

# America in Bloom 2012 EVALUATION FORM



**Municipality:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Population Category:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Visiting Dates:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Judges Names:** \_\_\_\_\_

*America in Bloom promotes nationwide beautification through education and community involvement by encouraging the use of flowers, plants, trees and other environment and lifestyle enhancements.*

All judging criteria will be adjusted to the climate and environmental conditions of the municipality.

The judges' report is based on efforts in management, planning, maintenance, improvement, and innovation of each of the following criteria:

Criteria	Actual Points	Possible Points
1. Floral Displays	0.00	175.00
2. Landscaped Areas	0.00	175.00
3. Urban Forestry	0.00	175.00
4. Environmental Efforts	0.00	175.00
5. Heritage Preservation	0.00	<b>175.00</b>
6. Overall Impression	0.00	125.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1000</b>
%	0.0	
<b>Bloom Rating</b>		

Five blooms = 85% Four blooms = 72.50–84.95% Three blooms = 60.00–72.45% Two blooms = 45.00–59.95% One bloom = <45.00%

Yellow fields are automatically calculated – please do not type in them. To update a field, highlight the cell and press F9. To update calculations in the entire document, choose Select All, then press F9.)

**Community representatives met: (including email)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## **General Comments and Suggestions:**

*Suggestions are indicated in italics.*

<b>1. Floral Displays</b> Flower beds, containers, baskets, window boxes. Arrangement, originality, distribution, location, diversity, balance, harmony, quality of maintenance. Use and integration of annuals, perennials, ornamental grasses, bulbs, and seasonal flowers.	<b>Max points</b>	<b>Actual Score</b>
<b>Municipal</b>		
Leadership and plan of action for floral displays	20	
Concept and design, variety of plantings, overall effect	20	
Maintenance and quality of displays	20	
Design for all seasons	15	
<b>Business</b>		
Concept and design, overall effect	15	
Maintenance and quality of displays	15	
<b>Residential</b>		
Concept and design, overall effect	15	
Maintenance and quality of displays	15	
<b>Community Involvement</b>		
Volunteer involvement in design, planting, and maintenance of floral displays	20	
Financial and in-kind contributions to floral displays	20	
<b>Total (the fields automatically calculate – do not type in them)</b>	<b>175.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

*Comments and suggestions:*

<b>2. Landscaped Areas</b> Overall design and suitability of landscape, turf and ground covers. Use of native plants. Overall design and suitability for location/use; good use of design principles (i.e., balance of plant material and constructed elements, harmony, color, texture, shape, etc.). Sustainability. Integration of hardscapes, lighting, site features, sculpture. Maintenance (weeds, mulching practices, edging); site rejuvenation and rehabilitation. Efforts in strategic planning. Community gardens, children’s gardens, public gardens and zoos.	Max points	Actual Score
<b>Municipal</b>		
Overall design and planting of landscape, turf and groundcovers	15	
Environmental management of sports fields and turf	15	
Quality of landscape maintenance	15	
Sustainable management, naturalization and eco-design	15	
<b>Business</b>		
Overall design and planting of landscape	15	
Environmental management of turf and groundcovers	10	
Quality of landscape maintenance	15	
<b>Residential</b>		
Overall design and planting of landscape	15	
Environmental management of turf and groundcovers	15	
Quality of landscape maintenance	15	
<b>Community Involvement</b>		
Volunteer involvement in funding, planting, and maintenance of landscaped areas	15	
Participation in future planning (committees, councils, and advisory boards.)	15	
<b>Total (the fields automatically calculate – do not type in them)</b>	<b>175.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

Comments and suggestions:

<b>3. Urban Forestry</b> Distribution, variety and suitability of trees; new plantings; urban tree program; qualified personnel or access to trained individual(s); inventory or database; frequency of tree surveys; care and maintenance programs; preservation of heritage trees and woodlots; scheduled succession plantings. Efforts in management, planning, maintenance, improvement, and innovation. Written policies, by-laws and regulations, long and short term plans.	<b>Max points</b>	<b>Actual Score</b>
<b>Municipal</b>		
Overall plan of action, tree planting programs, variety of species, inventory	20	
Tree maintenance	15	
Preservation and restoration of natural areas	15	
Tree protection/planting regulations and by-laws	15	
<b>Business</b>		
Overall planting program	20	
Tree maintenance	15	
<b>Residential</b>		
Overall planting program	20	
Tree maintenance	15	
<b>Community Involvement</b>		
Volunteer involvement in funding, planting, and maintenance of trees	20	
Volunteer involvement of youth in tree programs (i.e., Arbor Day, etc.)	20	
<b>Total (the fields automatically calculate – do not type in them)</b>	<b>175.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

Comments and suggestions:

