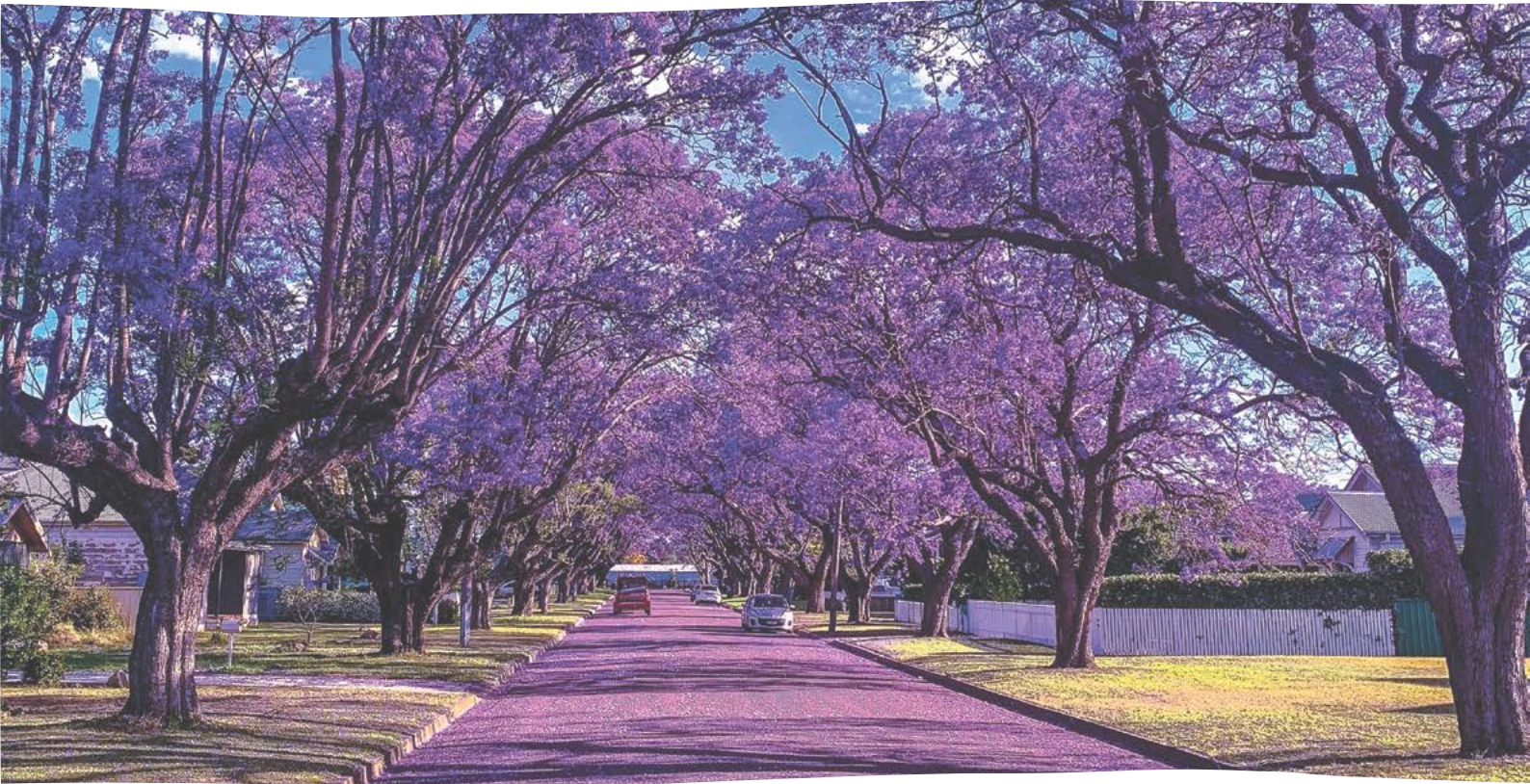




Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Awards 2022



Entries close 31 July 2022

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Key Program Dates

Awards Open:	April 2022
Submissions Close:	31 July 2022
Online Judging (for all categories) and on-the-ground assessing (for Overall category only)	Aug- Sep 2022
Winner announced @ Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Awards Weekend	4 - 6 November 2022 in Singleton

We encourage all entrants to attend the awards event to celebrate their own and other's achievements. We ask that if you enter the awards that you make yourself available to attend the awards weekend in November.



