



City of Florence
A City in Motion

Safety Instructions

City of Florence Adopt-A-Street Program

The Adopt-A-Street Program encourages volunteers always take safety precautions when collecting dangerous or unsafe litter. Please adhere to the following guidelines:

1. What is dangerous or unsafe litter?

Dangerous or unsafe litter includes broken glass, razor blades, syringes, hazardous household products, dead animals, condoms, all unlabeled jugs, bottles, and drums.

2. If litter is not fully visible, what is the best way to pick it up?

- Never reach blindly to pick -up an item.
- Use a tool such as a grabber tool or hand-rake to “identify” an item before grabbing or cleaning it.
- If an item is unidentifiable and possibly caustic or volatile, call the Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue at 541-997-3212.

3. How should dangerous or unsafe litter be picked up?

- Use gloves.
- Sweep broken glass with a broom and pick up with a dustpan.
- Syringes should be picked-up by the plunger handle or barrel but not the needle. Using a grabber is the safest method.
- Put all syringes into a *Sharp’s Container* – available from the Adopt-A-Street Coordinator. (See next page for disposal instructions).

4. What are the other things to be aware of when working?

- Be especially careful when working between cars and cleaning-up in gutter areas.
- If you cannot reach it with a grabber from the curb, leave it. Eventually, it will get to the curb. Never go into the street to pick up trash!
- Always wear a safety vest so you are visible to drivers.
- If you encounter a dangerous situation such as harassment from others, leave the area and dial 9-1-1 for assistance.

- Be aware of your surroundings and location at all times and watch out for children. Litter Patrol signs are available from the Adopt-A-Street Coordinator.

Disposal of Dangerous or Unsafe Litter

Please be aware that *Syringes with Needles* should always be disposed and placed in the following manner:

- Place needle pointing down into a hard plastic or metal container.
- Cap and seal the container. Sharps containers are available from the Adopt-A-Street Coordinator at (541) 997-4106. Always put tape over the closed bottle cap and label container: **DO NOT RECYCLE.**
- Discard other sharp objects such as razor blades in the same manner.

City Guidelines:

**In the City of Florence it is illegal to throw hypodermic needles and syringes or containerized sharps in the garbage, even if they are properly contained.* Instead, take sealed containers (as described above) to Lane County Waste Management where you may dispose of them free.

Lane County Waste Management
2820 North Rhododendron
Florence, Oregon
541-997-6243

A designated person should be watchful of the location of unsafe litter for at least 2-4 weeks. Call the Florence Police Department Non- Emergency at (541) 997-3515 to file a report, if unsafe litter continues to surface.

The risk of disease transmission, such as HIV/AIDS or Hepatitis B, from contact with needles is extremely low when you adhere to the above precautions. However, if you do prefer not to pick-up discarded syringes that you find on public property, please contact Public Works at 541-997-4106.

Important Telephone Numbers

Adopt-A-Street Program	541-997-4106
Lane County Waste Management	541-997-6243
Florence Police Department Non-Emergency	541-997-3515
Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue	541-997-3212