



Enter your community's name and state here

2026 Community Profile

Instructions for using this template:

This profile is an important collection of your achievements and is part of your history. Post it on the website and provide copies to city hall, chamber of commerce, visitor's bureau, historical society, library, business leaders, real estate agents, and other stakeholders.

Use this template to simplify the creation of your Community Profile – a required part of your America in Bloom participation. Many communities find the finished product has several uses, such as an economic and tourism development tool, attract new residents, addendum to grant applications, an important historic document, and even as a fundraising tool.

Please email the completed Community Profile to the AIB office at aib@AmericanInBloom.org at least two weeks prior to your Advisors' arrival. The office will ensure your team of advisors receives a copy prior to their arrival in your community.

To complete the template:

- Fill in the requested information on each page. Collaborate with those in your community who are knowledgeable about each criterion (such as historical society, tree commission, park district)
- Add photos if you wish. Be sure each photo has a caption to further tell your story. Remember, when adding photos to compress them to about 220dpi which is good for printing and emailing.
- Bullet points or paragraphs are acceptable styles.
- The maximum page count is 25 pages.
- **When finished with the document, delete this entire instruction page.**
- If you have participated in AIB in the past, highlight what is new and/or implemented from previous Advisor recommendations.

If you have additional materials such as more photos, brochures, newspaper clippings, etc., make them available in a separate file/binder. The Advisors may, at their discretion, take this additional binder with them, ask that it be mailed directly to them, or they may refer to the binder while in your community and then leave it with you.

[Click here for another community's sample community profile for inspiration and guidance.](#)

Contact Information

Contact person:

Email:

Phone (primary):

Phone (secondary):

AIB committee chair contact and/or volunteer coordinator (if different from name listed above). Please include name, email, and phone number(s):

Community Information

Population:

County/township:

Municipal Website:

Municipal Facebook page:

Area in square miles:

Acres of active recreation:

Acres of passive recreation:

Form of government (mayor, council, manager, etc.):

Jurisdiction(s) operates the public-school system:

Jurisdiction operates the utilities (water, sewer, electrical, trash, recycling, etc.):

Professional and/or civic organizations and/or designations (Tree City USA, Main Street, etc.):

Volunteer coordinator name if position exists:

Any challenges this year weather-related or otherwise the Advisors should know about:

Years participated in America in Bloom Program:

Previous America in Bloom Awards and Recognitions:

Introduction to your community (500 words or less):

COMMUNITY VITALITY

Community Vitality refers to the overall health, strength, and vibrancy of a community, reflected in the quality of life, social connections, economic opportunities, and civic engagement among its members and measured through policies, programs, activities, and facilities. Examples include neighborhood associations that are active, thriving local businesses, inclusive public events, volunteer programs, and accessible services like libraries and recreation centers. Museums, arts/cultural organizations, mentoring programs, schools, faith-based organizations, parks, playgrounds, dog parks, sports fields, water activities, trails, golf courses, and other active and passive recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities all add to the vitality of a community.

PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF EFFORTS IN COMMUNITY VITALITY. Insert photos as desired (no more than 3).

Use the [evaluation metrics](#) as inspiration for your overview.

Are there any recommendations you want the Advisors to consider including in their evaluation report that will assist with program approval, funding, development, implementation, etc.

For returning communities:

What new projects have you implemented?

What previous Advisor recommendations have you implemented?

FLORAL IMPACT

Floral areas in a community are designated spaces where flowers are strategically and intentionally planted, cultivated, and maintained to enhance the beauty and ecological health of the environment. These areas can be part of public parks, street medians, residential gardens, school grounds, roadways, or commercial zones. Examples include containers, hanging baskets, window boxes, raised planters, trellises, and in-ground plantings and can be found at Botanical Gardens, school gardens, public spaces, and business and residential front yards. Season-round displays can utilize annuals, perennials, bulbs, tropical plants, flowering topiaries, colorful foliage, and cultivated and native plants.

PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF EFFORTS IN FLORAL IMPACT. Insert photos as desired (no more than 3).

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For returning communities:

What new projects have you implemented?

