

Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup Project June 24, 2023



NMDOT sign at Mile Marker 5
(Photo by Cliff Giles)



FOSM president Mike Madden clearing brush
(Photo by Steve Roholt)

Eleven FOSM volunteers participated in our inaugural Adopt-a-Highway cleanup. We adopted Mile 4-5 of State Highway 536, AKA the Crest Highway.

We parked at a large pullout about 0.3 miles up from Mile Marker 4. We convened, did a brief Job Hazard Analysis (JHA), and headed out to work.

Volunteers Pauline Ho, Rick Buss, and David McCreery worked down from our parking space to Mile Marker 4 then crossed over the highway and worked their way back to the parking area.

Don Carnicom, Dan Benton, Scott Dietrich, Cliff Giles, and Ken Nicholson worked up the highway to Mile Marker 5 then turned around and crossed the highway and worked their way back.

Mike and Pat Madden started at Mile Marker 5, on the east side of the highway, and worked their way downhill removing overhanging limbs and small trees. The goal was to clear the shoulder and improve line-of-sight.

All work was done facing oncoming traffic. We encountered bicyclists and motorized vehicles of all shapes and sizes.

The trash pickup crews completed their work by 10:30. Roholt and McCreery joined the Maddens. We concluded our work at noon.

Our next outing will be sometime in the fall. A bit of brushing remains to be done, and we will again pick up trash.

Our volunteers commented that they expected to find more trash than they did, a pleasant surprise! Suggestions were made to hold the next outing on a weekday, when there will be lighter traffic.

Steve Roholt
AAH crew leader, member FOSM Board.



Trash pickup volunteers (l-r) David McCreery, Pauline Ho, Rick Buss, Cliff Giles, Steve Roholt, Ken Nicholson, Don Carnicom, and Dan Benton.
(All photos by Scott Dietrich unless otherwise noted.)



Cliff Giles, Ken Nicholson, and Dan Benton picking up trash on downhill side of highway.



Ken Nicholson picking up trash on downhill side of highway.



Cliff Giles and Ken Nicholson picking up trash on downhill side of highway.



Pat Madden trimming brush on uphill side of highway.



Mike Madden clearing limbs while Don Carnicom, Ken Nicholson, and Dan Benton begin trip down uphill side of highway.



Ken Nicholson and Dan Benton looking for trash on uphill side of highway.