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Keep Iowa Beautiful program funds awarded

AMES, Iowa – March 15, 2004 - According to Iowa Department of Transportation officials, 18 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. This is the second year of funding for the program. During the 2002 tax year \$62,784 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, "For the second year Iowa taxpayers have sent the message they consider the Keep Iowa Beautiful initiative valuable. They have seen their generous contributions having an excellent return on their investment."

Projects funded from the 2002 tax check-off are:

- Marshalltown Central Business District
- Jackson Elementary Parent Teacher Association and Athletic Club (Davenport)
- Guttenberg River Front Development Task Force
- Iowa Recycling Association (Des Moines)
- Shenandoah Community School
- Keep Fort Dodge Beautiful
- Orange City Parks Department

- Downtown Partnership of Sioux City
- City of Linn Grove
- Harris-Lake Park Community School
- Long Grove Park Board
- Randall Community Club
- City of Dows
- North End Partnership Association (Mason City)
- Hartman Reserve Nature Center (Cedar Falls)
- Bank of Memories Museum/City of Orient
- Williams Intermediate School Science Club (Davenport)
- Carlisle Garden Club
- Statewide Keep Iowa Beautiful

Local applicants received \$43,677 in funding to implement community projects related to litter removal, litter prevention, beautification, waste management or recycling, illegal dumping abatement, and public nuisance abatement. The remaining \$19,107 will be used for statewide efforts.

The next deadline for submittal of applications is Dec. 31, 2004. Project application forms are available online at: www.dot.state.ia.us/forms/index.htm.

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 515-323-6507.

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