



# Tidy Towns Awards 2023

## ENTRY KIT



**Entries close Thursday 10 August 2023**



### **Introducing the new Tidy Towns First Nation Logo**

Over the years, Tidy Towns has seen many brand iterations, however this latest logo design proudly represents First Nation elements/motifs as our way to recognise the importance of so many incredible communities that have taken part in these awards along the Tidy Towns journey.

Communities (circles) with strong connections to land and waterways and close relationships with other communities/meeting sites of importance (dots) in the local area.

[kabnsw.org.au/sustainability-awards-nsw/tidy-towns/](https://kabnsw.org.au/sustainability-awards-nsw/tidy-towns/)

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*Cover image: 2023 Tidy Towns Overall Winner: Scone*

## Key Program Dates

<b>Entries Open:</b>	April 2023
<b>Entries Close:</b>	10 August 2023
<b>Judging</b>	Aug- Sep 2022
<b>Winner announced @ Tidy Towns Awards Weekend</b>	3 - 5 Nov 2023

We encourage all entrants to attend the awards event to celebrate their own and other's achievements. We ask that if you enter the awards that you make yourself available to attend the awards weekend in November.





# Chief Executive Officer's Message

## Welcome to the NSW Tidy Towns Awards for 2023!

2023 marks Keep Australia Beautiful NSW's (KAB NSW) 42<sup>nd</sup> year of rewarding and recognising the towns, communities, organisations, and individuals that are working tirelessly towards a more sustainable future. Over the years we have been showcasing projects and programs around litter, waste, heritage, communications, education, community spirit, biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and individual achievement. While our categories are periodically changing to reflect the most urgent areas of environmental action, we remain consistent in our search for projects that enhance NSW's future sustainability.

So, what does a sustainable future look like for rural and regional Australia? While sustainability means different things to different people, we here at KAB NSW take a holistic approach in its definition and say that sustainability is the consistent drive to improve our relationship with the environment while creating a better way of life for all. Keeping this front of mind, the defining and most crucial element of any winning town, project, or program is that it achieves harmony between economic, social, and environmental needs, and that it is innovative in its design, inclusive in its planning, and effective in its approach.

When we think about sustainability in this way, we are capturing the true essence of what it means to be crowned the next Tidy Town or the next category winner. These awards are an opportunity to reflect on all the amazing achievements from our entrants as much as they are an opportunity to learn from each other's experiences.

I wish all the entrants the best for their future sustainability endeavours, and we look forward to showcasing the fantastic projects happening across our state.



Warm regards,

Val Southam  
Chief Executive and Executive Director  
Keep Australia Beautiful NSW

# About Tidy Towns

Since 1981, the Tidy Towns Awards Program has been rewarding and giving recognition to projects that reduce litter, minimise waste, encourage recycling, promote heritage and culture, habitat and coastal protection, celebrate community spirit and many other environmental areas.

The Tidy Towns Awards Program provides a place to showcase your achievements and celebrate with others.

Show NSW what you have been achieving. We invite you to take part in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Keep Australia Beautiful NSW Awards this year.



## About KAB NSW

Keep Australia Beautiful NSW (KAB NSW) are the leaders in transforming behaviour to create a less littered and more environmentally sustainable New South Wales.

With a legacy of successful community engagement since 1975, our programs inspire individuals, students, organisations, businesses and government to actively care for their local environment.

We deliver many programs throughout the state to promote sustainability and reduce litter:

- Tidy Towns Awards
- Sustainable Cities Awards
- EnviroMentors®
- Annual Litter Congress
- Local Government Litter Index

To find out more visit [www.kabnsw.org.au](http://www.kabnsw.org.au).







## 2023 Category Updates

Over our 42 years of running Tidy Towns a lot has changed across NSW, Australia, and the world. To ensure that our program maintains its relevance it is important to review our categories from time to time to reflect the most pressing issues we are facing in the environment, across our cities, and throughout our communities.

