

# **MAYOR CASSETTI INTRODUCES ADOPT-A-SPOT PROGRAM**

## ***SEVERAL LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT CITY TARGETED FOR PRIVATE MAINTENANCE***

For years, most communities throughout the state have offered successful Adopt-A-Spot programs which offer select parcels of public property to be maintained privately.

Today, Mayor Dave Cassetti launches Ansonia's first such program.

"It's a program I've been wanting to initiate for some time," said Cassetti. "Like other towns, I envision this growing quickly in popularity here.

"Bottom line is, it creates desired community beautification involvement, and will reduce the amount of public works manpower hours needed annually for these sites, and redirect those hours elsewhere, such as parks and other infrastructure maintenance and improvement."

The basic overview of Ansonia's Adopt-A-Spot is an individual, civic group, business or other, agree to volunteer consistent maintenance of a pre-determined city property including weeding, litter pickup, possible mowing, pruning, flower planting, etc.

In exchange, the City will erect an attractive and visible Adopt-A-Spot sign which includes site sponsor name and/or business logo. Sites are high traffic areas. Those interested are also welcome to submit other locations for consideration not shown on the adoption target list. Sites can be maintained by sponsors or outsourced to a third party landscaper.

Four sites have already been privately adopted including a "pending adoption".

The City has undergone a major "Clean & Green" initiative under Constituent Services Director Greg Martin and Mayor Cassetti. Twice annually citywide volunteer litter cleanups in spring and fall debuted in 2017; hundreds of graffiti tags were removed in fall '16; a 50-count graffiti tag removal is scheduled later this month; and a major landscaping project on the Armory grounds hill began earlier this week. The Armory project is being sponsored in full by ION Ban, Regional Water Authority and Southern Connecticut Dental Group.

Initial Adopt-A-Spot sites listed below. For a complete overview of the program, please visit [www.cityofansoniac.com](http://www.cityofansoniac.com) or contact Greg at Mayor Cassetti's office:

203-736-5963 or [gmartin@ansoniac.org](mailto:gmartin@ansoniac.org)

**PHOTO TAGLINE:** East Main Street Gateway landscaping completed this week. Before and After. The site will now be privately maintained by a city resident as part of Ansonia's new Adopt-A-Spot program.



## **CITY OF ANSONIA ADOPT-A-SPOT PROGRAM**

Ever notice areas around town that could look much better if only someone cared for them occasionally? This could be your chance to find out how rewarding caring for a location can be for you, your business and community. Whether you are one person or a member of a group, you can Adopt-A-Spot in Ansonia.

You can be a neighborhood, business, civic league, a small association or one of the largest organizations in town. All that's important is that you agree litter and weeds is an eyesore and you're ready to provide some relief.

### **What's in it for you or your organization?**

Recognition through signage bearing your name, business or organization at your location. It's a great way to promote your business while providing a cleaner community and satisfaction in knowing that you are making a difference in town.

### **What do you have to do?**

- Commit to Adopt-A-Spot for a minimum one year
- Select a location from our designated areas or make a recommendation site
- Submit your location application for review/approval
- Once approved, we'll produce and install your sign
- And begin maintaining your location as needed

For more information, contact Greg Martin, director of constituent services at: 203-736-5963 or email [gmartin@ansoniact.org](mailto:gmartin@ansoniact.org)



## CITY ANSONIA ADOPT-A-SPOT APPLICATION

Application Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Location Desired: \_\_\_\_\_

(SUBMIT PHOTO IF LOCATION IS NOT PART OF CITY SITES)

Alternate Location (backup): \_\_\_\_\_

Contract desired for: \_\_\_\_\_ year(s)

Brief summary of your plans for the site: \_\_\_\_\_

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## CITY ANSONIA ADOPT-A-SPOT AGREEMENT

### **Program Intent:**

The intent of City of Ansonia (the “City”) Adopt-A-Spot program (the “Program”) is to encourage citizen participation in beautification and litter clean-ups of designated areas in their community at regular intervals. Individuals, organizations, or businesses may agree to keep a designated area, other than a highway or railroad tracks, cleared of litter and/or provide beautification for a contract period of either one or two years.

In return, volunteers will have a sign bearing their names posted in their designated area. At the end of their contract, they will receive a special certificate of appreciation and may renew their agreement.

### **Program Terms:**

1. Any individual (18 years or older), community group, special interest, business, civic, church, or other group (hereinafter, a “Participant”) may participate in the Program and adopt Public Areas in the Town.
2. ‘Public Areas’ are considered parks, islands, vacant lots owned by the Town, parking lots, and other publicly held lands that have been approved by City.
3. The Participants hereby commit to cleaning up their adopted Public Area at least once (but not limited to) per month for either one or two years. We recommend weekly or bi-weekly especially in spring, summer, and early fall.
4. If a Participant is unable to fulfill their agreement, their signs will be removed from the location and the Participant’s will no longer be included in the Program.
5. Participants are required to track and report on their clean-up activities to City’s Constituent Services Director so that information may be used for various reports and analysis.
6. Any Participant with members less than 16 years of age must be supervised by an adult of at least 21 years of age.

