



MEDIA RELEASE

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Bad Axe, MI America in Bloom Awards Results Announced

(COLUMBUS, OH): Top honors for the prestigious 2014 America in Bloom national awards program were announced at the annual awards held in Philadelphia, PA on October 4.

America in Bloom executive director, Laura Kunkle, said, “America in Bloom is helping participants of all types achieve their potential. Every year our participants raise the bar, and the accomplishments and progress shown by this year's towns and cities is again remarkable.”

All participants were evaluated on six criteria: overall impression, environmental awareness, heritage preservation, urban forestry, landscape, and floral displays. Additionally they were judged on their community involvement across municipal, residential, and commercial sectors. America in Bloom is the only national awards program that sends specially trained judges to personally visit participants and provide a detailed written evaluation that can be used as a guide to future improvements.

Jack Clasen, an AIB judge who also heads the contest committee, visited towns of similar populations and spent two days touring each town, meeting municipal officials, residents, and volunteers. Other competitors in the less than 3,500 population category are Castle Rock, WA; McCall, ID; and Echo, OR.

Bad Axe received a three bloom rating. In addition, they received a special mention for their floral displays to highlight significant areas such as the Veteran’s Memorial, Bad Axe Museum of Local History, the Huron Medical Care facility, downtown baskets and planters, assisted living facilities, and the Pioneer Log Cabin Museum.

Clasen said, “The city has a core group of volunteers in the Historical Society as well as an active, but small, group of Master Gardeners who do a lot to improve the landscape and floral displays around town. Rotary and church groups are also active and do much to improve the quality of life in the area. The city also has numerous medical and nursing home facilities as beautification focal points for health care in Michigan’s upper thumb area.”

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Congratulations to Bad Axe!

Registrations for the 2015 national awards program can be submitted until February 28, 2015. Eligible participants include towns, cities, college and university campuses, business districts, military installations, and recognized neighborhoods of large cities.

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 enhancement.

For more information, visit www.americainbloom.org.

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