



Keep Carbondale Beautiful, Inc.
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Keep Carbondale Beautiful Adopt-A-Spot Informational Packet for SIUC Students

Adopt-A-Spot is a program designed for volunteer groups or individuals in a cooperative effort to clean, maintain, improve, and beautify our local environment. These areas include any unsightly public littered places that need our care for their improvement.

Such areas include:

- an area around a school
- public park or recreation area
- places along rail tracks where litter accumulates
- a neighborhood
- a vacant lot
- public streets and by-ways

Reasons why people litter:

- They feel no sense of ownership of the property.
- They figure someone else will clean up after them.
- Trash has already accumulated in the area.

7 Sources of Litter:

- motorists (including boaters)
- pedestrians
- improperly containerized commercial refuse products (dumpsters)
- improperly containerized household refuse
- loading/unloading docks and areas
- uncovered vehicles
- construction and demolition sites

Facts about Litter:

- Litter is the result of careless attitudes and improper trash handling.
- Litter is not only an eyesore; it is a safety hazard because it can be blown around by the wind and cause traffic accidents.
- Once litter has accumulated, it invites people to thoughtlessly add more.
- Litter is a threat to wildlife health.
- Litter impacts the economy by discouraging investment or development.
- Litter promotes negative feelings about the community.

“Keep Carbondale Beautiful initiates, plans, and directs cooperative efforts in litter control, recycling, community beautification, and environmental education.”

Policies

- At least one cleanup is to be conducted each month of the adopted spot; up to once a week.
- Since most spots can be cleaned by two people in one hour, groups may find that only the first eight names are counted. Trade off among group members.
- Only orange bags are to be left for the City to collect. (call 457-3275)
- Wear appropriate clothing. *No flip flops allowed!!*
- Keep Carbondale Beautiful strongly encourages recycling. Take your recyclable cans and bottles to
 - **Southern Recycling**
300 West Chestnut.
Phone: 549-2880
Hours: 8:30am- 4:30pm Mon-Thurs, 8:30am-3:30pm Fri., and 8:30am-1:30pm Sat.

Obtaining Materials

- Blank volunteer sheets, orange bags, and latex gloves can be obtained at the Office of Student Engagement, on the 3rd floor of the Student Center, Room 318, or contact the Keep Carbondale Beautiful office. Bags and gloves (no forms) can also be requested at the office of Building and Neighborhood Services, 2nd floor of City Hall.

Volunteer Documentation

- To document your volunteer time for **Saluki Volunteer Corps** purposes, obtain an Adopt-A-Spot documentation form. Adopt-A-Spot documentation forms are only to be used for Adopt-A-Spot purposes. The sheets are located at the Office of Student Engagement.*
- Each volunteer must sign their own name, dawg tag number, in and out time. Record the number of bags collected during each cleanup in the space provided on the documentation form.
- Keep Carbondale Beautiful will inspect the Adopt-A-Spot Location after your group conducts the cleanup to grant volunteer credit.
- Turn the completed Adopt-A-Spot documentation form into the Office of Student Engagement. KCB's Exec. Director goes there to sign-off on the Adopt-A-Spot documentation.**

* If an SIUC student receives 30 hours of environmental volunteering within the academic year, they will receive an *Environmental Ambassador Award*.

**Keep Carbondale Beautiful reserves the right to deny volunteer credit if suspicious documentation occurs.

Procedure for Cleanups

- Each Adopt-A-Spot group submits their proposed cleanup schedule at the beginning of each semester. Cleanup schedule is at the group's discretion and may change dependent on favorable weather conditions.
- Before: Obtain necessary materials from the Office of Student Engagement. Contact Keep Carbondale Beautiful to inform of scheduled cleanup (within 1 to 2 days prior to cleanup). Text or call 525-5525 or email at keepcb1326@gmail.com.
- 2nd: Perform cleanup at location. Leave orange bags near the Adopt-A-Spot sign or at nearest street sign. Cluster bags together. Every volunteer must sign themselves in on the documentation form.

- 3rd: Call **City Environmental Services** at **457-3275** [okay to leave a message] to inform where bags are located. Be specific. Turn Adopt-A-Spot documentation form into the Office of Student Engagement.

Want more hours?

- KCB hosts regular cleanups of areas in need; AAS groups can participate in those cleanups as well and receive SVC credits. See the calendar of events on the keepcb.org website or contact KCB to request an assignment. **If you want to join up with another group, run that past the Executive Director before you go. Two groups cleaning one spot sounds like overkill.**

Obtaining a sign:

- To qualify for a sign, your group must have performed Adopt-A-Spot cleanups for at least six consecutive months before the sign request will be submitted to the City.
- The City of Carbondale buys, makes, and hangs the adopt-a-spot signs. Keep Carbondale Beautiful will put the request in for a new sign, and from there it is the City's responsibility to see that the signs are hung. Keep Carbondale Beautiful will maintain contact with the city to check progress of the sign being hung.

