

**Keep Australia Beautiful  
Sustainable Communities Awards  
Tidy Towns, Sustainable Cities, Clean Beaches**

**Community Action & Partnerships**

Recognises achievement in community beautification, presentation, health, wellbeing and pride. Also recognises partnerships between government, business, industry and local community networks.

**‘Dame Phyllis Frost’ Litter Prevention**

Recognises community litter management, reduction and education initiatives

**Resource Recovery & Waste Management**

Recognises achievement in resource recovery and waste management including initiatives which conserve resources, recover and reuse materials and the appropriate disposal of non-recyclable materials.

**Environmental Innovation & Protection**

Recognises innovative principles and actions associated with developing sustainable communities. Also recognises protection of the natural environment focusing on the conservation of native flora and fauna.

**Water Conservation**

Recognise sustainable water management within communities which has combined innovative water conservation and water re-use initiatives at the private, industrial and municipal levels, benefiting society and nature.

**Energy Innovation**

Recognises sustainable energy management which focuses on innovative energy efficiency measures and climate change issues.

**Heritage & Culture**

Recognises communities which proudly preserve and value cultural history

**Young Legends**

Recognises positive environmental outcomes which encourage and promote youth initiative and environmental education and/or achievement.

These categories, of equal value, assist communities to plan, achieve and evaluate local sustainability initiatives and to gather case studies that help educate, inform and enthuse other communities.

Adopted 29.9.10 following consultation with the Keep Australia Beautiful Network, the Sustainable Communities Awards judges and the Keep Australia Beautiful National Association board.

## Detailed category descriptions for use in Australian Tidy Towns

### Community Action & Partnerships

Recognises achievement in community beautification, presentation, health, wellbeing and pride. Also recognises partnerships between government, business, industry and local community networks.

- Tidy, well-maintained approaches to towns, including signs and features.
- Tidy, well-maintained business, retail and industrial areas.
- Tidy, well-maintained public parks, gardens and sporting areas.
- Tidy, well-maintained homes and private gardens.
- Tidy, well-maintained streets, including footpaths, verges and median strips.
- Established Tidy Towns Action Group or similar.
- Community involvement in the preparation and implementation of management plans/strategies for the town/region.
- Involvement of youth groups, schools and clubs in positive community engagement activities.
- Community celebrations associated with the town/region.
- Evidence of partnerships/approaches that encourage health and wellbeing within the community.
- Visible/measurable outcomes achieved as a result of community initiative and action.
- Where appropriate, provision of visitor and tourist facilities, including toilets, picnic areas, barbecues, shaded playgrounds, carparks and tourist information services.
- Adequate, well placed directional signage for parking, amenities, information services, tourist attractions.
- Multi-lingual signs, and/or universal symbols for non-readers and non-English readers.
- Appropriate access to and from public facilities and local attractions for the disabled and elderly.
- Local government encouragement of, and assistance with, community care, presentation and enhancement.
- Established community consultation policy and practice by local government.
- Community forums and/or workshops arranged by local government.
- Effective promotion of local government activities and services to the community.

- Strong two-way communication between local government and the community.
- Sound local government management and maintenance of local facilities, eg playgrounds, shower and toilet facilities, carparks, public open spaces, etc.
- Community/government partnerships on issues such as tourism plans, area/regional development plans, environmental or conservation management plans, public infrastructure development and/or local improvement and beautification.
- Successful outcomes from community/government partnerships.
- Programs to reduce environmental impact of the community such as illegal dumping and graffiti removal.

### **‘Dame Phyllis Frost’ Litter Prevention**

Recognises community litter management, reduction and education initiatives.

- Adequate, well placed litter bins in commercial centres
- Adequate, well placed litter bins in public parks/areas
- Appropriate directional signage to litter bins, recycling facilities and/or services and refuse tip facilities
- Frequent and adequate collection from litter bins
- Litter education and awareness programs, literature and/or signage by local government, schools, community groups
- Dog prohibition, or the provision of dog-litter bags and disposal facilities, in public areas such as parks and/or beaches
- Cigarette butt disposal facilities in commercial centres and public parks/areas
- Regular clean-up activities, including roadside clean-ups, by the community and/or local government
- Litter-awareness signage, particularly at entries and exits to the community
- Adequate fencing or other devices to manage litter blow at waste transfer and refuse facilities
- Integration of litter and waste management activities into a broader waste management strategy
- Regular, competent community/regional litter audits to assist with preventative and education measures

## **Resource Recovery & Waste Management**

Recognises achievement in resource recovery and waste management including initiatives which conserve resources, recover and reuse materials and the appropriate disposal of non-recyclable materials.

- Collection and appropriate disposal of non-recyclable materials.
- Adequate, well placed recycling bins in public parks/areas.
- Appropriate directional signage to recycling facilities and/or services at waste transfer and refuse facilities.
- Frequent and adequate collection of recycling bins.
- Resource recovery & recycling education and awareness programs, literature and/or signs by local government, schools, community groups.
- Recovery and re-use of resources such as green organics, glass, paper, cardboard, aluminium, plastic, batteries, fluros and oil.
- Integration of resource recovery, recycling and waste management activities into a broader waste management strategy.
- Regular, competent community/regional audits to assist with compliance and education measures.
- Education programs facilitating disposal according to the 'avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle' waste hierarchy.