What previous Advisor recommendations have you implemented?

LANDSCAPED AREAS

Landscaped areas in a community include outdoor spaces intentionally designed and maintained to enhance natural beauty, functionality, and environmental health. These areas include elements like non-native and native trees, shrubs, ornamental grasses, vines, succulents, edibles, evergreens, topiaries, turf, groundcovers, and pollinator-friendly plants, and can include hardscape features such as benches, fountains, and decorative features. Landscaping can be found in parks, walking paths, residential neighborhoods, community gardens, roundabouts, streetscapes, commercial zones, schools, and public squares.

PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF EFFORTS IN LANDSCAPED AREAS. Insert photos as desired (no more than 3).

Use the [evaluation metrics](#) as inspiration for your overview.

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URBAN FORESTRY

Strategic design, use, installation, and maintenance of trees and associated green spaces for environmental, aesthetic, shade, and community benefits, including but not limited to street trees, park trees, native and ornamental species, naturalized areas, woodlands, and tree canopies on public and private lands, with attention to proper selection, placement, and long-term care to ensure sustainability, resilience, and quality of life.

PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF EFFORTS IN URBAN FORESTRY. Insert photos as desired (no more than 3).

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ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

Environmental initiatives are purposeful actions, programs, or policies designed to protect, preserve, or restore the natural environment and to reduce human impact on the planet, promote sustainability, and ensure a healthier ecosystem for current and future generations. Environmental and sustainable leadership includes policies, plans, and programs for water, and resource conservation; pollution control; trash, recycling, and reuse; climate change issues; green Infrastructure; and alternative energy sources. Environmental initiatives can be led by governments, businesses, communities, or individuals.

PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF EFFORTS IN ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES. Insert photos as desired (no more than 3). Use the [evaluation metrics](#) as inspiration for your overview.

Are there any recommendations you want the Advisors to consider including in their evaluation report that will assist with program approval, funding, development, implementation, etc.

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CELEBRATING HERITAGE

Celebrating heritage in a community includes recognition, designation, protection, commemoration, and celebration of historical, cultural, natural, agricultural, and industrial resources, including but not limited to, traditions, stories, landmarks, buildings, artifacts, events, and practices that reflect the community's identity. Efforts may include preservation, interpretation, education, and programming that foster pride, belonging, and awareness of diverse cultural roots while maintaining and enhancing the community's heritage.

PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF EFFORTS IN CELEBRATING HERITAGE. Insert photos as desired (no more than 3).

Use the [evaluation metrics](#) as inspiration for your overview.

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For returning communities:

What new projects have you implemented?

What previous Advisor recommendations have you implemented?

OVERALL IMPRESSION

The overall impression of a community refers to the design, maintenance, and condition of physical, social, and cultural elements that collectively shape the perception of a community's character and identity. These include, but are not limited to, amenities, infrastructure, signage, public spaces, streetscapes, and visible upkeep of public and private properties. Ordinances, regulations, and enforcement addressing signage, nuisances, and property maintenance contribute to reducing visual clutter, enhancing aesthetics, and fostering a welcoming atmosphere that reflects community values.

PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF EFFORTS IN OVERALL IMPRESSION. Insert photos as desired (no more than 3).

Use the [evaluation metrics](#) as inspiration for your overview.

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COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Community involvement refers to the active participation of individuals, organizations, and groups in efforts that support and enhance the well-being of the community. Contributions include, but are not limited to, volunteering, mentoring, fundraising, resource sharing, organizing events, serving on boards or committees, and supporting cultural, educational, social, and service initiatives. Engagement fosters shared responsibility, strengthens the social fabric, builds trust, and enhances quality of life while inspiring new and continued involvement.

PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF EFFORTS IN COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.

Use the [evaluation metrics](#) as inspiration for your overview.

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BEST IDEA

Using the America in Bloom criteria to guide your thinking, what is the best idea your community has this year?
500 words or less. Please include no more than 3 pictures.

ADVISOR VISIT ITINERARY

Day 1:

Day 2:

INSERT COMMUNITY MAP