The Community Landscape Beautification Awards Program continues the Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association’s Plant Michigan Green initiative by recognizing outstanding communities for their excellence in improving the physical and aesthetic environment of their neighborhoods and in raising the awareness of the positive economic growth and environmental impacts that quality landscaping brings to Michigan’s communities. These projects are designed to enhance the visual image of the neighborhoods, improve livability, build civic pride and promote community spirit.
Eligibility

To be eligible for a Community Landscape Beautification Award, the project must be a Non-Residential Landscape in a Community setting and meet the standards and entry rules as set forth by MNLA. Any Public Project is Eligible (i.e. parks, downtown streetscapes, gateway projects, etc.). Any Public Facility is Eligible (schools, University campuses, libraries, hospitals, etc.).

Entry Rules

Entries must be postmarked by July 1st. Entrant may be any member within the community with authority to submit the project. Entry must include: completed entry form, project description, and digital photos.
Project Description

Include the challenges of the project, unique concepts, horticultural practices and as many of the project elements as possible in the Project Description.

• Overall project design idea.
• What unique ideas or innovations were used?
• What obstacles were overcome in making improvements and developing the overall look?
• Were any measures taken to help conserve the environment?
• Are proper horticultural practices in place to properly care for the plant material in the project?
• How is the project being maintained?
• What comments have been received from neighbors or others about the design, improvements and/or maintenance?
• How has this property been inspiring to the community?
Judging Criteria

- Overall effect and impact on the area or neighborhood
- General care and overall maintenance
- Choice, quality and sustainability of plant materials and plant placement
- Color, patterns, textures, and seasonal color
- Gateway Elements – hardscapes, landscaping, street furnishings, and banners, etc.
- Overall project design and ease of movement through the site
- Quality of construction
- Degree of difficulty

Judging

All projects submitted are reviewed by the photos, project description, and any accompanying landscape plans. The description should provide the Judging Committee with a full understanding of the project.

Judging will be done by a panel of landscape professionals including landscape designers, architects, nurserymen, and/or educators. Projects will be judged based upon the Judging Criteria and include craftsmanship, proper horticultural practices, and relative contribution to the quality of the environment.

The judging process is “blind”, meaning that the entrant’s name, landscape designer, etc., are not revealed to the Judging Committee. The type, size, and cost of the project are not part of the judging criteria. Entries will be reviewed and judged from the project description and photo images submitted. Judges may visit the community and inspect the physical project site.
Judging Criteria

• Overall effect and impact on the area or neighborhood
• General care and overall maintenance
• Choice, quality and sustainability of plant materials and plant placement
• Color, patterns, textures, and seasonal color
• Gateway Elements – hardscapes, landscaping, street furnishings, and banners, etc.
• Overall project design and ease of movement through the site
• Quality of construction
• Degree of difficulty

Photos

All entries will be reviewed from the photo images submitted by the entrant. A maximum of 12 images can be submitted for each project.

• Only digital photos on a flash drive will be accepted.
• It is important that your photos be of the highest quality and provide an adequate and thorough view of your project.
• Candid photos of people utilizing the site demonstrate use and scale. Include focal points (i.e. walls, gates, statuary, people).
• If seasonal effects are important to the entry, photos of the same area within the site should be taken throughout the year.
Awards Announcement

The Judging Committee will review all submissions and entrants will be notified in July. The Community Landscape Beautification Award winners will be announced by the Michigan Nursery & Landscape Association recognizing those communities for their excellence in improving the physical and aesthetic environment of their communities and in raising the awareness of the positive economic growth and environmental impacts that quality landscaping brings to Michigan’s communities.

Award winners will receive a plaque and decorative metal sign commemorating the project’s Community Landscape Beautification Award during an Award Ceremony in August.

Winning projects will be featured in The Michigan Landscape magazine, in media press releases, and on our websites MNLA.org and PlantMichiganGreen.com.
Community Landscape Beautification Awards  
*Presented by the Michigan Nursery & Landscape Association*

**ENTRY FORM**

Complete and return this entry form for each project submitted. Entry must be postmarked by July 1st.

Community or Club Name *(as it should appear on recognition materials):*

________________________________________________________

Project Name *(as it should appear on recognition materials):*

________________________________________________________

Project Location Description: __________________________________________________________

Company/Organization Submitting Project: ________________________________________________

Contact Person: _____________________________________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________________________________________

Contact Phone Number: __________________________________________________________________

Email: ______________________________________________________________________________

Community Website: _____________________________________________________________________

*MNLA would like to recognize all of those involved in making the project possible:*

Project Designed By: ________________________________________________________________

Project Installed By: __________________________________________________________________

Project Maintained By: __________________________________________________________________

Subcontractors or Suppliers: __________________________________________________________________

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION** Submit a description of the project, including as many as possible of the project elements outlined in the Project Description section. *(To be submitted on a separate page).*

**NOTE** Only digital photos on a flash drive will be accepted. Mail flash drive with the entry form to the Association Office: MNLA, 2149 Commons Parkway, Okemos, MI 48864.

**RELEASE**

I verify that all of the information on this form and included in this award submittal is accurate. I also understand that all entry materials become property of MNLA. MNLA accepts no responsibility for copyrights or photographic fees. Entry will not be judged without an authorized signature. MNLA has our permission to use the project photos in promotion of the Community Landscape Beautification Awards. I also understand that MNLA may place my entry on its websites and in *The Michigan Landscape™* magazine for viewing.

Signature _____________________________________________________________________________

Title _______________________________ Date _______________________________
The Community Landscape Beautification Awards are presented by the Michigan Nursery & Landscape Association (MNLA). Since 1922, MNLA is the oldest and largest statewide Trade Association representing the Green Industry in Michigan.

You’ve done the hard work, now let the Green Industry recognize this valuable commitment to your community with a Community Landscape Beautification Award!

The great, Green Industry!

$5.715 billion

Michigan is the 4th largest Nursery State in the nation.

36,162

Number of individuals employed in Michigan’s Green Industry: According to U.S. Census Data, this equates to 1 out of every 170 Michigan citizens between the ages of 18-65

Questions?
Contact the Association Office at (517) 381-0437 or email: info@mnla.org
MNLA • 2149 Commons Parkway • Okemos, MI 48864

All brochure photos are prior Community Landscape Beautification Award winners.