Our aim with these changes is to:

- Ensure entrants can easily identify the right category for their program or project
- Broaden the scope of our categories to include all important areas of sustainability
- Ensure our categories and entry requirements are inclusive for all.

For 2023, we have created new categories, removed categories, renamed categories, combined categories, and created sub-categories. Below you can see the changes we have made and the reasoning behind those changes.

As always, we welcome and encourage your feedback and suggestions, so please reach out to us if there is anything we can do to make the Sustainability Awards better.

### 2022 Categories

- Litter Prevention
- Resource Recovery & Waste Minimisation
- Circular Economy
- Recycled Organics
- Communications & Engagement
- Community Spirit & Inclusion
- Habitat & Wildlife Conservation
- Heritage & Culture
- Renewable Energy
- Waterways & Marine Protection
- Young Legends
- Overall Sustainable Cities Award

### 2023 Categories

- Litter Prevention
- Resource Recovery & Waste Minimisation
- Circular Economy
- Communications & Engagement
- Heritage & Culture
- Bush Spirit
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation
- Local Legends
- Sustainability in Agriculture
- Overall Tidy Towns Award

# 2023 Category Updates

Category Change	Rationale
The <b>Community Spirit &amp; Inclusion</b> category has been renamed <b>Bush Spirit</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reverting back to the original name for this category. Bush Spirit has greater relevance for the Tidy Town Awards and better encapsulates the spirit of our rural and regional areas of NSW.</li> </ul>
The <b>Habitat and Wildlife Conservation</b> (HWC) and <b>Waterways and Marine Protection</b> (WMP) categories have been combined to become the Biodiversity Conservation Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A lot of entries for WMP related to preventing litter or removing litter from waterways and marine environments, projects of this nature are now to be entered into the Litter Prevention Award (see below for further explanation).</li> <li>All other projects involving waterways or marine environments are essentially aiming to conserve or regenerate aquatic biodiversity.</li> <li>Simplification of award title – Habitat and Wildlife (i.e. biodiversity).</li> <li>Biodiversity needs to be approached holistically, for example, conserving terrestrial biodiversity will improve aquatic biodiversity and vice versa.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Litter Prevention</b> will now have two sub-categories:</p> <p>a) Clean Communities Award</p> <p>b) Clean Waterways Award</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide a clear category for all entries relating to preventing litter or removing litter from aquatic environments.</li> <li>To reflect the NSW EPAs strategic shift towards preventing litter from ending up in our aquatic environments.</li> </ul>
<b>Resource Recovery and Waste Minimisation</b> will incorporate the <b>Recycled Organics</b> category.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce the number of categories and encourage more projects that are aimed at recovering natural resources (water, organic materials) as well as inorganic resources.</li> </ul>
<b>Renewable Energy</b> renamed to <b>Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renewable energy projects often require significant investment from the corporate sector, Councils, or the State Government.</li> <li>To improve the inclusivity of the category and to broaden the scope to include all projects that help us mitigate and/or adapt to the impacts of climate change.</li> </ul>
<b>Young Legends</b> to be renamed <b>Local Legends</b> with three age categories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Legends will now have three categories: &lt; 25 years old, 25 years to 65 years, &gt; 65 years old.</li> <li>There are individuals in other age brackets that are achieving incredible things for our communities and environment and they should be celebrated as well.</li> </ul>

# Alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals

For the first time this year, KAB NSW will be aligning each category with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs). The United Nations 17 Sustainability Development Goals - as a blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, and an urgent call for action by all countries - serve as a great benchmark when thinking about community programs and global impact. It's a way for us all to remind one another of how crucial community effort is in ensuring a safe, sustainable, and equitable world.

	<b>Litter Prevention Award</b>					
	<b>Circular Economy Award</b>					
	<b>Resource Recovery &amp; Waste Minimisation Award</b>					
	<b>Communication &amp; Engagement Award</b>					
	<b>Bush Spirit Award</b>					
	<b>Heritage &amp; Culture Award</b>					
	<b>Climate Change Mitigation &amp; Adaptation Award</b>					
	<b>Biodiversity Conservation Award</b>					
	<b>Sustainability in Agriculture Award</b>					
	<b>Local Legends Award</b>					



# WHO CAN ENTER?

The Tidy Towns Awards are open to any organisation, individual, or community group in rural, regional, and coastal towns and villages across NSW.