Maintaining contact with Keep Carbondale Beautiful

- **If/when your group has officer transitions; the new officer must contact Keep Carbondale Beautiful with updated contact information as soon as possible.**
- **Contact, regardless of activity, is necessary every two months. If Keep Carbondale Beautiful does not hear from your group, we will assume you have lost interest in the adopt-a-spot program and your location will be reassigned. *Exception:* summer for SIUC groups.**
- **SIUC Adopt-A-Spot groups must contact Keep Carbondale Beautiful within the first 2 weeks of Fall and Spring semester with updated contact information to remain in good standing. Each semester Keep Carbondale Beautiful hosts an Adopt-a-Spot informational session. Send a member to the Informational Session or request a presentation at a group meeting.**

Keep Carbondale Beautiful is located in Hickory Lodge at 1115 West Sycamore. For more information call or text 618 525-5525 or email at keepcb1326@gmail.com

The Office of Student Engagement hours are 8:00am-4:30pm Monday through Friday. Location is 318 Student Center. For more information call 453-7520.

Mandatory Safety Rules

Safety is the #1 priority during any cleanup. No litter is worth risking your health.

All volunteers picking up litter must read and follow these safety rules to participate.

If your volunteer group needs assistance (first aid, trash bags, report suspicious materials, etc.) during the cleanup, please call 525-5525. If an actual emergency exists call 9-1-1.

- All volunteers must be at least 11 years of age.
- Wear a glove on the hand that picks up litter and thick-soled, closed shoes. Long pants and long-sleeved shirts are advised. NO FLIP FLOPS!!!
- Wear bright colors, esp. along busy streets.
- Carry a cell phone to communicate with cleanup staff if necessary.
- Pets are prohibited, as they may distract participants or cause a traffic accident.
- Bring plenty of fluids to drink in warm weather.
- Know the location of the nearest hospital and any allergies of members in your group.
- Possession or consumption of alcohol or controlled substances during the cleanup is prohibited.
- Park vehicles off the pavement on the right hand shoulder or in an approved lot. No parking along curves, bridges or overpasses, or on median areas.
- Be aware of your surroundings and the potential hazards associated with them (e.g., passing cars, snakes, poison ivy, etc.). Stay off railroad tracks and use common sense around water-filled ditches and before venturing onto private property.
- Use the “buddy system” ...work in teams to maximize safety.
- Don't pick up large items or hazardous materials such as hypodermic needles, sharp objects, old car batteries, condoms, animal carcasses or other unidentified, questionable objects. READ METH LAB WASTE INFO BELOW!
- Volunteers may keep aluminum cans for their own benefit. Valuables, such as purses and wallets, must be submitted to Carbondale Police Department for return to proper owner or authorities.
- Help us conserve bags – consolidate loads but leave room to tie bags at top.
- Place filled bags in groups at least 5 feet back from the roadway if possible. Do not leave bags on the median.
- Wash hands thoroughly with soap after the cleanup. If appropriate, check for ticks and take a cool shower (if exposed to poison ivy or bugs).
- Don't overdo it physically.
- Read up on safety and watch video at keepcb.org/group-cleanups-and-current-schedule.html

**** IMPORTANT METH SAFETY INFORMATION ****

Recognizing Meth:

As meth production spreads through Southern Illinois, so does meth waste. With increasing frequency, Illinois residents are stumbling upon meth waste on roadsides and in ditches, fields, sewers, and streams. Because meth waste is toxic, volatile, and dangerous, you should learn to recognize and report it.

What to look for:

How can you recognize meth waste? While meth waste takes a number of forms, and may be combined with common household waste, some of the telltale signs of meth waste are:

- Powerful odors, especially those that smell like ammonia, ether, solvents, or vinegar, and those that seem sweet or bitter;
- Packaging from over-the-counter cold pills containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine, such as Sudafed or Claritin;
- Lithium batteries that have been torn apart;
- Coleman fuel containers, compressed gas cylinders, LP gas containers, or gas cans;
- Propane tanks (brass valve will be blue), thermos bottles, coolers, or other cold storage containers (used to transport anhydrous ammonia);
- Empty containers of antifreeze, white gas, ether, starting fluid, Freon, Iye, drain opener, paint thinner, acetone, or alcohol, including those that have been punctured in the sides or bottom;
- Respiratory masks or filters, dust masks, rubber gloves, clamps, funnels, hosing, or duct tape, packaging from Epsom salts or rock salts;
- Used coffee filters containing odd stains or powdery residue;
- Pryex, Corning, or other glass containers or bakeware, especially if they are covered with powdery residue;
- Soda bottles or other bottles with holes in them and tubing coming out of them.

What to do:

- **ALERT LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT IMMEDIATELY.**
- **PROTECT INNOCENT BYSTANDERS.** Alert any innocent bystanders who may be in imminent danger, such as other cleanup volunteers.

STAY AWAY. Realize that you may be looking at both a crime scene and a toxic waste dump. Do not touch the suspected meth waste, move it, clean it up, or tamper with it in any way. Once you have alerted law enforcement and any innocent bystanders, leave the scene and keep a safe distance.

Adopt-A-Spot Application



Group Information:

Name of Group (how you'd like to see it on certificate and sign) # in group

Primary Contact Person Email

Cell Phone Address City/ Zip

*Alternate Contact Person/Faculty Advisor

Phone for Alternate Contact Email

New? ____ or Renewal? ____
What is your desired location?

If you are an RSO, in what month do your officer transitions occur? _____

*If group is a Registered Student Organization, the alternate contact person must be the faculty/staff advisor for the group.

By signature below, the Group acknowledges the hazardous nature of the work and agrees to discharge Keep Carbondale Beautiful and its representatives from any liability.

Signature of Group Representative

Date

Please return this form to: Keep Carbondale Beautiful
P.O. Box 1326
Carbondale, IL. 62903-1326
or
keepcb1326@gmail.com
For more info: 618-525-5525 or keepcb.org