

**WORK PROGRAM FOR BLOUNT COUNTY  
TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION LITTER GRANT  
2025-2026**

**The Blount County Litter Grant Program for 2025-2026 is funded through the Tennessee Department of Transportation from a statewide tax on bottlers. Keep Blount Beautiful, an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, and the Blount County Sheriff's Office will work together to meet and exceed requirements for the program.**

**Blount County Sheriff's Office will use inmates to pick up litter on county and state roads within the county boundaries. A Blount County Deputy will transport and provide security for the inmates while on the work detail. No inmates with felony convictions will be allowed on the work detail.**

**Removal of litter: The Blount County Sheriff's Office will supply a deputy and a crew of 3 or 4 inmates to remove litter from roadsides. The crew will work to remove illegal dumpsites. The Litter Crew will also be available to assist KBB during Cleanup Events. They will routinely clean area boat ramps and roadside picnic areas. The inmates are transported in a truck with trailer by a Blount County deputy. The Sheriff's Office provides gasoline, tires and maintenance for the vehicle. Other items provided are Class 2 reflective vests, hats for sun protection, gloves, shovels, ropes, and garbage bags, grabbers for picking up trash, hand sanitizer, sunscreen, bug spray, signage, and emergency lighting. A cell phone for the guard is made available through the BCSO. Motorists will be alerted that inmates are working in the area with signs and lights. Lunch and water are also provided by BCSO as well as a first-aid kit.**

**Safety for the crew is foremost. The crew will not pick up on roads without shoulders. The crew will not pick up in extreme cold, rain, or heat. Blount County has participated in the Litter Grant program for more than thirty years with no serious accidents.**

**Litter is transported to the Blount County Landfill and charged to the Blount County Sheriff's Office. Litter Grants funds help to offset these fees.**

**Education: Keep Blount Beautiful, an affiliate of the Keep America Beautiful organization, will work toward the educational goals. The partnership with the Sheriff's Office will continue to provide the required educational element of the Grant. KBB will provide a monthly report of the number of volunteers, their hours and the value of volunteer hrs and donations. Along with the bags of litter collected. This will also include the number of youth reached and educated. The educational activities in the county will be sent to the grant administrator to submit to TDOT with the Litter Grant monthly report. These include school programs, outdoor adventures clean-ups, and speaking opportunities for clubs, churches and classrooms. KBB is also a participant in the Great America Cleanup.**

**Adopt-A- Highway Program: The Adopt-A-Highway Program will continue to be managed through the Keep Blount Beautiful office. This provides an easier method for participants to obtain needed supplies for pickups for their adopted section of roadway.**

**Reporting: The Litter Grant will reimburse BCSO for a portion of the costs of the litter crew. The Litter Grant monthly report will be prepared and submitted to TDOT for reimbursement. An ongoing statistical report is updated with each reimbursement request. This information is a summary of litter crew activity including county and state roads cleaned and the miles covered, poundage of litter removed, illegal dumps and number of people working each day. These statistics are used during budget planning as well as newspaper articles that recognize the program.**

**The partnership of the Blount County Sheriff's Office, Keep Blount Beautiful and TDOT has continued for more than thirty years. The campaign to eliminate trash through education and litter removal is continuing with the funding from the Tennessee Department of Transportation's Litter Grant Program.**

**Submitted by Vicky McMurray  
Date: June 13, 2025**