<b>4. Environmental Efforts</b> Sustainability practices. Recycling (paper, glass, metal, plastic, electronics, etc.), policies and by-laws, sustainable development strategies, waste reduction, hazardous waste minimization and collection (oil, paint, chemicals, used batteries, etc.), water quality and conservation, energy conservation, environmental cleanup activities, reducing carbon footprint, environmentally friendly transportation, LEED certification, air, noise and light pollution, rain gardens and rain barrels, composting, energy efficiency, youth programs, etc. Events such as Earth Day, Recycling Days, Bike to Work Days, etc.	Max Points	Actual Score
<b>Municipal</b>		
Leadership in environmental initiatives	25	
Effective communication of environmental strategies and initiatives	25	
New programs, improvement and innovation	25	
<b>Business</b>		
Participation in environmental efforts	20	
New programs, improvement and innovation	10	
<b>Residential</b>		
Participation in environmental efforts	20	
New programs, improvement and innovation	10	
<b>Community Involvement</b>		
Volunteer involvement in environmental efforts	20	
Youth participation in environmental activities	20	
<b>Total (the fields automatically calculate – do not type in them)</b>	<b>175.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

Comments and suggestions:

<b>5. Heritage Preservation</b> Historical, natural, agricultural, and cultural heritage. Preservation and restoration of buildings, homes, churches, cemeteries; heritage sites and/or monuments; heritage parks, historical gardens and heritage trees; artifacts; historical society; heritage advisory committee, museums, archives, history books, and interpretative programs; ordinances and policies. Resource availability. Farmers markets, festivals and parades.	<b>Max Points</b>	<b>Actual Score</b>
<b>Municipal</b>		
Leadership in preservation and restoration initiatives	25	
Legal protection of heritage sites	25	
Resource availability for preservation and restoration	25	
<b>Business</b>		
Conservation, restoration, and rehabilitation of properties	15	
Participation in and support of heritage/cultural activities	15	
<b>Residential</b>		
Conservation, restoration, and rehabilitation of properties	15	
Participation in and support of heritage/cultural activities	15	
<b>Community Involvement</b>		
Volunteer involvement in cultural, historical, and natural heritage activities	20	
Youth involvement in heritage activities	20	
<b>Total (the fields automatically calculate – do not type in them)</b>	<b>175.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

*Comments and suggestions:*

<b>6. Overall Impression</b> Cleanliness, lack of litter and graffiti. Maintenance of public open spaces, medians and boulevard strips, streets, sidewalks, walking and biking trails, curbs, ditches, road shoulders, unattended and vacant lots, buildings, garbage receptacles; lack of weeds, dog waste policies and receptacles, notices/posters appropriately displayed, vandalism not evident. Maintenance of the hardscape: walls, lamp posts, benches, playgrounds, etc. Appropriate use and placement of graphic elements such as banners, signs and murals.	Max points	Actual Score
<b>Municipal</b>		
Overall cleanliness	10	
Maintenance of public roads and shoulders	10	
Condition of public buildings and properties	10	
Impact of graphic elements - banners, signs, murals, etc.	10	
<b>Business</b>		
Overall cleanliness	20	
Condition of buildings and properties	20	
<b>Residential</b>		
Overall cleanliness	10	
Condition of buildings and properties	10	
<b>Community Involvement</b>		
Participation in clean up efforts, adopt-a-spot, annual cleanup days, etc.	15	
Recognition of volunteer efforts	10	
<b>Total (the fields automatically calculate – do not type in them)</b>	<b>125.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

Comments and suggestions:

## Checklist for Judges and Communities:

Yes No N/A

- |                          |                          |                          |   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Were the judges given a community profile, itinerary, and map prior to their arrival? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Did the itinerary provide for seeing a representative cross-section of the community? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Were the guides knowledgeable about the community and horticultural aspects?          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Were the judges able to modify the schedule if needed?                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Did the judges meet with the media?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Did the judges meet with municipal leaders?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Were the judges asked to give presentations?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Were the judges able to meet with and talk to volunteers?                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Was enough time allotted to complete the evaluation form in a quiet place?            |

**Comments:**

### DEFINITIONS

**Municipal:** City hall and other municipal properties, parks and open spaces, roads, roadsides, sidewalks, cemeteries, schools and sports facilities, empty lots and brownfields, libraries, hospitals, assisted living, churches, universities, and colleges

**Business:** Commercial and industrial sectors, shopping centers, stores, office buildings, restaurants, mixed use developments, service stations, railway and bus stations, plant nurseries/garden centers

**Residential:** Single family residences, condominiums, town houses, planned communities, apartment buildings, gated communities, manufactured home communities, trailer parks, residential developments, neighborhoods, graduated care facilities

**Community Involvement:** Volunteer efforts by individuals, clubs, youth groups, church groups, civic organizations, and social clubs for community enhancement



## 2012 Special Mention

**Municipality:**

**General description of the recognized criterion (200 words max)**

**Special Project or Initiative (50 words max)**

America in Bloom ... Planting Pride in Our Communities  
2130 Stella Court, Columbus, OH 43215 ☎ (614) 487-1117 ☎ Fax (614) 487-1216  
[www.americainbloom.org](http://www.americainbloom.org) [aib@ofa.org](mailto:aib@ofa.org)