America IN BLOOM
GROWING VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

Calendar & Checklist

This calendar and checklist will ensure you are getting the most out of your America in Bloom experience.

October-March

- Develop your America in Bloom Committee. This may include a member of the municipal council, members of service groups, businesses, garden clubs, historical societies, youth groups, faith communities, or others interested in horticulture, heritage, and improving community life, volunteers of all types, and media. Engage municipal departments, such as parks and recreation, public works, economic development, and tourism, as well.
- Decide on projects to start or continue. If your projects include large plantings, work with your local garden centers and growers on plant selections so they can grow the quantities, species, and colors you want.
- Review the metrics and scoring guide for insight on what Advisors will be evaluating.
- Promote your participation with local media and residents.
- Meet regularly with your committee to continue working on projects and to strategize how to showcase your community to the Advisors when they visit.
- Gather information for your Community Profile.
- Work with AIB office to determine Advisors' visit dates (May-July based on your climate).

April-July

- Continue meeting with your committee and working on projects.
- Make lodging arrangements for the Advisors for three nights. Host community pays for lodging.
- Develop the itinerary for the Advisors' visit.
- Review the list of awards offered by AIB this year and nominate your community. The list of awards will be announced in April.
- Two weeks before visit: Submit your Community Profile to your Advisors and the AIB office.
- Enjoy the Advisors' visit to your community.
- Have a post-Advisor review meeting with your committee and start planning for next year.
- By July 31: Nominate your community for various awards.
- By July 31: Email 10 photos of your town, representing the evaluated criteria. These will be used at the awards program to recognize your community.

August-October

- Attend the AIB Symposium & Awards Program in the fall.
- Recognize volunteers who helped make a difference with a community potluck, social media acknowledgement, events, etc. Maintain their excitement by starting new projects.
- Early October: Review, develop action plan on implementing recommendations, recruit more volunteers, and start planning for next year.
- October: Register for next year's program