Chief Executive Officer's Message

I am absolutely thrilled to launch the Keep Australia Beautiful NSW (KAB NSW) Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Awards Program for 2022.

Since 1981, KAB NSW has had the honour of rewarding and recognising projects around litter, waste management, recycling, heritage, community spirit and other environmental areas across NSW. It is always fantastic to see the diversity of projects that enter and to be able to showcase the incredible impact of these initiatives within our communities.

This is your opportunity to share with others the amazing stories and sustainable programs that you are involved in. By sharing your projects through our KAB NSW programs, you are providing the opportunity to receive valuable recognition at a regional, state and national level.

Take this as an opportunity to reflect on all the amazing achievements of your suburb, council, community group, school or even your individual efforts. Every project counts, not matter how big or small.

I also want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank our partners and incredibly experienced judges for their ongoing support of our programs. Without them, these programs simply would not be as meaningful and as impactful as they are.

All the best with your application, and we look forward to showcasing the fantastic projects happening across our state.



Warm regards,

Val Southam
Chief Executive and Executive Director
Keep Australia Beautiful NSW



About KAB NSW

Keep Australia Beautiful NSW (KAB NSW) are the leaders in transforming behaviour to create a less littered and more environmentally sustainable New South Wales.

With a legacy of successful community engagement since 1975, our programs inspire individuals, students, organisations, businesses and government to actively care for their local environment.

Our flagship Sustainable Communities - Tidy Towns and Sustainable Cities awards programs have been running since 1981. They encourage, recognise and reward local communities, councils, businesses and schools for their outstanding efforts to reduce litter, increase recycling and beautify and improve their local environment.

Our Annual Litter Congress is Australia's only dedicated litter conference that shares successful projects, research, knowledge and best practice in area of litter prevention, management and anti-littering strategies.

Our hugely popular EnviroMentors® sustainability education service is a mobile service to schools, reaching every corner of NSW and covering a full suite of environmental modules.

KAB NSW is an apolitical organisation – we are not activists, we work in partnership with local and state governments, industry, schools and the community to protect and improve our state environment.

We work closely with the NSW Government and partner with them on a range of programs to connect with communities across NSW at a grass-roots level.

Every year the NSW Premier hosts an annual charity dinner for KAB NSW which brings together business, local government, corporates, community groups and industry.

What is the Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Awards Program?

Since 1981, the Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Awards Program has been rewarding and giving recognition to projects that reduce litter, minimise waste, encourage recycling, promote heritage and culture, habitat and coastal protection, celebrate community spirit and many other environmental areas.

The Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Awards Program provides a place to showcase your achievements and celebrate with others. Show NSW what you have been achieving. We invite you to take part in the 41st Keep Australia Beautiful NSW Awards this year.



FURTHER INFORMATION + CONTACTS

For further information on how to enter and award submissions go to <https://www.kabnsw.org.au/sustainable-communities-tidy-towns/>

Alternatively, please contact Keep Australia Beautiful NSW on
E: awards@kabnsw.org.au or T: 02 8594 4000

2021 Overall Winner Singleton

It was an honour to be named NSW Sustainable Communities Tidy Town 2021 - the community pride is infectious. Bringing home, numerous Awards for our community confirms the benefits of partnerships with Community, Organisations, Council and Business and when you have willing hearts and hands anything and everything is a possibility.

We look forward to hosting the 2022 Presentation Weekend on the first weekend in November and hope it will be a reunion of sorts as we have hosted previously. We would love NSW Tidy Towners past, present and perhaps future to visit us in our purple cloaked town and villages when we take the opportunity to exchange information, showcase our wonderful community and its diverse treasures in the Heart of the Hunter, the Jewel of the State and where the Spirit of the Nation resides. Where else would you want to be on November 4th, 5th and 6th?

