CITY OF HICKORY
COMMUNITY APPEARANCE COMMISSION
ADOPT-A-SPOT PROGRAM

What is Adopt-A-Spot?

The Adopt-A-Spot Program was established to encourage individuals, businesses and organizations to contribute toward the beautification of the City by adopting a "spot" on public property or in a right-of-way to beautify with flowers and/or shrubs and to maintain on a regular basis. The adopter assumes responsibility for the spot for a minimum of eighteen months. A sign is placed in the area to identify and recognize the contribution of the adopter. And, of course, an adopter is welcome to renew adoption of the spot any number of times.

How do I adopt a spot?

First, decide what spot you would like to adopt. If you have no preference or are not sure about a spot, call Cal Overby at 323-7487 to get specific information. If you know the spot you want to adopt, simply complete the agreement on the reverse side of this sheet and send it to:

Community Appearance Commission
City of Hickory
P.O. Box 398
Hickory, NC 28603

You will be contacted after it is received to talk about your plans for the spot.

Are there any restrictions on what can be planted in an adopted spot?

As you can see in the Adopt-A-Spot Agreement on the reverse side of this sheet, plantings in the site cannot exceed 30 inches in height at maturity. This, of course, is necessary because site obstructions in rights-of-way are safety hazards. The same is true for the presence of solid structures that would cause a hazard for motorists or pedestrians.

YOUR PARTICIPATION IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

The City of Hickory and the Community Appearance Commission hope you will join the effort to beautify the City and thank you for your participation.

AGREEMENT
ADOPT-A-SPOT

This **AGREEMENT** entered into this _____ day of _____, 20_____ between _____ and the **CITY OF HICKORY**.

The City of Hickory Adopt-A-Spot Program has been established to encourage citizens, businesses and community civic organizations to contribute toward the beautification, cleaning and maintenance of public properties and rights-of-way within the City of Hickory corporate limits. In the spirit of this program, the party named below agrees to beautify and maintain the spot located at:

_____

(for a renewable period not less than eighteen (18) months)

The parties agree that plantings in the site shall not exceed 30 inches in height at maturity and shall not be supplemented with any solid structure that would cause a hazard or sight problem for motorists or pedestrians. The party agrees to consult with the City of Hickory before implementation to discuss the planting concept.

This document shall be considered as an agreement between the City of Hickory and the above-named party. The City of Hickory reserves the right to revoke this agreement if the plantings pose a traffic and/or safety hazard.

I agree to the above terms and conditions of the Adopt-A-Spot Program:

_____ _____

NAME OF VOLUNTEER OR REPRESENTATIVE Date

Attest: _____ _____

Date

CITY OF HICKORY

By: _____ _____

Date

OPERATING GUIDELINES FOR ADOPT-A-SPOT

1. Adopt-A-Spots are City owned properties which private citizens, neighborhood organizations, or civic clubs may landscape and maintain in order to beautify the City.

2. The Adopt-A-Spot program is managed by the City's Planning Department under guidelines approved by the Community Appearance Commission.

3. Adopt-A-Spot applicants should meet informally with the Planning Department staff to discuss possible locations, options, and plans for their project. The Landscape Services Supervisor and other appropriate City staff, as well as Community Appearance Commission members will be available to consult with and advise applicants.

4. After meeting with staff, applicants will prepare simple site plans showing the location and proposed improvements for their desired Adopt-A-Spot and complete an application indicating their agreement to continually maintain the site.

5. Adopt-A-Spots generally will be landscaped areas, however other improvements such as decorative lighting, benches, works of art or similar improvements may be considered.

6. Adopt-A-Spot sponsors will be identified with a small plaque supplied by the City.

7. The City of Hickory, Landscape Services Supervisor, shall have the final approval of all requests for Adopt-A-Spot.

8. The applicant shall provide all labor for the development and maintenance of an Adopt-A-Spot site.

9. Adopt-A-Spot areas can only be planted on city property.

10. Due to the nature of some proposed planting sites, the City reserves the right to maintain existing and proposed utilities, whether underground or overhead, and protect necessary visibility concerns for safety purposes. Every endeavor will be made to protect and maintain all landscaped areas.

11. All official records pertaining to Adopt-A-Spot shall be maintained and stored in the City Clerk's Office at City Hall. Copies can be obtained from the Planning Department.

12. Each Adopt-A-Spot applicant must sign an agreement with the city for maintenance for a period of eighteen months.

13. In the event that a site is not maintained for a period of four months, the City reserves the right to maintain the site and/or return the site to its former state.

14. Site plans must be submitted two weeks prior to planting.

15. No planting shall exceed thirty (30) inches in height at maturity unless the Planning Department has verified that the planting is not located within the visibility triangle as defined by the Land Development Code or within the sight distance area as defined by the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Approved by Community Appearance Commission
On March 22, 1999