



# MEDIA RELEASE

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Lewisburg, WVAmerica 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.

Katy Moss Warner and Barbara Vincentsen, 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 3,501 to 4,500 population category were Gallipolis, OH; Slippery Rock, PA; and the University of Findlay in Findlay, OH.

Lewisburg received a four bloom rating and a special mention for its landscaped areas.

The judges said, “Whether municipal, commercial, organizational or residential, the extensive landscaped areas in Lewisburg, WV are beautifully maintained. Tall shade trees, manicured lawns, attractive shrub beds and colorful flowers greet visitors and residents alike in every corner of the town. Even the commercial strip outside the historic district has surprisingly effective tree plantings in the parking areas and landscapes surrounding the commercial district. Not only are the welcome signs well landscaped, but the Lewisburg Foundation has ensured that beautiful parks are positioned at every entrance to the historic district. The quality of the landscapes in Lewisburg announced by dramatic and effective use of flower color not only makes its residents proud, but has attracted visitors and businesses allowing Lewisburg to thrive.”

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Congratulations to Lewisburg!

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.

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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 enhancement.*

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

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