Lyn MacBain
Chairperson
Singleton Tidy Towns



WHO CAN ENTER?

The Sustainable Communities - Tidy Towns Awards are open to rural, regional and coastal towns and villages across NSW. Category entrants include (but are not limited to) Tidy Towns groups, Individuals, Progress Associations and CWA's, Youth Organisations, Landcare Groups, Chambers of Commerce, Local Authorities/Council's, Tourism Associations, School's, Pre Schools, Businesses, Small Enterprises and Industry, Registered Clubs and Service groups.

If you or your project, community group, business, school, town or village is based within the following local government areas, you should enter the Sustainable Communities - Tidy Towns Awards Program:

- Albury
- Armidale
- Ballina
- Balranald
- Bathurst
- Bega Valley
- Bellingen
- Berrigan
- Bland
- Blayney
- Bogan
- Bourke
- Brewarrina
- Broken Hill
- Byron Shire
- Cabonne
- Carrathool
- Central Coast
- Central Darling
- Cessnock
- Lithgow
- Clarence Valley
- Cobar
- Coffs Harbour
- Coolamon
- Coonamble
- Cootamundra-Gundagai
- Cowra
- Dubbo
- Dungog
- Edward River
- Eurobodalla
- Federation
- Forbes
- Gilgandra
- Glen Innes Severn
- Goulburn Mulwaree
- Greater Hume
- Griffith
- Gunnedah
- Gwydir
- Hay
- Hilltops
- Inverell
- Junee
- Kempsey
- Kyogle
- Lachlan
- Lake Macquarie
- Leeton
- Lismore
- Liverpool Plains
- Lockhart
- Maitland
- Mid-Coast
- Mid-Western
- Moree Plains
- Murray
- Murrumbidgee
- Muswellbrook
- Nambucca Valley
- Narrabri
- Narrandera
- Narromine
- Newcastle
- Oberon
- Orange
- Parkes
- Port Macquarie-Hastings
- Port Stephens
- Queanbeyan-Palerang
- Richmond Valley
- Shellharbour
- Shoalhaven
- Singleton
- Snowy Monaro
- Snowy Valleys
- Tamworth
- Temora
- Tenterfield
- Kiama
- Tweed Shire
- Upper Hunter
- Upper Lachlan
- Uralla
- Wagga Wagga
- Walcha
- Walgett
- Warren
- Warrumbungle
- Weddin
- Wentworth
- Wingecarribee
- Wollongong
- Yass

For projects, community groups, businesses, schools and Council's in the Greater Sydney Metropolitan Area, please refer to the Sustainable Cities Awards Program.

AWARDS CATEGORIES



Resource Recovery and Waste Minimisation Award

The Resource Recovery and Waste Management Award (*sponsored by the NSW EPA*) is for a project or program that tackles a range of waste and recycling problems through:

- Waste minimisation and reduction.
- Effective and innovative waste and recycling programs - including education and infrastructure projects.
- Incentivising behaviour change to improve waste management, recycling and stop illegal dumping.

Projects should demonstrate inventive techniques that specifically address local waste problems, with quantifiable and effective outcomes.

Examples of eligible projects may include:

- Projects that use recycling and prevent material going to landfill.
- The development of a Waste Management Strategy and Action Plan.
- A local group addressing the problem of food waste in their community.
- The planning and implementation of a program that facilitates appropriate disposal of items, for example, free drop-offs to help tackle illegal dumping or management of event sites.



Litter Prevention Award

The Litter Prevention Award (*sponsored by the NSW EPA*) is for a project or program that reduces or prevents litter. This could include projects that use one or more of these approaches:

- Behaviour change techniques to stop littering.
- New or effective ways to communicate about litter and its impacts.
- Building partnerships or networks to prevent litter.
- Enforcement techniques to reduce litter.
- Create effective infrastructure and place design to reduce litter (signage, bins, other landscaping).
- Utilising the 'Don't be a Tosser!' campaign materials.

