotes the importance alternative forms of transportation and creating a healthy community.

Volunteers of the program will remove loose gravel, pebbles, sand, dirt, sticks, branches and any other debris that may impede use of and access to our safety path network. Volunteers will also inspect and report to the township areas in need of repair and larger maintenance activities. These activities will need to be completed 2 to 3 times per year between the months of between May 1 and November 30. Also, participation requires at least a two year commitment. Adopting a safety path is a big commitment but has a positive impact on our quality of life and community image.

If you choose to participant, always remember to be safe, take pictures, drink plenty of water and have fun protecting West Bloomfield's unique sense of place.

WHO CAN PARTICPATE

Any group of three or more individuals may participate in the Adopt-A-Safety Path Program. Examples include:

- Neighborhoods Associations
- Businesses
- Community Organizations

WHAT IS INVOLVED

Participation involves:

- Clearing safety paths of debris and litter.
- Completing the clean-up report.
- Agreeing to an initial two years of adoption period.
- Undertaking at least two clean-up events from May 1 to November 30.
- Agreeing to be safe.

HOW DO I/WE PARTICIPATE

Groups interested in participating in the West Bloomfield Adopt-A-Safety Path Program shall complete the following activities.

- Fill out and return the application for Adopt-A-Safety Path Program. Be sure to carefully read the Conditions of Participation.
- Discuss, identify and then select a safety path for adoption. The adopted pathway should be no less than 0.5 miles and no greater than 2.0 miles. The township has a map of safety paths available for adoption and assist with making your final selection.
- Identify the responsible group coordinator and secondary group contact. The group coordinator shall review the safety protocols and ensure all participants complete the Adopt-A-Safety Path Program waiver form. Lastly, the group coordinator shall maintain a roster of participants.
- Coordinate clean-up events with the assigned township staff. This includes cancellations and rescheduling of clean-up events.
- Work with the township to define participate vehicle parking areas as vehicles shall not be parked on the safety path. Vehicles shall be parked in a safe location that does not obstruct normal roadway traffic.

TOWNSHIP WILL SUPPLY

The township Development Services Department will provide the participating group with a plastic tote containing the following items for the clean-up event.

- Safety vests
- Work gloves
- Landscape and debris collection bags
- Insect repellent/Poison Ivy wipes
- First Aid Kit
- Safety glasses
- Clean-up Report Form
- A copy of the Conditions of Participation

- Work signs
- Pruners

CONTACT INFORMATION

Program Coordinators:

George Beattie, Engineering Inspector
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Julie Touchette, Senior Development Services Clerk
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Program Director:

Marshall Labadie, Development Services Director
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248-451-4818

SAFETY PATH HOTLINE

Participants and/or residents are encouraged to report to the township any improper use or poor condition of a safety path within the township.

HOTLINE NUMBER: 248-451-4818

SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The township promotes safe and responsible behavior and the township desires participants to be cognizant of this during the clean-up events. The group coordinator shall review the safety protocols below with participants at the beginning of a clean-up event.

- Don't use power tools
- Wear safety vests at all times.
- Be alert and aware of your surroundings.
- The group coordinator and secondary contact shall have a cell phone.
- Don't allow children under the age of 12 participate
- Don't do anything to distract drivers or work on and/or immediately next to the traveled roadway.
- Don't pick-up anything that looks hazardous or dangerous. (Be sure to write it down on the clean-up report.)
- Work during daylight hours only and under fair weather conditions.

- Contact the township program coordinator at least 7 days prior to the scheduled clean-up event.
- Don't use or be under the influence of drugs and alcohol during the clean-up event.
- Avoid contact with animals, stinging insects and poison oak/ivy.
- Wear bright colored comfortable clothing, long pants, gloves, safety glasses/eye protection and sturdy hard-soled shoes. Be sure to wear your township provided safety vest.
- Bring sunscreen as necessary.
- Work in small groups and remember 1 adult for every three children.

CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Groups are asked to adopt a bike path for a minimum period of two years. Continued participation in the program is granted as long as activity/inspection reports are submitted to the township after each clean up event and the conditions of participation are followed.

1. Safety paths will be selected by the Township in consultation with the participating group's designee.
2. Scheduled pickups should be reported to the township at least one week in advance of the actual clean up. Groups are required to conduct a minimum of two clean-ups between May 1 and November 30 of each year. More clean-ups may be scheduled.
3. Groups shall select a group coordinator responsible to instruct participants of the safety protocols and responsible to submit the clean-up report. The group coordinator shall also be responsible for contacting the township after the clean-up event for debris and equipment pick-up.
4. The township will supply the group with a clean-up report form, safety vests, signs, work gloves, safety glasses, pruners, first-aid kit, insect repellent and poison ivy wipes. Materials will be sent to or picked up by the group following your call to report your desire to conduct a clean-up.
5. No power tools (i.e. chain saws) shall be utilized during the clean-up event. Should clean up require such equipment please denote it on the clean-up report and the township contractor shall undertake such work.
6. Groups are responsible for notifying the township of any changes in the status of their application (contact person, telephone number, address, etc.). If we are unable to reach you and sufficient activity reports have not been received, Township reserves the right to terminate your participation in the program.
7. Groups are encouraged to recycle appropriate materials.

8. The adopting group name (maximum of 50 characters including punctuation and spaces) will go on the sign in block letters. No logo of any type is allowed not is the use of a political title. One sign will be posted midway on the safety path indicating the group responsible for cleaning the bike path. Where possible, signs may be co-posted with existing signs.
9. The township will provide, install, and maintain sign(s) noting the program and the participating group. Only 2 identification signs per adopted section are allowed. Groups wanting more signs will not be allowed to pay for additional signs. Missing or vandalized signs will be replaced 1 time only.
10. Any local community organization, such as civic, social or school groups, is eligible to participate, as are businesses. Groups must have approved applications on file with the Township before conducting their first clean up.
11. Groups must consist of at least 3 people to participate in the ADOPT-A-SAFETY PATH PROGRAM. The groups primary and secondary contact information must be supplied and on file with the township. Large groups should stay together as they clean the safety path.
12. Groups failing to follow the guidelines or not participating in clean ups for 2 periods of the year will have their permit revoked and the sign designation removed.
13. Groups must hold a safety meeting at least once annually and prior to any pickup conducted by the adopting group. All participants must sign a form acknowledging the training.
14. All participants shall sign and submit a completed ADOPT-A-SAFETY PATH PROGRAM waiver form to the township.
15. Groups shall maintain a first-aid kit and an adequate supply of drinking water while participants engaged in a clean-up event. All participants shall also refrain from the using of alcohol and drugs or be under the influence of drugs and alcohol during the clean-up event.
16. All participants must wear a safety vest with reflective stripes while working in the right of way.
17. Group participants must be a minimum of 12 years old unless otherwise approved. Participants under the age of 18 years old must have adult supervision at a rate of 1 adult to every 3 children.

18. All litter must be placed in bags provided by the township. Objects too large/heavy/awkward to be bagged shall be placed next to the bags. Full bags and debris must be placed in the designated and agreed upon disposal area for pickup. No bags or objects shall be placed on the shoulders of the roadway.
19. After each pickup, adopting groups will file reports detailing the number of people involved, number of bags of litter picked up, hours spent, etc. Pre-printed forms will be furnished by the township for making the reports, which will be submitted by either email or mail.
20. Cleanups during bad weather or when visibility is reduced or restricted is prohibited. The adopting group will be responsible for rescheduling.
21. The township reserves the right to revise these conditions as needed and reserves the right to deny applications from unqualified volunteers.
22. Vehicles may not be parked on the safety path during a clean-up event.