Peoria, AZ wins America in Bloom Award

Peoria, AZ was the winner of one of eight criteria awards, The Scotts Co. Turf & Groundcover Areas Award, announced during the sixth annual America in Bloom (AIB) Symposium and Awards Program at the Clock Tower Resort last year in Rockford, IL.

STMA Board Secretary Chris Calcaterra, M.Ed., CSFM, CPRP, is manager of the City of Peoria Sports Complex.

AIB is a national campaign and contest that promotes enhancing communities through beautification. In the friendly competition, communities are matched by population and evaluated on their efforts related to floral displays, urban forestry, landscaped areas, turf and groundcover, tidiness, environmental awareness, heritage conservation, and community involvement. Judges visited the communities this summer.

Special awards were presented to communities which received high marks out of all contestants in all population categories. These include:
- Ball Horticultural Company Floral Displays Award: Saratoga Springs, NY
- Meister Media Worldwide Heritage Preservation Award: Norwich, CT
- Project Evergreen Landscaped Areas Award: Beloit, WI
- American Horticultural Society Community Involvement Award: Kirkwood, MO
- Gardens Alive! Environmental Awareness Award: Red Wing, MN
- Lesco/John Deere Landscapes Tidiness Award: Greendale, IN
- J Frank Schmidt & Son Company Urban Forestry Award: Ithaca, NY

Plans are underway for the 2008 edition of AIB. Communities can register to participate at www.americainbloom.org.