



MEDIA RELEASE

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Pella, IA 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.

Leslie Pittenger and Bruce Riggs, 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 10,001 to 15,000 population category were Coshocton, OH; Morro Bay, CA; and Washington, MO.

Pella received a four bloom rating and a prestigious outstanding achievement award for its efforts in the area of heritage preservation. This award is given to only one AIB participant each year.

The judges said, “Congratulations to everyone in Pella on earning a four-bloom award in just your first year of participation in America in Bloom. We were very impressed by many of the things that are being done in Pella and look forward to seeing what you do in future years. Your city, staff, and volunteers deserve recognition for what has been completed and all the hard work we observed.”

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Congratulations to Pella!

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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