



Photo Credit: William Beardsley, Iowa Wildlife Honorable Mention

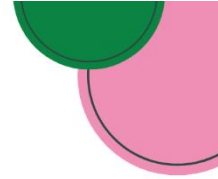
13th Annual Keep Iowa Beautiful Annual Photography Contest Submission

January 2024 Newsletter



Last Chance: Submit Applications for 2024 Keep Iowa Beautiful Scholarships

The application deadline is approaching for Keep Iowa Beautiful's 2024 scholarships!



These \$1,000 scholarships are a tribute to significant figures in Keep Iowa Beautiful history who have made remarkable contributions to Iowa communities.

LAST CHANCE to submit applications for 2024 SCHOLARSHIPS



keepiowabeautiful.org/grants-scholarships/scholarships/

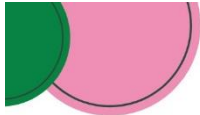
Applications due
January 31, 2024

- Application Deadline: January 31, 2024
- Notification of Winners: March 2024
- How to Apply: Visit [Keep Iowa Beautiful - Scholarships](https://keepiowabeautiful.org/grants-scholarships/scholarships/)

Don't miss out on these incredible opportunities to contribute to the beauty and prosperity of Iowa. Apply today and be a part of the positive change!

For more information about Keep Iowa Beautiful's scholarships, visit <https://keepiowabeautiful.org/grants-scholarships/scholarships/>.

Paint Iowa Beautiful 2024 Grant Applications Due Soon



2024 GRANTS

Applications due Feb. 12, 2024

keepiowabeautiful.org/grants-scholarships/grants/paint-iowa-beautiful/



The Paint Iowa Beautiful program, in collaboration with Diamond Vogel Paint, is accepting applications for 2024 grants!

This fantastic program offers free paint to a diverse range of community projects, enhancing the aesthetics of neighborhoods and public spaces. Administered by Keep Iowa Beautiful, this initiative invites communities to apply for grants to bring their creative visions to life.

[Learn More](#)

- Application Deadline: Monday, Feb. 12, 2024
- How to Apply: Visit [Keep Iowa Beautiful - Paint Iowa Beautiful](https://keepiowabeautiful.org/grants-scholarships/grants/paint-iowa-beautiful/)

Paint Iowa Beautiful Project Spotlights

Check out some of the great work happening thanks to Paint Iowa Beautiful grants!

Anamosa Arts Court Transforms Local Fence into Art Gallery

Thanks to local donations and a Paint Iowa Beautiful grant, the Anamosa Arts Court transformed the alley behind Main Street and Huber Street in **Anamosa, Iowa**, into a vibrant art showcase. Designed and painted by local artists and children's classes through Thou Art Gallery, six paintings on metal sheets now adorn the fence. What a great way to make the fence behind Main Street more colorful and vibrant!



Regency Retirement Residence is Repainted

The exterior siding and trim of the Regency Retirement Residence in **Sioux Center, Iowa**, was repainted after the Regency received a Paint Iowa Beautiful grant from Diamond Vogel and Keep Iowa Beautiful. An Open House will be held at the Regency Retirement Residence in celebration of the project after construction on Highway 75 is completed in 2024.

Hurstville Interpretive Center Receives New Coat of Paint

The Jackson County Conservation Board was able to paint the walls and ceiling in the Hurstville Interpretive Center in **Maquoketa, Iowa**, thanks to a Paint Iowa Beautiful grant from Keep Iowa Beautiful and Diamond Vogel.

The center was repainted in preparation for a new exhibit to be installed in the fall of 2024.



