

LITTER ANGELS

The Tellico Village Residents Association (TVRA) formed the ad-hoc Adopt-A-Highway committee known as *Litter Angels* in February 2022. Since then, the group has played a vital role in preserving the natural beauty of Tellico Parkway and enhancing the image of the Village.

This community effort is a collaboration between multiple organizations: TVRA supplies trash bags and gloves, TVRA provides grabbers, and TDOT supplies safety vests. The POA road crews now assist by collecting filled bags the Monday after each cleanup—a big improvement over relying on TDOT, which often had delays.

In 2024, Litter Angels collected **629 bags** of trash, along with tires, construction debris, and an array of odd finds including tools, clothing, sunglasses, tire rims, cash, and even a purse—turned into the police. Cleanup events last just two hours, with volunteers collecting anywhere from **31 to 71 bags** per session.

We have **over 150 registered volunteers**, with 20–30 typically participating in each event. We start along Highway 444 and expand to side roads when volunteer numbers allow. It's estimated that over **700 volunteer hours** were contributed this year, thanks in part to individuals cleaning independently between scheduled events. Volunteers also stepped up for an "emergency cleanup" when conditions called for it -- truly a dedicated team!

Our mission remains the same for 2025: to keep our community clean and beautiful. Cleanups occur every 3–4 weeks (monthly during the summer). If you're interested in joining, please contact aalacour@gmail.com.

Note: TDOT and TVRA paperwork must be completed before participating in any Litter Angels event.