



MEDIA RELEASE

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Charles City, IA America in Bloom Awards Results Announced

(COLUMBUS, OH): Honors for the prestigious 2012 America in Bloom 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."

Charles City, IA 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 Belpre, OH; Demopolis, AL; and Greendale, IN.

Charles City competed in the population category of 4,501 to 8,000 and received a four bloom rating with special recognition for its landscaped areas.

The judges, Alex Pearl and Dwight Lund, commented, "Charles City has a unique public/private partnership with the Community Revitalization Board, Chamber of Commerce, City Council and Community Improvement Association that has been in existence for many years. Private monies are put towards community improvements and given over to the city. Numerous parklands came to the city because of this endeavor."

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

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.

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