Hometown Pride: Cultivating Community Leaders

Keep Iowa Beautiful's Hometown Pride program brings coaches, community members and volunteers together to drive positive change in Iowa's hometowns. Our Hometown Pride coaches help support residents as they become strong local leaders through Hometown Pride. We asked the coaches to share stories about volunteers who have impressed them with their leadership. Here are a few of their responses:

Holy Cross, Iowa

"The Holy Cross committee is an incredibly **energetic, collaborative** and **cohesive** team of ladies! From the first meeting, they absorbed everything I shared about Hometown Pride, and volunteered for roles of Chair and Secretary. They decided they needed a couple more members and by the second meeting a month later, there were two more! Every event they plan, or project they are working on, they all contribute something. They always know who in the community to ask to help and go door to door with flyers for events so those who don't use technology are included. When they meet, it's like a well-oiled machine; they finish each other's thoughts, have honest discussions and respect everyone's opinions and come to a consensus without any drama. When they decide to do something, they get it done in the blink of an eye." A recent report from IEDA stated: "Holy Cross has a group of energetic people with the right attitude to do good things...this truly is where every community should start!"

~Tricia Wagner, Dubuque County
Hometown Pride Coach





[Learn More](#)

Earlville, Iowa

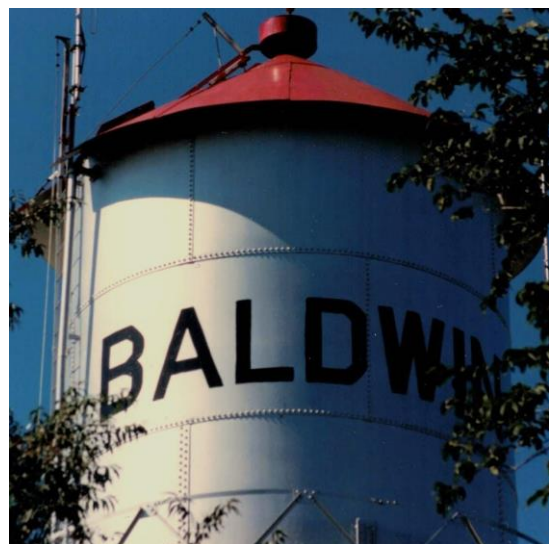
"We had a hard time getting a Hometown Pride group started...[but] once we got started, it was like the **leadership** came out of the woodwork! This [article](#) [featuring one of our Hometown Pride committee leaders] is a great example of how a community leader that doesn't maybe fit the narrative (a young mom and entrepreneur) and has done projects on her own (like the town's Sunday Market) has been inspired. I think she has always wanted to do a mobile coffee shop, but now she is even looking at a potential building to begin working on her dream. It's just a neat example of how getting a small group together can spur even more exciting projects. She is also inspiring her other Hometown Pride committee members, too!"

~Katie Steffensmeier, Delaware and Earlville Hometown Pride Coach

Baldwin, Iowa

"Baldwin (is a) small but mighty town. They don't get a lot of attention in Jackson County and...it's taken some time for us to get an idea to run with. But they are now **excited** and **empowered**. We wrote a Foundation grant for their park project and the community is excited. Two of my Hometown Pride members were at the awards ceremony and had donors come up to them and share how excited they are to see community members take pride in the small town."

~Amanda Dupont, Jackson County Hometown Pride Coach



Social Media Submissions

Keep Iowa Beautiful wants to share your community's good news!

Are you proud of a completed project in your town? Do you want to show off a new mural in your downtown? Tag us on social media so we can celebrate your good work!

You Can Stop Litter!

You can help reduce litter in Iowa!

When you see litter happening on Iowa's roadways, call 1-888-NOLITTR (1-888-665-4887) to report littering from a vehicle.

Please provide as much detail about the incident as possible:

- License plate number
- Time and specific location (street & city)
- What was thrown from the vehicle
- A vehicle description (color, make and model)

Reported offenders will receive a warning letter from Keep Iowa Beautiful drawing attention to their offense. This sends the message that people, like you, are watching.



Your Support Matters!

Consider supporting Keep Iowa Beautiful to help us continue our work improving Iowa communities! Remember: donations to Keep Iowa Beautiful are tax deductible!

Donations can be made online or checks can be mailed to our office:

Keep Iowa Beautiful

2910 Westown Pkwy. Suite 302

West Des Moines, IA 50266

[Donate](#)

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