Projects should demonstrate inventive techniques that specifically address local litter issues, with quantifiable outcomes. Projects that use more than one approach will be highly regarded. Projects can address any form of litter in any environment.

Examples of eligible projects may include:

- A litter reduction campaign which involves the community.
- A project or program aimed at a specific section of the community - for example, children, young people, culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) groups, Indigenous communities.
- A project aimed at addressing litter with a long-term solution based on behaviour change techniques.
- Different strategies to target litter for example signage, phasing out plastic bags/bottles etc.

Previous or current Community Litter Grant applicants are encouraged to enter their projects.



Circular Economy Award

The Circular Economy Award is for any operationally viable projects in the circular economy which do, or could potentially, divert solid materials, fluids or energy from waste streams and return them to the productive economy.

Examples of eligible projects may include:

- A business plan or strategy for a viable project. For example, a Waste Management Strategy which demonstrates how the waste streams are being diverted back into the marketable economy.
- A financed project in pre-commercial development or a scheme in commercial operation.
- A proposal by four or more participants to collaborate on developing a project.



Communication and Engagement Award

The Communication & Engagement Award is for programs and projects that inspire environmental action, through:

- Education and communication campaigns that raise awareness of environmental sustainability for topics such as energy, water or waste reduction to create empowerment and behaviour change amongst the target audience.
- Developing and building communication partnerships that enable sharing of resources, ideas and knowledge.
- Creating spaces and places for environmental communication programs that demonstrate ideas and practical solutions for the community.

Examples of eligible projects may include:

- A series of education workshops on a range of topics that inspire community to share ideas and learn about environmental issues.
- Regional education programs that specifically target behaviours of a group around a specific issue (for example, wood fire smoke or illegal dumping).
- A council that has implemented an effective communication program, ranging from media campaigns to multi-dimensional campaigns which tackle a problem from different angles.



Community Spirit and Inclusion Award

The Community Spirit and Inclusion Award is awarded to communities that successfully demonstrate strong community spirit and inclusion in the face of ongoing challenges. This award is given to communities that refuse to 'give in' when facing a challenge.

Examples of eligible projects may include:

- A community coming together to restore and rebuild a community hub.
- Events, programs or festivals that celebrate and promote community spirit and inclusion.
- Activities to promote civic pride, create community awareness, cohesion and wellbeing.
- Innovative approaches to community engagement, such as communications techniques or alternative methods of delivering events, programs or festivals
- A community supporting each other at a time of crisis – such as through the COVID-19 pandemic or in bushfire recovery.



Habitat and Wildlife Conservation Award

The Habitat and Wildlife Conservation Award is for projects which create, restore and sustain biodiversity of our native flora and fauna in urban environments, creating and/or maintaining wildlife corridors and encouraging habitat conservation, through:

- Leadership and innovation in the promotion and advocacy for conserving local biodiversity.
- Actions which improve the wildlife and habitat in an area, through community participation. For example, Landcare, Bushcare, Dunecare, Land for Wildlife and Marine Rescue.
- Partnerships that support the community to be proactive in the conservation of biodiversity.
- Policy or mission that maintains the protection of local biodiversity in an area.

Examples of eligible projects may include:

- Education programs and projects about local threatened species, habitat and communities and their protection.
- Development or upgrades to community or local nurseries which provide greater access to local provenance species.
- Supporting community participation in projects such as fauna and flora conservation. Includes promotion and education, data collection and mapping, community involvement and feedback.
- Development of or increased involvement by the community in Landcare, Bushcare, Dunecare or other community projects that assist in the reversing of environmental damage to wildlife habitats, including bushland and waterways.

