**Fargo-Moorhead AM Rotary Roadside Beautification Project**

For a number of years the Fargo-Moorhead AM Rotary club has cooperated with the city of Fargo to pick up roadside litter at various locations around the city. This past year, 2022-23, the club was responsible to pick up litter for one mile along a frontage road of I29, which goes through the city. The club had a formal agreement with the city to pick up litter 3-4 times from May through September and the city providing the trash bags and pickup and disposal of the filled trash bags. The city gave the club several options of areas to clean.

This project involved about 25 Rotarians and several non-members throughout the season. Minimal planning was involved with most of it coordinating with the city and communicating to club members the dates and times. The initial cleanup (May) took two hours and was the most intensive due to litter accumulation throughout the winter. Following cleanups took about one hour each. After each cleanup the volunteers met at a nearby pub for a round of cheer, a few laughs and a few stories of treasures found and of course something to eat.

This is a good, quick, simple environmental project. It doesn’t require much planning or expense and is a good way for Rotarians to work together and enjoy each others friendship. However, it is important to have commitments from volunteers to be available and show up at the designated place, date and time.

Points to consider:

1. Get buyin from the club members to assure enough volunteers are available when needed.
2. Coordinate with the city, county, state and be aware of any regulations or requirements, such as wearing bright construction vests or requiring rubber gloves.
3. Get the dates, time and locations on the calendar at the beginning of the season.
4. Use this project as a social gathering.
5. Keep records of number of volunteers for future use.