

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Gerald F. Schnepf, Executive Director
Keep Iowa Beautiful
300 East Locust Street – Suite 100
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
Phone: 515-323-6507
Fax: 515-244-9477
E-mail: gschnepf@keepiowabeautiful.com
Web Site: www.keepiowabeautiful.com

LITTER ENFORCEMENT AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Two inaugural “Litter Enforcement Award” winners are announced by Keep Iowa Beautiful. The two awards have been established to recognize those enforcement officers that are going the “extra mile” in litter prevention and enforcement efforts to help Keep Iowa Beautiful. Litter and illegal dumping costs tax payers millions of dollars annually. Education and public awareness efforts can do a great deal to assist in changing behavior patterns to abate the problem, however, enforcement is an important tool that can make a lasting difference.



Denison Highway Patrol Post # 4
Litter Enforcement Award Check Presentation \$500
Denison Hillside Project – Denison Chamber of Commerce

Gerald F. Schnepf - Exec. Dir. KIB, Sue Pitts – Exec. Dir. Denison Chamber of Com., Sue Bergamo – Hillside Project Chamber Representative, Sgt. Dan Shaffer – Denison Post, Lt. Steve Loftus – Denison Post and Karla and Miranda Bohlman – Staff of Denison Post.
May 27th, 2003



Denison Highway Patrol Post # 4
Litter Enforcement Award Presentation - \$500
Charter Oak Park Shelter Project

Gerald F. Schnepf – Exec. Dir. KIB, Patti Vogt – Charter Oak, Becky Kunze – Charter Oak, Sgt. Dan Schaffer – Denison Post, Lt. Steve Loftus – Denison Post, Karla and Miranda Bohlman – Staff of Denison Post.
May 27th, 2003

The two inaugural award winners are:

**Iowa State Patrol Post 4 – Staff and Families
Denison, Iowa**

Merit: In addition to enforcement efforts, the staff in recognition of the reopening of the District adopted a section of Highways 59 / 141 to the north junction of Highways 59 / 141 on January, 2001.

The staff along with their families have taken great pride in the cleanup of this two mile stretch of divided highway. The effort helps to provide a clean and attractive roadway for the community of Denison.

Going the “extra mile” also reflects a growing community involvement by the staff. It clearly indicates that individuals can make a difference in helping to Keep Iowa Beautiful.

Contact:

Lt. Steve Loftus – District Commander
3710 Highway 30 East
Denison, Iowa 51442
Phone: 712-263-4621

Mr. Laverne Payne – Solid Waste Manager – City of Muscatine
Mrs. Debbie Yerington – Refuse Collection Supervisor – City of Muscatine

Merit: Both Mr. Payne and Mrs. Debbie Yerington are City employees responsible for

refuse and waste services. A problem was occurring with an increasing amount of unsightly debris and litter in the downtown main street area. They recommended a change to the city ordinances which were subsequently passed.

To help implement the new ordinances the two individuals spent considerable “after hours” and weekend time to increase public awareness to the new ordinance and to confiscate illegally placed litter, garbage bags and trash. Through their efforts and a number of resulting citations the unsightly problem has virtually disappeared. Again, the “extra effort” by these two individuals has resulted in a more attractive community.

Contact:

Mr. A. J. Johnson – City Administrator
City of Muscatine
City Hall, 215 Sycamore Street
Muscatine, Iowa 52761-3840
Phone: 563-264-1550

The award program was established by Keep Iowa Beautiful through the generosity of a grant from John and Judy Schneller of Des Moines and with the assistance of a “Litter Enforcement Committee”. The committee consists of Franklin County Sheriff Larry L. Richtsmeier, representing the Iowa Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff’s Association, Lt. Rob Hansen – Public Information Officer, representing the Iowa State Patrol, Officer David Ness – Des Moines Police Department, representing the Iowa Association of Chiefs of Police and Peace Officers and Gerald F. Schnepf, Executive Director of Keep Iowa Beautiful. The committee established guidelines for selection, assisted in selecting the award winners and in announcing the awards.

Award winners will receive framed recognition certificates presented at selected State and / or regional meetings. In addition each of the two winners can designate a litter prevention, cleanup and / or beautification effort that will receive a \$1,000 cash award in their name.

Keep Iowa Beautiful is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the attractiveness of our neighborhoods, communities and the State. Litter abatement is a key focus of the organization. Recently completed studies indicate the need to increase efforts for changing behavior patterns through public education, awareness and increased attention to litter and illegal dumping enforcement.