

Keep Iowa Beautiful program funds awarded

AMES, Iowa . June 2, 2003. According to Iowa Department of Transportation officials, 10 Iowa communities or non-profit organizations have been awarded funds from the Keep Iowa Beautiful (KIB) program.

Funding for this program is generated through Iowa's state income tax check-off. The program started raising funds with the 2001 tax-filing season. During that year, \$56,633 in check-off funding was received. Seventy percent of those funds are allocated to local beautification efforts and 30 percent to KIB's statewide initiatives.

DOT Program Administrator Kathy Ridnour said, "Iowa taxpayers who generously contributed a portion of their refund or designated an amount to the KIB fund will be receiving an excellent return on their investment. These projects will go a long way towards keeping Iowa beautiful."

Award recipients include:

- Burlington Downtown Partners, Inc.;
- Greenfield Chamber of Commerce;
- Guttenberg River Front Task Force;
- Iowa Recycling Association;
- Keep Scott County Beautiful;
- Louisa County Conservation Board;
- Main Street Osceola;
- Marshalltown Central Business District;
- Rotary Club of Burlington; and
- Waste Commission of Scott County.

Applicants received \$38,633 in funding to implement community projects related to litter removal, litter prevention, beautification, waste management or recycling, illegal dumping abatement, and public nuisance abatement.

A total of 22 applications were received requesting more than \$376,000 in KIB funds. The next deadline for submittal of applications is December 31, 2003. Project application forms are available online at: www.dot.state.ia.us/forms/index.htm#funding.

Keep Iowa Beautiful is a non-profit charitable organization. It is the 22nd state affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, which has nearly 500 local affiliates. Keep America Beautiful has been working for 45 years to improve the beauty of our nation.

For more information on Keep Iowa Beautiful, including volunteer opportunities; research, education, public awareness and beautification initiatives; and efforts towards keeping Iowa litter-free—visit the organization's Web site at keepiowabeautiful.com or contact Executive Director Gerald F. Schnepf at 515-323-6537.