**If you or your organisation, town or village is based within the following local government areas you should enter the Tidy Towns Awards Program:**

- Albury
- Armidale
- Ballina
- Balranald
- Bathurst
- Bega Valley
- Bellingen
- Berrigan
- Bland
- Blayney
- Bogan
- Bourke
- Brewarrina
- Broken Hill
- Byron Shire
- Cabonne
- Carrathool
- Central Coast
- Central Darling
- Cessnock
- Lithgow
- Clarence Valley
- Cobar
- Coffs Harbour
- Coolamon
- Coonamble
- Cootamundra-Gundagai
- Cowra
- Dubbo
- Dungog
- Edward River
- Eurobodalla
- Federation
- Forbes
- Gilgandra
- Glen Innes Severn
- Goulburn Mulwaree
- Greater Hume
- Griffith
- Gunnedah
- Gwydir
- Hay
- Hilltops
- Inverell
- Junee
- Kempsey
- Kyogle
- Lachlan
- Lake Macquarie
- Leeton
- Lismore
- Liverpool Plains
- Lockhart
- Maitland
- Mid-Coast
- Mid-Western
- Moree Plains
- Murray
- Murrumbidgee
- Muswellbrook
- Nambucca Valley
- Narrabri
- Narrandera
- Narromine
- Oberon
- Orange
- Parkes
- Port Macquarie-Hastings
- Port Stephens
- Queanbeyan-Palerang
- Richmond Valley
- Shellharbour
- Shoalhaven
- Singleton
- Snowy Monaro
- Snowy Valleys
- Tamworth
- Temora
- Tenterfield
- Kiama
- Tweed Shire
- Upper Hunter
- Upper Lachlan
- Uralla
- Wagga Wagga
- Walcha
- Walgett
- Warren
- Warrumbungle
- Weddin
- Wentworth
- Wingecarribee
- Yass

*For any organisation or individual located in the Greater Sydney Metropolitan Area, City of Newcastle local government area, and Wollongong City local government area, please refer to the Sustainable Cities Awards Program.*

## POPULATION CATEGORIES

- Population Category A: ≤ 1,500
- Population category B: 1,501-5000
- Population category C: 5001-12,000
- Population category D: 12,001-23,000
- Population category E: > 23,001

**To confirm the population of your town, please refer to the most recent Census data**



# AWARDS CATEGORIES



## Litter Prevention Award

Sponsored by NSW EPA



The Litter Prevention Award is for a project or program that reduces or prevents litter. Projects should demonstrate inventive techniques that specifically address local litter issues with quantifiable outcomes. The Litter Prevention Award for 2023 will have two sub-categories:

- Clean Communities Award - for land-based litter prevention initiatives
- Clean Waterways Award - for marine-based litter prevention initiatives

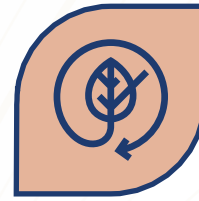
This could include projects that use one or more of the following approaches:

- Behaviour change initiatives to prevent litter.
- New or effective ways to communicate about litter and its impacts.
- Building partnerships or networks to prevent litter.
- Enforcement techniques to reduce litter.
- Creation of effective infrastructure and place design to reduce litter such as signage, bins, and other landscaping.

*Projects that use more than one of these approaches will be highly regarded.*

### Examples of eligible projects may include:

- A litter reduction campaign which engages the community
- Stormwater drain filters.
- A project or program aimed at a specific section of the community - for example, children, young people, culturally and linguistically diverse groups, Indigenous communities.
- Community fundraising initiatives through participation in the Return and Earn Scheme.
- A project aimed at addressing litter with a long-term solution based on behaviour change techniques.
- Innovative strategies to target litter for example, signage or the phasing out plastic bags/bottles.