AWARDS CATEGORIES



Heritage and Culture Award

The Heritage and Culture Award is for community projects that enhance and protect either our built heritage, natural heritage or indigenous cultural heritage. Projects may include:

- Commitment to the conservation of built heritage, such as a building and/or other infrastructure restoration.
- Education projects and/or research into an area's heritage.
- Conservation actions which promote and support indigenous heritage.
- Proactive long-term planning that allows an area's Aboriginal heritage to be preserved

Examples of eligible projects may include:

- The restoration of an area, heritage building or other infrastructure.
- An event that recognises the history of an area, such as a cultural festival.
- The protection of significant natural areas that are an integral part of the history of an area.
- A Heritage Centre (or similar) that promotes heritage and facilitates local history documentation in an area.
- Education which provides for the ongoing existence of the Aboriginal heritage of an area. For example, the teaching and preservation of language.



Recycled Organics Award

The Recycled Organics Award is for projects and programs that reduce organics going to landfill and supports the community to avoid, reduce and recycle organics, through:

- Development of improved technologies for the separation of organics from the waste stream.
- Education and communication programs that support positive behaviour changes in the community, around reduced food waste, composting and worm farming.
- Innovative ideas, action and markets for the use of compost.

Examples of eligible projects may include:

- An enterprise that supports composting/worm farming through education, resourcing and innovative systems.
- A Council that extends its waste collection to a separate green waste collection or for an existing collection to include food organics.
- A business that is avoiding food waste and maximising reuse/recycling of food waste through an on-site composting facility.



Renewable Energy Award

The Renewable Energy Award is for programs and projects that progress achievements in developing products or services associated with renewable energy.

Examples of eligible projects may include:

- Developing or improving energy generation or usage within an organisation.
- Reducing reliance on fossil fuels within a community.
- Products, projects or infrastructure that facilitate the use of renewable energy.
- Improving business accountability for and reporting of energy use.
- Long term plans to reduce energy demand, especially energy sourced from fossil fuels.

POPULATION CATEGORIES

On your application form, please enter the population of your town only (not the entire population within your Council). To confirm the population of your town, please refer to the most recent Census data.

- Population Category A: ≤ 1,500
- Population category B: 1,501-5000
- Population category C: 5001-12,000
- Population category D: 12,001-23,000
- Population category E: > 23,001



Waterways and Marine Protection Award

The Waterways & Marine Protection Award (*incorporating Clean Beaches*) is for programs and actions that create, restore and/or enhance our natural waterways and beaches, through:

- Actively advocating coastal and waterway protection through education, action, data collection and partnerships.
- Developing projects that encourage community participation in the protection of waterways and beaches.
- Sustainably managing water resources within the community, through improved infrastructure, systems and planning.
- Improving water quality through reducing litter.
- Sustainable coastal use and development for healthy habitats.
- Protecting the cultural values of the marine estate.
- Sustainable fishing and aquaculture.

Examples of eligible projects may include:

- Building a fish ladder to improve fish movement upstream.
- Caring for a local beach, through community participation. Actions may include clean-ups, education through signage, data collection and improved bin infrastructure.
- Weed control along streams, rivers and dunes.
- Advocacy and action around threats to marine environments, including data collection, projects around minimising the use of single use plastic or fishing line management.



Young Legend's Award

The Young Legend's Award is for an individual, school (including classes or groups) or a group of individuals (25 years and under) who demonstrate outstanding commitment to their environment and show leadership in pursuing environmental outcomes in any of the preceding categories e.g. Litter, wildlife conservation, waste minimisation etc. through:

- Advocating for change in the local area, through participation on committees or clean-up activities, volunteering at community nurseries or Bushcare etc.
- Programs that encourage mentoring and development of sustainability throughout the school and in the community.
- Working in partnership with other organisations to make significant change in relation to the environment.
- The adoption of sustainable methods in operations such as retrofitting school infrastructure or undertaking of whole of school behaviour change programs.

Projects may be submitted by:

- Individuals.
- Schools and Pre-Schools
- A group of young people.

