



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **Gallipolis, OH America in Bloom Awards announced**

(COLUMBUS, OH): Honors for the prestigious 2012 America in Bloom (AIB) national awards program were announced at the annual awards held in Fayetteville, Arkansas on September 22.

America in Bloom executive director, Laura Kunkle, said, "America in Bloom participation is helping participating towns achieve their potential. The accomplishments and progress shown by this year's towns and cities is remarkable."

Gallipolis, OH was judged on six criteria: overall impression, community involvement, environmental awareness, heritage, urban forestry, landscape, and floral displays, across four sectors: municipal, residential, commercial, and community involvement.

Specially trained judges visited towns of similar populations and spent two days touring each town, meeting municipal officials, residents, and volunteers. Additional competitors in this category were Slippery Rock, PA; Hummelstown, PA and Lakeside, OH.

Gallipolis competed in the population category of 3001 - 4,500, receiving a three bloom rating and a special mention for its efforts in Floral Displays.

The judges, Diane Clasen and Bill Hahn, commented, "Congratulations on another successful year participating in the America in Bloom national awards program! Having judged your community in the past, it was gratifying to witness your growth and progress. Your efforts to improve the quality of life for your citizens are very apparent to us."

Registrations for the 2013 national awards program can be submitted until February 28, 2013.

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*America in Bloom is an independent, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to promoting nationwide beautification programs and personal and community involvement through the use of flowers, plants, trees, and other environmental and lifestyle enhancements.*

*America in Bloom provides educational programs, resources, and the challenge of a friendly competition between participating communities across the country.*

For more information, visit [www.americainbloom.org](http://www.americainbloom.org).

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