

# ADOPT-A-Road



## **CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GUIDELINES**

Rev. 5/22/12

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
GUIDELINES FOR  
ADOPT-A-RAMP PROGRAM**

**PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM**

The purpose of the Adopt-A-Ramp Program is to allow civic and private organizations the opportunity to maintain state-owned land abutting highway ramps in a more intensive manner than provided by the Department's regular maintenance program. Additional planting using shrubs and flowers appropriate to the setting may be used upon Department of Transportation (DOT) approval. The sponsor may erect a sign meeting the Department's specifications with the primary message being civic in nature; for instance, "Welcome To – Town Name" and the secondary message being a credit to the sponsor.

**STATE REQUIREMENTS**

A completed permit application and insurance form (copies attached) must be filed with and approved by the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation. If significant changes to the submitted plan are required, a revised application and plan must be resubmitted for approval.

**MAINTENANCE POLICY**

The Department of Transportation expects that sponsor's will maintain the adopted ramp areas in the manner described in the permit. If a sponsor is unable or unwilling to maintain the adopted area in the permitted manner, maintenance of the area will revert to the Department. The sign, if present, will be removed and the area may be turned over to another sponsor.

Maintenance of an adopted ramp includes the entire ramp area and is not limited to the portion occupied by plantings and sponsor's sign. Maintenance activities include mowing the grass during the growing season at intervals to sustain the height between a minimum of three inches and a maximum of eight inches; litter pickup at 21-day intervals, or as needed, on a year-round basis excluding winter months; and pruning, weeding, and removal of dead plants as required.

Vandalism and damage caused by errant vehicles in adopted areas are the responsibility of the sponsor and should be repaired in a reasonable length of time. The Department will maintain highway fixtures; i.e., signs, guide rails, and existing major trees, etc.

Any permit issued by the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation is revocable immediately upon written notification to the permittee by the Maintenance District Manager.

**PLANTING**

A sketch containing the following information shall be included with the permit application:

1. A location map of the ramp to be adopted.
2. A plot plan showing the size and locations of plant materials, including flower beds.
3. Botanical and common names of all plant materials.

The State of Connecticut is not responsible for loss of plants or flowers due to vandalism, theft, vehicular damage, road sand, salt, construction activities, or for any other reason.

### SIGN

A sign of the following design will be allowed if the sponsor so desires. The only main message allowed shall be "Welcome To - Town Name" with a secondary message of "Area Maintained by - Name of Sponsor" (design on attached sheet).

### SAFETY DURING CONSTRUCTION

Proper traffic signing patterns and safety precautions will be outlined in the permit and shall be adhered to whenever work is being performed in an adopted area.