Examples of eligible projects may include:

- An individual who volunteers by growing plants at their local community nursery for planting in a local area of bushland.
- A youth or school group who advocates the reduced use of plastic litter through active clean-ups, education campaigns and partnering with the local community.
- A school that has implemented a waste or sustainability project within their school or community.
- A pre-school or vacation care group who take part in sustainability or environmental projects.



Overall Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Award

The Overall Award is awarded to a community in a town, village or regional centre that has successfully undertaken projects or actions in multiple areas of environmental sustainability and social inclusion across the range of award categories.

It is recommended that communities entering the overall award have a minimum of four (4) category entries.

Projects submitted by any organisation or individual (including schools) within the town, village or regional centre may contribute towards an Overall entry.

Communities that qualify will be assessed by an on-the-ground assessor who will visit projects in. Exact times and dates will be confirmed with each community before the assessor arrives.

PREPARING AND SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRY

Before you begin completing the online form, we recommend you collate your submission material so that you can simply copy and paste/upload the respective content into the form. Please refer to the list below for the required information, a Microsoft Word template is available on the awards program page.

MAIN CONTACT - for correspondence relating to your entry

- **Name**
- **Organisation**
- **Postal Address**
- **Phone**
- **Email**

ABOUT YOUR PROJECT

- **Please select the award category you wish to enter**
- **Name of project** (max 40 characters including spaces, please enter as you would wish it to appear on any awards)
- **Project Owner** (please enter your organisation/committee name as you would wish it to appear on awards)
- **Are you nominating as a:** Group; Business / Enterprise; Individual; Organisation (NGO, NFP); Local Authority; School
- **Project Overview.** 125 words max. NOTE: This information will be used for awards promotions. No score will be assigned to this section. In your response, please address: What challenge was this initiative seeking to address? How did you address the challenge (What did you do)? Who were the main stakeholders? What were the key outcomes/achievements? What did you learn/what would you change for next time?
- **Hero Image** - Please provide one main image in **LANDSCAPE** format that best encapsulates the spirit of your project. We appreciate your efforts to ensure these are high resolution (e.g. 300dpi or minimum file size of 1MB). Note, you may supply additional images in the attachment section.

ABOUT YOUR TOWN

- **Town Name**
- **Population Category.** To confirm the population of your town, please use to the most recent Census data (see <https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area> - and use the data under the "Urban Centres and Localities" heading).
- **Which Local Government Area is your Project in?** If your LGA is not listed here then you most likely should be entering the Sustainable Cities Awards Program, please visit <https://www.kabnsw.org.au/sustainable-cities/> for information and the entry form link.
- **Contact at Council** (if known)

MEDIA AND PROMOTIONS

- **Media Contact**
 - Name
 - Phone
 - Email
- **Social Media Tags**
 - FaceBook
 - Instagram
 - Twitter
 - LinkedIn
 - Please list your local newspaper(s), radio stations and any other media contacts (it would be very helpful if you can provide their social media tags).

ENTRY QUESTIONS

- **What is the history of the project, how was the need identified and addressed?** (Word count 250)
- **How was this project resourced? (volunteers, staff, grants, sponsorship, fundraising, in kind support, partnerships, etc).** (Word count 250)
- **Tell us how you evaluated the overall success of your project (include any relevant measurement models or statistics that demonstrate your progress, or personal stories about the success of the project)** (Word count 250)
- **Category Specific Question** (Word count 200-300)

