



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **Slippery Rock, PA America in Bloom National 2013 Awards Results Announced**

(COLUMBUS, OH): After months of anxious waiting, top honors for the prestigious 2013 America in Bloom national awards program were announced at the annual awards held in Orlando, Florida on September 21.

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

Slippery Rock earned a two bloom rating in the under 4,000 population category and a special mention for its overall impression.

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

Alex Pearl and Dwight Lund, 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 under 4,000 population category included Echo, OR; Castle Rock, WA; and Gallipolis, OH.

Pearl and Lund were very taken by the city’s overall impression and commented, “Collaboration of Slippery Rock in Bloom, Slippery Rock Development and the Slippery Rock Business Association on numerous projects will immediately and in the future impact the citizens of the community, transient citizens and visitors. Changes can be seen in the visual presentation and in the attitude of residents.”

Congratulations to Slippery Rock!

Registrations for the 2014 national awards program can be submitted until February 28, 2014. 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. America in Bloom envisions communities across the country as welcoming and vibrant places to live, work, and play – benefiting from colorful plants and trees; enjoying clean environments; celebrating heritage; and planting pride through volunteerism. For more information, visit [www.americainbloom.org](http://www.americainbloom.org).*