7. Participants are encouraged to separate recyclable materials. Participants are encouraged to dispose of garbage/recyclables at the Ansonia Transfer Station from Tuesday – Saturday 8 AM – 2:45 PM.

8. A sponsor sign noting the Program name “Adopt-A-Spot” and the Participant’s organization name shall be made according to specifications supplied by the Town.

9. After each clean-up, Participants will be asked to provide a simple report. Report forms will be given to each Participant’s lead representative. If the lead representative is not expected to be at the clean-up site, this report should be given to their designee. This report will include information such as date, hours worked, number or persons involved in clean-up. This report should be mailed or emailed to the Constituent Services Director within one week after clean-up.

10. The Adopt-A-Spot coordinator, the Constituent Services Director, along with other various Town employees will monitor the designated areas of adoption for compliance.

11. Participants will be encouraged to schedule clean-ups to coincide with any Ansonia clean-up days. These dates will be provided as they come available.

12. The City is not responsible for any accident or injury that occurs to any member of any Participant arising from their participation in the Program

13. Participant shall, at Participant’s sole cost and expense, comply with all of the requirements of all laws now in force or which may hereafter be in force pertaining to Participant’s activities related to the Program. Participant shall indemnify and hold City harmless from and against any damage, liability, cost and/or expense which City may suffer by reason of Participant’s failure to comply with the laws as aforesaid. In the case of any claims arising out of an act or omission of Participant or any member, invitee, agent, servant, contractor or employee of Participant, Participant shall indemnify and hold City harmless from and against any damage, liability, cost and/or expense which City may suffer by reason thereof and from any and all claims, losses and damages arising out of or in any way related to the Participant’s activities under the Program and any act or omissions of the Participant, its agents, servants, employees, guests and/or invitees.

14. All property of Participant utilized in conjunction with the Program shall be at Participant's own risk, and City shall not be responsible for any theft of Participant's property or any property of any member, agent, servant, employee, contractor or invitee of Participant, unless the theft is committed by City, and Participant shall indemnify and hold City harmless from any claim against City by any agent, servant, employee, contractor or invitee of Participant based upon any allegation of theft for which City's liability is disclaimed under this Paragraph.

*The Participant's participation in the Program and/or this agreement may be terminated by the City at any time in the City's sole, absolute and arbitrary discretion. The City expressly reserves the right to discontinue this Program and to revise the terms of this Agreement at any time. Participants hereby assume all risk of damage or injury resulting from the activities performed hereunder, and recognize that certain risks are inherent in litter pickup, especially in areas open to the public. It is understood that the Participant is not an employee, agent or contractor of the City while participating in the Program and that the City shall have no obligation or responsibility to provide any worker's compensation insurance; general liability; or automobile insurance or uninsured/underinsured motorist insurance coverage, for acts or omissions of Participant while engaged in any activities arising out of or related to Program. This Agreement is not intended nor shall be construed a lease and the Participant expressly acknowledges and agrees that it shall not have any rights as a tenant or otherwise to occupy or possess any Public Area under the Program. It is further expressly understood and agreed by the Participant that the Town shall have no obligation to defend, hold harmless, or indemnify the applicant for any claims of loss, injury, death, or damage arising out of or related to this Program.*



## **CITY OF ANSONIA ADOPT-A-SPOT SAFETY RULES**

### **DO's:**

Do wear bright colors if you are involved in a street or parking lot cleanup so that you can be seen and identified with the cleanup team.

Do wear hard-sole shoes and work gloves. Sandals or open-toe shoes are not allowed.

Do work only during daylight hours and in good weather. Have plenty of water on hand, even in cooler climates.

Do provide adult supervision of group members less than 15 years of age.

Do use extra caution if power tools such as lawn mowers, tractors, or weed trimmer are necessary at your site.

### **DO NOT's:**

Do not horse around or do anything that will distract other volunteers.

Do not participate in litter cleanups while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Do not pick up litter on or from construction sites.

Do not pick up materials that are labeled "hazardous" or that are known to be hazardous if unmarked.

Do not pick up litter in a designated street or parking lot during peak traffic times.

Do not touch or play with any exposed wires or cables.



## CITY OF ANSONIA ADOPT-A-SPOT AGREEMENT

In order to enhance the environment and the appearance of our community, the applicant(s) undersigned, request permission to Adopt-A-Spot at the following location (address or site description)

Name of adopting organization or individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact (Printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact (Signed): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Term: (1 or 2 years) \_\_\_\_\_

### **FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

The undersigned is the government official or representative who has the legal authority to hereby give permission for the property location names in the aforesaid agreement to be involved in the designated Adopt-A-Spot program as administered by the City of Ansonia.

**Authorized Town Official Title:** Mayor David S. Cassetti

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Permission is hereby given to perform the work described in the City of Ansonia Adopt-A-Spot application effective: \_\_\_\_\_ (Start Date) \_\_\_\_\_ (End Date)





## CITY OF ANSONIA ADOPT-A-SPOT ACTIVITY REPORT FORM

Please complete and submit via mail or email to the Constituent Services Director Greg Martin within 1 week after each cleanup:

Greg Martin City Hall 253 Main St, Ansonia, CT 06401

gmartin@ansoniacct.org

Adopting Organization/Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Adopted Spot Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Cleanup date: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of persons: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Summary/Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_