## Resource Recovery & Waste Minimisation Award

The Resource Recovery and Waste Management Award is for projects or programs that conserve, recycle or minimise wastage of our everyday resources, which include water, food & organic materials, and waste materials. Projects should demonstrate inventive techniques that specifically address local waste problems, with quantifiable effective outcomes.

### Examples of eligible projects may include:

- Infrastructure projects that collect water runoff to be used to water parks or gardens.
- Water conservation education campaigns.
- Projects that use recycling and prevent waste material going to landfill.
- The development of a Waste Management Strategy and Action Plan.
- A local group addressing the problem of food waste in their community.
- The planning and implementation of a program that facilitates appropriate disposal of items, for example, free drop-offs to help tackle illegal dumping or management of event sites.

# AWARDS CATEGORIES



## Circular Economy Award

Sponsored by NSW EPA



The Circular Economy Award is for any operationally viable projects in the circular economy which do, or could potentially, divert solid materials, fluids or energy from waste streams and return them to the productive economy.

The NSW EPA defines a circular economy as follows:

*A circular economy values resources by keeping products and materials in use for as long as possible. Maximising the use and value of resources brings major economic, social and environmental benefits. It contributes to innovation, growth, and job creation, while reducing our impact on the environment.*

NSW will transition towards a circular economy by focusing on seven key principles:

1. Sustainable management of all resources.
2. Valuing resource productivity.
3. Design out waste and pollution.
4. Maintain the value of products and materials.
5. Innovate new solutions for resource efficiency.
6. Create new circular economy jobs.
7. Foster behaviour change through education and engagement.

Projects or programs that apply more than one of these principles will be highly regarded. Initiatives that demonstrate an in-depth systems thinking approach by providing one of the following will also be highly regarded:

- Evidence of Life Cycle Analysis.
- Cost Benefit Analysis.
- Demonstrated Financial Sustainability of the initiative.

### Examples of eligible projects may include:

- Design, planning or implementation of a program specifically designed to collect and process material resources to be either re-purposed or recycled into a marketable resource/ product.
- The development of a business extended producer responsibility scheme that supports the environmentally sound management of products and materials over their life, including at the end of their useful life, by; ensuring ownership and responsibility for actions to minimise the negative impacts from products, ensuring the avoidance or minimisation of waste, and maximising reuse, repair and recycling of products and materials throughout their life cycle.
- A financed project in pre-commercial development or a scheme in commercial operation.



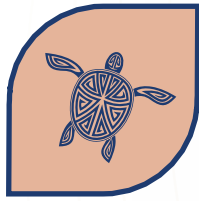
## Communication & Engagement Award

The Communication & Engagement Award is for programs and projects that inspire environmental action, through:

- Education and communication campaigns that raise awareness of environmental sustainability for topics such as energy, water or waste reduction to create empowerment and behaviour change amongst the target audience.
- Developing and building communication partnerships that enable sharing of resources, ideas and knowledge.
- Creating spaces and places for environmental communication programs that demonstrate ideas and practical solutions for the community.

### Examples of eligible projects may include:

- A series of education workshops on a range of topics that inspire community to share ideas and learn about environmental issues.
- Regional education programs that specifically target behaviours of a group around a specific issue (for example, wood fire smoke or illegal dumping).
- A council that has implemented an effective communication program, ranging from media campaigns to multi-dimensional campaigns which tackle a problem from different angles.



## Heritage & Culture Award

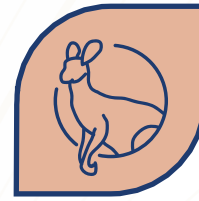
The Heritage and Culture Award is for community projects that enhance and protect either our built heritage, natural heritage, or indigenous cultural heritage.

