

USM Can ADOPT A SPOT Program



USM Can is an anti-litter initiative launched in 2015 by the Southern Miss Physical Plant, Office of Sustainability and the Student Government Association. ADOPT A SPOT is a program of the initiative in which individuals or groups can volunteer to ADOPT A SPOT on campus and clean up that spot at least once per semester. The goal of this program is to keep our campus litter-free and instill a sense of pride in the beauty of Southern Miss for all who call it home.

What Do You Have To Do?

- Select a spot(s) to be maintained for at least one semester.
- Complete the application and return it to physicalplant@usm.edu or Box #5058 via campus mail.
- Photocopy the waiver and release of liability form to be signed by all participants before the first cleanup.
- Notify the Physical Plant prior to your planned cleanup time and pick up your supplies.
- Get started keeping your adopted spot clean.
- Place litter-filled gold trash bags on the ground next to trash cans in your designated cleanup area for easy pick up by Physical Plant staff.

Here's what volunteers can expect to receive:

- Certificate of adoption/recognition
- Supplies such as trash bags and gloves
- Recognition via the Southern Miss Physical Plant social media accounts

Safety Guidelines

Do:

- Make sure all participants have signed the waiver and release of liability form.
- Only complete planned ADOPT A SPOT activities in daylight hours and during appropriate weather conditions. Tip: Schedule a rain date in advance.
- Conduct a safety meeting for all participants prior to each cleanup.
- Wear gloves and appropriate footwear (closed-toe shoes if possible).
- Wear clothing and sunblock to protect you from the sun.
- Stay hydrated.
- Notify your cleanup leader of any emergencies or accidents.

Do not:

- Do not pick up dead animals or attempt to move an injured animal.
- Do not pick up syringes, needles, sharp objects, or any waste material of which you are not sure.
- Do not pick up items that are too large to remove safely. Report any of the above items to the ADOPT A SPOT coordinator at 601.266.4415 or physicalplant@usm.edu.



USM Can ADOPT A SPOT Application

Please complete the attached application and return via email to physicalplant@usm.edu. You may also mail the form to the Southern Miss Physical Plant, 118 College Drive, #5058, Hattiesburg, MS 39406.

Name of Individual/Group: _____

Primary Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Spots(s) Desired (check one):

____ Outer perimeter of building: (List Building Name) _____

OR

____ Spot # (See Map) _____ Spot # (See Map) _____

Approximately how many volunteers will be working in the spot at any time? _____

How long would you like to maintain this adoption? (Check All that Apply)

____ Spring Semester (20____) _____ Summer (20____) _____ Fall Semester (20____)

I/we wish to adopt the abovementioned spot(s). I have read and signed the attached volunteer waiver and release of liability. I will have fellow volunteers sign a copy of the volunteer waiver & release of liability prior to commencing work.

Signature of Group Contact Person/Individual

Date

In support and recognition of this adoption, the Physical Plant agrees to:

- Authorize this adoption for a period of no less than one (1) semester
- Provide gloves and garbage bags
- Pick up issued garbage bags at designated locations

Signature of Physical Plant Representative

Date

ADOPT A SPOT Volunteer Waiver and Release of Liability

I, _____ am voluntarily participating in The University of Southern Mississippi USM Can ADOPT A SPOT program. I have read and agree to follow the volunteer safety guidelines. I acknowledge my participation in this program does not come without the risk of injury or harm; I accept this risk, and assume responsibility for all liability and risk associated with my participation.

I agree to hold harmless, release, waive and forever discharge The University of Southern Mississippi, its employees, departments, officers and agents, from any and all claims or demands I may have by reason of any accident, illness, injury, loss, destruction or damage to property, arising or resulting directly or indirectly from my participation in this activity. I further covenant not to bring any legal action against The University of Southern Mississippi, its employees, departments, officers and agents, for any injury, loss or damage resulting from my participation in this activity.

This waiver and release is contractual and not a mere recital and applies whether or not injury or loss resulting from this activity is caused by an act or omission of the university, its employees, departments, officers or agents, negligent or otherwise.

This waiver and release is binding on my heirs, executors, administrators, assigns, and all of my family members, and applies to all losses, whether known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, related to my participation in this activity.

I hereby grant permission to The University of Southern Mississippi to use photographs and video of me taken during this activity on its website and in other publications, at the University's sole discretion and without further consideration.

This waiver and release was executed on _____, 20____, in Hattiesburg, Mississippi and is valid for a 12-month period from the date of signing.

Participant Signature

Printed Name

Date