

Special Awards

Don't forget to download your entry form to our Sponsored Special Awards at www.TidyTowns.ie €40,000 to be won for your community

Our Sponsored Special Awards are organised in parallel to the main competition and look to reward initiatives focused on improving your community.

Entry is open to all TidyTowns committees as well as other interested individuals or groups. This year to reduce paper use we are providing all the application forms for download at www.TidyTowns.ie or the Sponsors website. Entry into the Special Awards is purely voluntary and non-entry will not affect performance in the main competition.

Tourism Towns Award - Fáilte Ireland **Prize Fund €10,000**

The Tourism Towns Award is being organised by Fáilte Ireland in 2015 to support towns which have achieved a top 100 place in the SuperValu TidyTowns Competition in 2014 and which have an interest in tourism. A strong tourism sector contributes to the sustainability of towns and villages and to the economic viability of local businesses.

The prize fund this year is: Best Large Town - €5,000 Best Small Town - €5,000.

For more details see www.TidyTowns.ie or www.failteireland.ie

New this year: Value Water Award - Irish Water - Prize Fund €8,000

The aim of the Irish Water Value Water Award is to encourage communities to raise awareness of all aspects of sustainable water management. This could include community awareness campaigns around water conservation or it could involve focusing on raising awareness of local water sources and how to protect them.

It will reconnect communities with their water

and where it comes from and reward communities by recognising positive impacts of TidyTowns activities on the sustainable supply of water to their community and environment.

The Prize Fund this year for the four regional winners is: Best Large Town - €1,000
Best Small Town - €1,000.

For more details see www.TidyTowns.ie or www.water.ie

New this year: SuperValu Youth Award **A Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government Award** **Prize Fund €5,000**

The SuperValu Youth Award is a new initiative of the SuperValu TidyTowns competition which aims to celebrate the contribution of young people and to encourage greater youth involvement with TidyTowns groups. The award is for young people aged under 18 years of age. Awards will be made at National and Regional level for projects which substantially involve young people, working together with their local TidyTowns group, to deliver benefits to their local community.

See www.tidytowns.ie and www.supervalu.ie for full details.

Four Regional Award Winners - €1,000 Each

There will also be an additional prize of €1,000 for the overall winner of the four regions.

Climate Change Award – Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government **Prize of €5,000**

The aim of the TidyTowns Climate Change Award is to raise awareness of climate change, to recognise the positive environmental impacts of TidyTowns activities in each locality and to encourage participation in projects addressing climate change.
For more details see www.TidyTowns.ie or www.environ.ie

Gum Litter Taskforce (GLT) Competition **Prize Fund of €5,000**

The GLT would like to reward communities that are implementing environmental awareness initiatives to eliminate chewing gum litter in their area.

Special Awards

You could win up to €3,000 for your community by answering 7 questions.

There are two GLT categories as follows:

Category A: €2,000 prize fund - Village and Small Town entry

Category B €2,000 prize fund - Large Towns and Urban Centre entry

There will also be an additional prize of €1,000 for the overall winner of the two categories.

For more details see www.TidyTowns.ie or www.gumlittertaskforce.ie/tidy-town-awards.html

Waste Prevention Award - Environmental Protection Agency - Prize Fund of €2,000

The EPA Waste Prevention Award is to recognise communities that have undertaken activities to prevent waste and use resources efficiently. Any initiatives to reduce: waste, water use, energy use, or use of materials is included; whether by the community, householders, businesses, schools, with your local authority, or other organisations.

The overall national winner will receive a €1,000 prize, with 2 national runner-up prizes of €500 each.

For more details, including the entry form, see www.tidytowns.ie or localprevention.ie/tidytowns.

Can It! 2015 - Alupro Ireland - Prize of €2,000

Alupro Ireland (Aluminium Packaging Recycling Organisation) was founded in 2007, to help stimulate awareness and focus the public interest on aluminium packaging recycling and the benefit in protecting our natural resources by recycling our aluminium packaging.

Can It has been running as a successful partnership between Alupro Ireland and the TidyTowns Unit with some wonderful results from schools and community groups around Ireland taking part and working hard to produce some creative artworks from used aluminium cans and foils. We have had all sorts from schools projects to bring bank signage, to windmills, dragons and sharks. We hope to see many more artworks and ingenious ideas on how to re-use your used aluminium packaging in 2015.

For more details see www.TidyTowns.ie or www.aluproireland.ie

Sustainable Development Award – Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government - Prize of €1,000

The Sustainable Development Award recognises communities that are putting Sustainable Development principles into practice and how

this development benefits the wider community. The most common definition of sustainable development is development that “meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”. Sustainable development considers how we grow economically, environmentally and socially and aims to achieve balance between the three.

For more details see www.TidyTowns.ie or www.environ.ie

Heritage Award - Heritage Council Prize of €1,000

The Heritage Award seeks to promote a greater awareness of the contribution of heritage to our quality of life and to sustainable economic development. In particular the Heritage Council seeks to recognise projects that benefit heritage, involve the community and motivate people.

For more details see www.TidyTowns.ie or www.heritagecouncil.ie

Tree Project Award - Tree Council of Ireland Prize of €1,000

The Tree Project Award recognises the huge impact that properly positioned trees can have in a town or village and the importance of having the right tree in the right place. It is essential that careful thought is put into not only the planting but also the management of the trees over their life-span. The award rewards the TidyTowns Committee which has demonstrated the highest tree placement and maintenance standards.

For more details see www.TidyTowns.ie or www.treecouncil.ie

Please return all your completed application forms to:

**TidyTowns Unit,
Department of the Environment,
Community and Local Government,
Government Offices,
Ballina,
Co. Mayo**

**Closing Date:
Friday 22nd May 2015**