Projects may include:

- Commitment to the conservation of built heritage, such as a building and/or other infrastructure restoration.
- Education projects and/or research into an area's heritage.
- Conservation actions which promote and support indigenous heritage.
- Community engagement initiatives that promote indigenous community's and enhance indigenous culture.
- Proactive long-term planning that allows an area's Aboriginal heritage to be preserved.

### Examples of eligible projects may include:

- An program that works to strengthen indigenous culture and progress social outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and individuals.
- The protection of significant natural areas that are an integral part of the history of an area.
- A Heritage Centre (or similar) that promotes heritage and facilitates local history documentation in an area.
- The restoration of an area, heritage building or other infrastructure.
- An event that recognises the history of an area, such as a cultural festival.
- Education which provides for the ongoing existence of the Aboriginal heritage and culture of an area. For example, the teaching and preservation of language.



## Bush Spirit Award

The Bush Spirit Award is awarded to communities that successfully demonstrate strong community spirit and inclusion in the face of ongoing challenges. This award is given to communities that refuse to 'give in' when facing a challenge.

### Examples of eligible projects may include:

- A community coming together to restore and rebuild a community hub.
- Events, programs, or festivals that celebrate and promote bush spirit and inclusion.
- Activities to promote civic pride, create community awareness, cohesion, and wellbeing.
- Innovative approaches to community engagement, such as communications strategies or alternative methods of delivering events, programs, or festivals.
- A community supporting each other at a time of crisis – such as through the recent flood relief efforts, COVID-19 pandemic, or in bushfire recovery.



### Exclusive offer from TerraCycle for awards entrants

The Zero Waste Box™ system is the all-in-one recycling solution from TerraCycle® that can be used by everyone to recycle everything - diverting traditionally non-recyclable waste from landfill.

The Zero Waste Box system is a perfect option for any home, school, or business looking to have a positive impact and reduce their waste being sent to landfill.

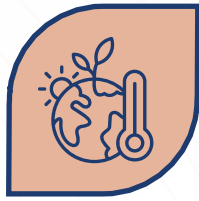
All entrants will receive 20% off their very own Zero Waste Box from TerraCycle. Your code will be sent to you on completion of your entry.

The winners of each category will win a FREE Zero Waste Box of their choosing.

**[Click here to find out more about the Zero Waste Box™](#)**



# AWARDS CATEGORIES



## Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Award

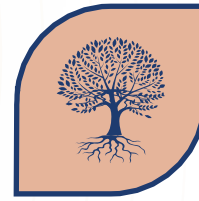
*Sponsored by Snowy Hydro*



The Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation Award is for projects that strengthen resilience to the impacts of climate change, reduce emissions, or sequester carbon from the atmosphere. This includes projects that enable our communities to better anticipate, manage and adapt to our changing climate. We believe that mitigation and adaptation building are a shared responsibility that requires sustained and ongoing action. Successful projects will demonstrate a comprehensive approach by considering the natural environment, the built environment, social impacts, and economic impacts.

### Examples of eligible projects may include:

- Improving erosion proofing to protect coastal infrastructure from rising sea levels.
- Developing or improving renewable energy generation or usage within an organisation.
- Reducing reliance on fossil fuels within a community.
- Products, projects, or infrastructure that facilitate the use of renewable energy.
- Improving business accountability for and reporting of energy use.
- Long term plans to reduce energy demand, especially energy sourced from fossil fuels.
- Long term planning supporting the likely impacts of climate change and increased extreme weather events.
- Education programs which provide knowledge and support for individuals, students and communities to learn, discuss and voice concerns.
- Research and scholarship projects that look closely at likely impacts and possible solutions.



## Biodiversity Conservation Award

The Biodiversity Conservation Award is for projects which regenerate, conserve, or advance scientific understanding of biodiversity in terrestrial and marine ecosystems:

- Projects created to restore or protect the biodiversity of a terrestrial and/or marine environment.
- Leadership in the promotion and advocacy for conserving local biodiversity.
- Actions which improve the biodiversity in that area, through community participation.
- Partnerships that encourage the community to be proactive in the conservation of biodiversity.
- Research projects that aim to improve scientific understanding, improve conservation or regeneration efforts, or raise awareness.
- Policy or mission that supports the protection of local biodiversity in an area.

