



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact Laura Kunkle

aib@AmericaInBloom.org

614-487-1117

Henderson County, NC 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.

Linda Cromer and Jack Clasen, two specially trained AIB judges, visited towns of similar populations and spent two days touring each town, meeting municipal officials, residents, and volunteers. Other competitors in the 24,001 to 50,000 population category were Winter Park, FL; Santa Paula, CA; and Holland, MI.

Henderson County received a three bloom rating and a special mention for its landscaped areas.

The judges said, “Municipal properties in Henderson County are tastefully and attractively landscaped. Other significant areas such as the Flat Rock Playhouse, Main Street in Hendersonville, and the new Sierra Nevada Brewery have extensive and distinctive landscaping creating a true “sense of place” particular to the location. Plant selection, well thought-out hardscape and a high level of maintenance distinguish these areas. Bullington Gardens is a beautiful and unique horticultural experience featuring native woodland garden trails, perennial beds playing host to a rainbow of butterflies and other pollinators, an herb garden redolent with the aromas of both culinary and medicinal herbs, a cool and serene shade garden and joyously colorful therapy garden.”

--more--

Congratulations to Henderson County!

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.

###