

## Activity 134 Litter Pickup

### Description

Activity 134 involves picking up, loading, hauling, and properly disposing of accumulated litter, including dead animals, from roadways, shoulders, and roadsides. It also includes the servicing of litter barrels and all costs associated with disposing of the material.

### General Instructions

Use Activity 135 for any work by or for the Youth Litter Patrol or the Adopt-A-Highway programs.

Use Activity 139 for recycling work involved with litter, other than that done under Activity 135.

Use Activity 164 for clean up of transient camps.

Where appropriate, separate litter items that are recyclable and handle accordingly. Refer to ODOT *Procedure ADM 06-13* for instruction on returnable beverage containers.

Refer to the ODOT *Safety and Health Manual* for handling and disposing of drug paraphernalia and other potentially hazardous items. Advisory ADV02001 provides guidance and advice on hazards associated with picking up and handling litter.

Refer to the procedure below for dealing with dead or injured animals on or along the roadway.

If litter, dead animals, or debris pose a traffic hazard or are aesthetically unacceptable, the Transportation Maintenance Manager should have the material removed as soon as possible. If it does not pose a traffic hazard and is not aesthetically unacceptable, schedule the cleanup with regularly scheduled work or when non-ODOT forces are available to perform the work.

Also refer to the *Desired Conditions of Maintenance Features on State Highways* for further direction on litter pickup.

### Dead or Injured Animals

If an animal has been injured by traffic but is not dead, notify the Transportation Operations Center (TOC) to request law enforcement to respond and humanely kill the animal. If an ODOT employee is comfortable in doing so, the employee may strike the injured and dying animal on the head with a blunt object to prevent it suffering further.

ODOT will remove animal carcasses on or along a state highway:

- Which are in view of the travelling public.

- Which may create odor problems for nearby properties.
- For which ODOT has received a complaint.

No ODOT employee may retain any animal or animal body part for personal use, since that is a violation of ORS 498.042.

Following is ODOT's practice regarding dead animals on or along a state highway.

1. If a carcass poses a hazard to the traveling public, remove it as soon as possible. If the carcass does not pose an immediate hazard, schedule the removal when it practically fits into the work schedule.
2. Remove carcasses to reduce driver distractions and secondary collisions with scavengers.
3. Dispose of carcasses as close as possible to the site they are found.
4. The disposal site should be:
  - Located away from dwellings or businesses.
  - A location not normally visited or used by the public.
  - A location where any resulting odor is not likely to offend people.
  - Far enough off the roadway that traffic will not kill or injure any scavengers that may feed on the carcass.

When practical, provide the carcass a wildlife rehabilitation center qualified by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Bury domestic animals where their owner can find them if requested. If burial is not practical, dispose of domestic animals in compliance with local requirements, such as at a certified landfill.

5. Disperse the locations for disposal of carcasses when possible. Notify the Oregon State Police (OSP) of sites where several animals have been buried or otherwise disposed of in close proximity.
6. Report the location and approximate time of death (yesterday, last night, etc.) to the TOC to prevent multiple requests to respond to the same carcass.
7. Pay particular attention to disposing of carcasses of animals not regularly seen on highways, such as cougars, bears, elk or deer with antlers, eagles, etc., and:
  - Remove the carcass from view of motorists as soon as possible and dispose of it as discussed above.
  - Report the exact location of the disposal site to the TOC, preferably by telephone.
  - The TOC will notify the OSP of the disposal site and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Wildlife Biologist when a cougar or bear is found. The TOC will also notify OSP if any meat can be salvaged for human consumption (elk is generally the only meat practical to salvage). OSP or ODFW may request the carcass be transported to a specific location.
  - Mark the disposal site if requested by OSP or ODFW.
8. If a carcass has already decomposed too much to be moved, use quicklime to accelerate decomposition of the carcass. Use this method only in extreme situations. Do not use lime if it could enter waterways before it is neutralized.

### Equipment

Equipment may include:

- Vehicle to transport workers.
- Truck to haul gathered litter.

### Material

Material may include:

- Litter bags.
- Hazmat warning devices (flag or similar).
- Biohazard waste collector.
- Quicklime for animal carcasses, as appropriate.

### Work Method

1. Identify limits of the roadway section where litter needs to be gathered.
2. Implement appropriate traffic control. Whenever possible, persons gathering litter should move in the direction facing adjacent traffic.
3. Pick up litter. This may involve a "leap frog" process with 2 or more people and a vehicle.
4. If hazardous material is encountered, mark its location as appropriate and properly collect it in suitable containers.
5. Remove traffic control.
6. Gather filled litter bags and dispose of at an appropriate location. Properly dispose of animal carcasses.

### Measurement of Accomplishment, Expenditure Account, and Charge Activity

Measurement is number of worker hours involved. Expenditure account type is Highway EA. Designate a subjob of 800 if the work involves bicycle path facilities.

- Charge all work to TEAMS Activity 134.