### Examples of eligible projects may include:

- Education programs and projects that raise awareness about local threatened species and their protection.
- Biodiversity restoration projects or studies taken in a particular area to enhance scientific understanding of a particular ecosystem, species, or habitat.
- Development or upgrades to community or local nurseries which provide greater access to local provenance species.
- Supporting community participation in projects such as fauna and flora conservation. Includes promotion and education, data collection and mapping, community involvement and feedback.
- Development of, or increased involvement by the community in Landcare, Bushcare, Dunecare or other community projects that assists in enhancing biodiversity.



## Sustainability in Agriculture Award

The Sustainability in Agriculture Award is for producers, businesses or organisations that are taking steps to produce food and fibre in ways that conserve or regenerate biodiversity and/or reduce the environmental impacts of their operations.

The Australian Farming Institute identifies 17 overarching principles of sustainability for the Australian agriculture industry under the three themes of environment stewardship; people, animals and community; and economic resilience. These 17 principles of sustainability in agriculture are to provide a benchmark for the numerous ways in which producers, businesses, or organisations can improve their operations, they are:

1. Net anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are limited to minimise climate change.
2. Adverse impacts to air quality are avoided or minimised.
3. Soil health and functionality are protected and enhanced.
4. Landscape degradation is avoided or minimised.
5. Biodiverse ecological communities are protected and enhanced.
6. Water resources are used responsibly and equitably.
7. Finite resources are safeguarded in circular economic systems.
8. Safe agricultural outputs are produced for public consumption.
9. Safe working environments are provided for employees.
10. Fair access to a decent livelihood is provided within the industry.
11. Discrimination is not tolerated in an inclusive industry.
12. Farmed animals are given the best care for whole of life.
13. Society benefits from the agricultural industry's positive

contribution.

14. Biosecurity threats are assessed, mitigated and effectively managed in systems of continuous improvement.
15. All industry participants behave ethically and lawfully.
16. Resilience is protected and enhanced by assessment, mitigation and management of risks.
17. Unconscionable conduct is eliminated from the supply chain via demonstrated transparency and accountability.

### Examples of eligible projects may include:

- Reducing GHG emissions of on-farm production and storage, or transportation by utilizing renewable energy sources or by increasing efficiencies in the supply chain.
- Developing or implementing a crop rotation strategy to enhance soil health.
- Utilising multi-species cropping and cover crops, planned or rotational grazing strategies.
- Participation in carbon farming initiatives or private land conservation efforts to increase carbon sequestration.
- Implementation of circular economy and/or product stewardship principles into operations. Such as, silage plastic recycling schemes, DrumMuster, or ChemClear.
- Implementing innovative water management strategies designed to increase soil water retention and improve environmental flows into tributaries, creeks and rivers.
- Local or regional education and training programs to assist producers and businesses in transitioning to more sustainable production practices.

# AWARDS CATEGORIES



## Local Legends Award

The Local Legends Award is for an individual, school or a group of individuals who demonstrate outstanding commitment to their environment and show leadership in pursuing environmental outcomes in any of the above categories.

**We encourage all entrants to nominate at least one Local Legend (individual or group) for this category.**

The Local Legends Award is now open to three age categories:

- < 25 years of age
- > 25 and < 65 years of age
- > 65 years of age

**Demonstration of commitment and leadership may be through:**

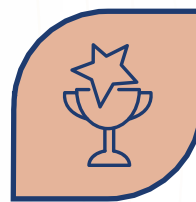
- Advocating for change in the local area, though, for example, participation on committees or clean-up activities, volunteering at community nurseries, Scouts, CWAs, Men's Sheds, Bushcare (to name a few).
- Programs that encourage mentoring and development of sustainability throughout a school community or the wider community.
- Working in partnership with other organisations to make significant change in relation to the environment.
- The adoption of sustainable methods in operations such as retrofitting school, aged-care, or public infrastructure or undertaking of whole of community behaviour change programs.