## **Environmental Innovation & Protection**

Recognises innovative principles and actions associated with developing sustainable communities. Also recognises protection of the natural environment focusing on the conservation of native flora and fauna.

- Partnerships between community/local government/industry which have been established to address local environmental sustainability issues.
- Programs which encourage community education and/or involvement in the planning, development and/or implementation of innovative strategies which focus on cleaner production and environmental protection.
- Innovative community/local government/industry water and/or wastewater activities/projects which focus on environmental protection.
- Local government support for innovative community/ industry projects, concepts, studies and/or research which focus on cleaner production, sustainable development, pollution prevention and/or environmental protection.
- Commitment to, or involvement in, community action initiatives such as Landcare, Coastcare, Bushcare, Dunecare, Waterwatch, Saltwatch and similar schemes.
- Established local conservation and/or environment group(s).

- Commitment to the establishment, where required, maintenance and protection of wildlife corridors in residential, industrial and agricultural areas.
- Development and implementation of public and/or protected open space plans within a community and its surrounds, including areas with significant conservation value.
- Development and implementation of vegetation management plans for natural areas in a community and its surrounds, including the maintenance and protection of coastal and/or riparian vegetation and the revegetation of riparian zones in residential, industrial & agricultural areas.
- Management plans/strategies, including community-government partnerships, which are designed to identify, rehabilitate and/or protect local fauna and flora.
- Feral animal management policies and plans.
- Weed eradication policies and programs.
- Where relevant, commitment to addressing hazards, such as salinity and soil erosion, which reduce land use capacity.
- School and community awareness of local biodiversity issues.

### **Water Conservation**

Recognise sustainable water management within communities which has combined innovative water conservation and water re-use initiatives at the private, industrial and municipal levels, benefiting society and nature.

- Partnerships between community/local government/industry which have been established to address local environmental sustainability issues relating to water conservation, reuse and/or recycling.
- Programs which encourage community education and/or involvement in the planning, development and/or implementation of innovative strategies which focus on water conservation and reuse.
- Innovative community/local government/industry water and/or wastewater reuse projects and implementation of water sensitive urban design principles.
- Water minimisation practices and/or devices, eg automatic shut-off taps on public toilets and showers, evaporation protection measures, etc.
- Local government support for innovative community/industry projects, concepts, studies and/or research which focus on innovative water conservation and/or reuse initiatives.
- Education initiatives and community awareness and education programs to reduce water use.

## **Energy Innovation**

Recognises sustainable energy management which focuses on innovative energy efficiency measures and climate change issues.

- Partnerships between community/local government/industry which have been established to address renewable energy options.
- Programs which encourage community education and/or involvement in the planning, development and/or implementation of innovative strategies which focus on renewable energy use and climate change issues.
- Energy efficiency initiatives by community/local government/industry, including smart/green building design, use of energy efficient building products, renewable energy projects, eg solar power, wind generation, etc.
- Energy minimisation practices and/or devices at public facilities, eg long-life light globes, solar-heated/powered public facilities or services, automatic light shut-off switches, where safety is not compromised.
- Local government support for innovative community/ industry projects, concepts, studies and/or research which focus on innovative energy conservation initiatives.
- Education initiatives and community awareness and education programs to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.

## **Heritage & Culture**

Recognises communities which proudly preserve and value cultural history

- Successful outcomes from community strategies/initiatives designed to address preservation of cultural or natural history.
- Development and/or implementation of innovative, community-based strategic or business plans relating to historic or cultural preservation and/or restoration.
- Establishment of a local historical museum, or similar, to record and display culturally significant artefacts, stories and/or images, including indigenous and non-indigenous cultural heritage; maritime, agricultural and industry heritage; community, ethnic and regional heritage.
- Establishment of local historical society/group(s) dedicated to the research and preservation of local cultural heritage, including indigenous and non-indigenous cultural heritage; maritime, agricultural and industry heritage; community, ethnic and regional heritage.
- Protection, and display where appropriate, of culturally significant sites.
- Celebration, within and by the local community, of culturally significant events/traditions.
- Community and/or local government commitment to the preservation and/or restoration of culturally significant buildings and sites.

## **Young Legends**

Recognises positive environmental outcomes which encourage and promote youth initiative and environmental education and/or achievement.

- Youth education programs, including at schools, which focus on environment and conservation.
- Organised environment and conservation activities or projects for or by youth such as through the scouts, guides, fishing clubs, school, church, environment, conservation or community groups.
- School-based environment and conservation activities which encourage youth leadership and initiative.
- Community/local government/industry encouragement of, and involvement in youth activities, particularly welfare, health, environment and conservation activities.
- Successful outcomes from youth-initiated or youth-led environmental action.