

**WORK PROGRAM FOR BLOUNT COUNTY
TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION LITTER GRANT
2026-2027**

The Blount County Litter Grant Program for 2026-2027 will continue issuing citations to ongoing efforts of education and litter abatement. The grant 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. All crew members are required to wear class 2 reflective vests during pickup along the road right of way. 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 twenty-five years with no serious accidents.

Litter is transported to the Blount County Landfill and charged to the Blount County Sheriff's Office. Litter Grant 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 twenty-five 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: April 1, 2026

Education Plan for Blount County (FY 2027)

Blount County will target 5 areas for FY 2027 litter education.

Student Education

Keep Blount Beautiful (KBB) has an extensive student education program that educates K-12 students on litter reduction/prevention, the 3 R's and waste disposal, and stormwater pollution. In the 2027 FY, KBB will do the following to educate students:

- Create and update lessons and activities on litter prevention, waste disposal, stormwater runoff, and more for students of all ages
- Visit Alcoa, Maryville, and Blount County Schools, home school associations, and community groups to lead hands-on classroom presentations. Lead the same programs for home school associations and community groups.
- Organize field trips for Alcoa, Maryville, and Blount County Schools, home school associations, and community groups. Field trips include visits to the Blount County Landfill, Blount County Recycling Center, Pistol Creek Wetland Center, and Eco Center.
- Work with student groups from Alcoa, Maryville, and Blount County Schools on litter cleanup projects
- Participate in other organization's education events through partnership

Public Education

KBB hosts events and manages programs that educate the general public on litter reduction/prevention and proper waste disposal in Blount County. In the 2027 FY, KBB will do the following to provide educational opportunities for public:

- Organize litter cleanup events open to the public that focus on entire communities, local parks, roadways, and waterways
- Organize litter cleanup events for small groups such as local businesses and community organizations
- Manage the Adopt-A-Mile program and litter supply check-out program to support businesses, community groups, families, neighborhoods, and students who want to participate in litter cleanups
- Host reuse/recycling collection events that allow the public to drop off hard-to-recycle items for proper disposal in order to divert waste from the landfill and avoid dumping
- Host public tours of the Blount County Recycling Center to educate the community on proper waste disposal in Blount County to avoid littering, dumping, and recycling contamination
- Operate the "litter hotline" (KBB phone and email contacts) to answer questions about litter cleanup, volunteering, and waste disposal. The public can also contact KBB to report litter in the county for pickup.
- Keep the KBB website up to date regarding litter pickup events, waste disposal resources, and trash service information

- Utilize social media to promote events, resources, and litter education
- Participate in organization's litter pickup efforts through partnership

Media Education

In the 2027 FY, KBB will do the following to promote litter reduction/prevention and proper waste disposal education by utilizing the media:

- Invite local media to major litter cleanup and waste disposal events
- Publish press releases and public service announcements
- Publish advertisements for litter cleanup events
- Post litter cleanup and waste disposal resources to social media platforms
- Post litter cleanup and waste disposal events to community calendars

Business Education

In the 2027 FY, KBB will do the following to educate businesses and get them involved in litter reduction/prevention and proper waste disposal:

- Recruit local businesses to participate in the Adopt-A-Mile litter pickup program
- Host litter cleanup events at local businesses and organize litter cleanups for businesses that want to participate in litter pickup in Blount County
- Partner with existing and new businesses on the Glass Waste Diversion Program
- Provide waste disposal resources and conduct presentations and tours to businesses in Blount County that want to learn more about litter, waste disposal, and recycling
- Request business sponsorship for KBB programs and events

Government Education

In the 2027 FY, KBB will do the following to work with and educate the local government on litter reduction/prevention and waste disposal:

- Collaborate with the City of Alcoa and City of Maryville to organize litter cleanup events
- Manage the Adopt-A-Mile program in partnership with City of Alcoa, City of Maryville, and Blount County
- Manage the Cigarette Litter Prevention Program in partnership with City of Maryville and Blount County
- Collaborate with the Blount County Highway Department on the Glass Waste Diversion Program
- Collaborate with Blount County Schools and Blount County Highway Department on the Aluminum Can Recovery Program
- Keep City of Alcoa, City of Maryville, and Blount County updated on current recycling information
- Meet with local government officials and directors to better understand litter laws and illegal dumping. Report illegal dump sites to the proper municipality.

- **Promote residential convenience centers and the Blount County Landfill managed by Alcoa, Maryville, and Blount County**
- **Promote and assist with government initiatives to reduce littering**
- **Maintain representation from City of Alcoa, City of Maryville, and Blount County on the board of directors**

Attachment D – Litter Grant Budget

Required Application Line Items

Please fill out the below line items, and include the completed budget in final application

- Schedule 1: Salaries, Benefits & Taxes - Grant Contract & Total Project
- Schedule 2: Supplies - Grant Contract & Total Project
- Schedule 3: Professional Fee, Grant & Award (Education): Grant Contract & Total Project
- Grand Total: Grant Contract & Total Project
- Professional Fee, Grant & Award (next page)

GRANT BUDGET				
LITTER PICKUP & PREVENTION EDUCATION Blount				
The Grant Budget line-item amounts below shall be applicable only to expense incurred during the following				
Applicable Period: BEGIN: JULY 1, 2026 END: JUNE 30, 2027				
	EXPENSE OBJECT LINE-ITEM CATEGORY ¹	GRANT CONTRACT	GRANTEE PARTICIPATION	TOTAL PROJECT
	Salaries, Benefits & Taxes	\$36,660.00	0.00	\$36,660.00
	Professional Fee, Grant & Award ²	\$22,140.00	0.00	\$22,140.00
	Supplies, Telephone, Postage & Shipping, Occupancy, Equipment Rental & Maintenance, Printing & Publications	\$15,000.00	0.00	\$15,000.00
	Travel, Conferences & Meetings	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Interest ²	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Specific Assistance To Individuals	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Depreciation ²	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Other Non-Personnel ²	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Capital Purchase ²	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Indirect Cost	0.00	0.00	0.00
	In-Kind Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00
	GRAND TOTAL	\$73,800.00	0.00	\$73,800.00

¹ Each expense object line-item is defined by the U.S. OMB's Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Subpart E Cost Principles (posted on the Internet at: <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200/subpart-E>) and CPO Policy 2013-007 (posted online at <https://www.tn.gov/general-services/procurement/central-procurement-office-cpo-library.html>).

² Applicable detail follows this page if line-item is funded.

Attachment D – Litter Grant Budget (continued)

PROFESSIONAL FEE, GRANT & AWARD	AMOUNT
Required litter prevention education amount.	\$22,140.00
TOTAL	\$22,140.00

Per the above example, please copy the amount under Other Non-Personnel EDUCATION section.