## School & Student Entries

**Are you entering as a school or as a student?**

You may also be eligible to participate in Eco-Schools and Young Reporters for the Environment!

Click on the logos below to find out more or contact the KAB Education Team by email to [hailey@kab.org.au](mailto:hailey@kab.org.au).



## Overall Tidy Towns Award

The Overall Award is awarded to a Town that has successfully undertaken projects or actions in multiple areas of environmental sustainability and social inclusion.

To be eligible for the Overall NSW Tidy Towns Award you must be a town, township or village in one of the local government areas listed on page 8. There are two ways to enter the Overall Tidy Towns Award:

1. Submit an Overall Tidy Towns Award entry form, this will enable you to enter multiple categories within one entry.
2. Submit four (4) or more individual category entries.

Towns may include entries by multiple organisations within the town area, for example entries from a Council, school, charity and local business.

Towns that qualify will be assessed by an on-the-ground assessor who will visit your projects in August/September. Exact times and dates to be confirmed with each Town before the assessor arrives.

To enter your Council as a candidate for the NSW Tidy Towns Award, we ask for some additional information:

1. Provide a brief description of your Town (25 words)
2. What is the Town known for? (Key features)
3. What are the Town's main industries?
4. How do you promote/communicate information about sustainability initiatives?
5. Tell us about the level of community awareness of and participation in sustainability initiatives.

You will be asked to reference the individual Award Categories that have been entered on behalf of your Town and will be given the opportunity to provide additional information.

Overall entries that demonstrate cross community cooperation and a deep commitment to the principles of sustainability will be highly regarded.

## Australian Tidy Towns Awards

Overall Tidy Towns winners may have the opportunity to enter the Keep Australia Beautiful National Association 2024 Australian Tidy Towns Awards which will be hosted by the 2023 Australian winner.



# Frequently Asked Questions

**Where can I find examples of past entries and projects?**

Details on previous year's projects are available in the awards Winners Books which can be downloaded from the KAB NSW website ([click here](#)) or visit [kabnsw.org.au](http://kabnsw.org.au) > What we do > Sustainability Awards NSW > Tidy Towns 2023 > Tidy Towns Past Winners.

**Which Award program should I be in, Sustainable Cities or Tidy Towns?**

If you are not in the Greater Sydney, City of Newcastle, or Wollongong City area's, then you should enter Tidy Towns.

**If my initiative is multi-disciplinary and I'm not sure which category it belongs in, can I enter the same initiative in multiple categories?**

We get it, some projects are big and therefore span potentially multiple categories, you can enter your initiative in multiple categories, but your responses must be tailored specifically to the categories you wish to enter.

**Can I enter multiple projects in the same category?**

Yes, absolutely!

**Can I include other projects that have taken place in my Council for our overall entry?**

Yes! We will ask you to demonstrate some collaboration in the project.

**Does my initiative have to be completed in order to enter?**

No. If your initiative is underway, we want to hear all about it.

**If my program began over two years ago, but it is still operating, can I enter?**

Yes! Whether or not you have entered this program before, we want to hear about your ongoing programs!

**I entered a project last year; can I enter again this year?**

Yes! Just be sure to demonstrate that you have made progress on your project in the last 12 months.

**My project is operating in multiple locations, which Council do I say it's from?**

In this case, nominate the town in which you or your organisation are based, whether that's an office location or a place of residence.

**How do I start a Tidy Towns Committee for my community?**

The process for starting a Tidy Towns Committee will vary from Council to Council, please reach out to our team for more information.

**Who can I contact if I have any questions relating to my entry?**

You can contact the KAB NSW Team at [awards@kabnsw.org.au](mailto:awards@kabnsw.org.au).

# Preparing + Submitting Your Entry

Before you begin completing the online form, we recommend you collate your submission material so that you can simply copy and paste/upload the respective content into the form. Please refer to the list below for the required information, a Microsoft Word template is available on the [awards program page of the KAB NSW website](#).