Category	Question
Resource Recovery and Waste Minimisation	In what ways will the project lead to long term reduction in waste in your community and increase recycling?
Litter Prevention	In what ways will the project lead to long term litter reduction in your community? (if it was a trial what was learnt; an ongoing program or did it just target a particular issue; a model that could be built upon or tried by other community groups or organisations).
Circular Economy	Describe how your project shows a long-term commitment into the diversion of wastes into the productive economy?
Communication and Engagement	Describe how your project provides long term solutions for your community to continue to learn from and continue in their education about your environmental campaign?
Community Spirit and Inclusion	Describe how your project provides an ongoing solution to the issue being addressed and how this has been embedded in the solution?
Habitat and Wildlife Conservation	Describe how or why your project demonstrates a commitment to the conservation and preservation of habitat and wildlife in your area.
Heritage and Culture	Describe how or why your project demonstrates a commitment to the conservation and preservation of heritage in your area.
Recycled Organics	Describe how your project embeds a long-term commitment to recycling organics in your area?
Renewable Energy	Describe how your project is committed, in the long term, to the increased use of renewables in your area?
Waterways and Marine Protection	Describe how your project supports and achieves long term commitment to the protection of your coastal or waterway area?
Young Legends (under 25)	Describe how the nominated individual or group has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to sustainability and the environment?

- **Describe how you have used your learnings from this project to promote improvements for future projects, events or similar programs. Include any collaboration with partners, other organisations or sharing within communities.** (Word count 200-500)

SUPPORTING ATTACHMENTS

- **To support your entry you may upload up to 10 attachments.** These may be photographs or documents (e.g. reports). It will assist the judges if you reference any attachments within your Entry Questions and we encourage you to upload photos and videos as these can be used to promote your project through KAB NSW and other channels. All photos submitted to Keep Australia Beautiful NSW may be used for promotion and marketing purposes and you must ensure that you have permission from all individuals featured in any photographs prior to submitting your entry.
- **You may also upload or link to videos.** This can be used to answer ALL OF THE CRITERIA as set out by the online portal.

If you wish to enter the Overall Category, please submit your category entries before completing the Overall Entry Form, referencing your category submissions.

Now that you are prepared, visit
<https://www.kabnsw.org.au/sustainable-communities-tidy-towns/>
to start your submission



ENTRY CRITERIA

All cities and suburbs are invited to participate, through community groups, schools, councils, individuals, businesses and other organisations undertaking new or ongoing beautification, environment enhancement or community development projects.

You can enter as many or as few categories as you wish and multiple entries (for different projects) within a category are permitted.

Your application can be about large or small projects, but most importantly you will need to show how the work you are doing is innovative, delivering best value, and improving outcomes for your community.

IMPORTANT: While projects may be ongoing, they must have recent or continued expansion and additional significance with results shown over the 2021/2022 financial year.

Previous overall and category award winners are welcome to enter again, but projects must have progressed from the previous entry, and those new achievements or outcomes must be demonstrated clearly in the application.



TERMS + CONDITIONS

1. Entrants should endeavour to attend the Awards Event on 4 - 6 November 2022 in Singleton. (Inability to attend does not disqualify entry.)
2. Entry is free and open to both KAB NSW members and non-members.
3. Entries must be based in New South Wales.
4. All guidelines should be addressed in your online nomination. Supporting documents and photographs should be attached to your nomination if relevant.
5. By entering the Awards the entrant gives permission to KAB NSW to publish, exhibit and promote the content of the submission, including supporters of the Awards, where their use of submission content is specifically related to their promotion of their involvement in the Awards.
6. Entrants agree to media publicity and promotion associated with the Awards nomination, including any photos submitted or taken at the Awards Presentation ceremony.
7. All entrants must be prepared to submit further material for exhibition and publication if required, such as additional photography.
8. Entries close on 31 July 2022.
9. The 2021 Overall winner is not eligible to enter the Overall Award category for 2022.
10. By entering, the main contact declares that they are authorised to submit the project, and that they have obtained appropriate releases and authorities in writing from project clients, collaborating organisations, copyright holders for entry submission materials, licensees, photographers. In particular where images of children are used.
11. By entering this program, the entrant agrees to absolve KAB NSW from any liability relating to confidentiality or intellectual property issues that may be raised by any party.
12. KAB NSW is committed to providing a quality awards program and makes every attempt to ensure accuracy, currency and reliability of the information included in this document and elsewhere. However, changes in content and process may become necessary at the absolute discretion of KAB NSW. KAB NSW accepts no liability for any use of the said content or reliance placed upon it.



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