## MAIN CONTACT - for correspondence relating to your entry

- Name
- Organisation
- Postal Address
- Phone
- Email

## ABOUT YOUR PROJECT

- **Please select the award category you wish to enter**
- **Name of project** (max 40 characters including spaces, please enter as you would wish it to appear on any awards)
- **Project Owner** (please enter your organisation/committee name as you would wish it to appear on awards)
- **Type of Organisation:** Group; Business / Enterprise; Individual; Organisation (NGO, NFP); Local Authority; School
- **Number of people directly involved in your project/program**
- **Approximate community reach of your project**
- **Project Overview.** 125 words max. NOTE: This information will be used for awards promotions. No score will be assigned to this section. In your response, please address: What challenge was this initiative seeking to address? How did you address the challenge (What did you do)? Who were the main stakeholders? What were the key outcomes/achievements? What did you learn/what would you change for next time?
- **Hero Image** - Please provide one main image in **LANDSCAPE** format that best encapsulates the spirit of your project. We appreciate your efforts to ensure these are high resolution (e.g. 300dpi or minimum file size of 1MB). Note, you may supply additional images in the attachment section.

## ABOUT YOUR TOWN

- **Town Name**
- **Population Category**
- **Which Local Government Area is your Project in?** If your LGA is not listed here then you most likely should be entering the Tidy Towns Awards Program, please visit <https://www.kabnsw.org.au/sustainability-awards-nsw/tidy-cities-2023/> for information and the entry form link.
- **Contact at Council** (if known)

## MEDIA AND PROMOTIONS

- **Media Contact**
  - Name
  - Phone
  - Email
- **Social Media Tags**
  - FaceBook
  - Instagram
  - Twitter
  - LinkedIn
  - Please list your local newspaper(s), radio stations and any other media contacts (it would be very helpful if you can provide their social media tags).

## SUPPORTING ATTACHMENTS

- **To support your entry you may upload up to 10 attachments.** These may be photographs or documents (e.g. reports). It will assist the judges if you reference any attachments within your Entry Questions and we encourage you to upload photos and videos as these can be used to promote your project through KAB NSW and other channels. All photos submitted to Keep Australia Beautiful NSW may be used for promotion and marketing purposes and you must ensure that you have permission from all individuals featured in any photographs prior to submitting your entry.
- **You may also upload or link to videos.** This can be used to answer ALL OF THE CRITERIA as set out by the online portal.

## ENTRY QUESTIONS (100 words per question)

- 1. Background:** Provide a summary of the history of the initiative.
  - a. What is the history of the initiative?
  - b. How was the need identified?
- 2. Partnerships & Collaboration:** Identify the key stakeholders involved in the initiative.
  - a. Who was involved in the initiative?
  - b. How was the community, stakeholders and/or partners engaged in the initiative?
- 3. Planning & Delivery:** Describe the planning and the delivery of the initiative.
  - a. What were the steps involved in planning for the initiative?
  - b. How was the initiative delivered?
- 4. Implementation:** Discuss the opportunities and challenges that arose when developing and implementing the project.
  - a. What opportunities arose from the initiative?
  - b. What challenges did you face?
- 5. Evaluation & Learnings:** How did you evaluate the success of the initiative and what did you learn?
  - a. How did you evaluate the overall success of the initiative?
  - b. What impact did the initiative have?
  - c. What did you learn and what will you improve on for the future?

## Category Specific Question (500 words max)

Category	Question
Resource Recovery and Waste Minimisation	In what ways will the project lead to long term reduction in waste in your community and increase recycling?
Litter Prevention	In what ways will the project lead to long term litter reduction in your community?
Circular Economy	Describe how your project shows a long-term commitment into the diversion of wastes into the productive economy?
Communication and Engagement	Describe how your project provides long term solutions for your community to continue to learn from and continue in their education about your environmental campaign?
Bush Spirit	Describe how your project provides an ongoing solution to the issue being addressed and how this has been embedded in the solution?
Biodiversity Conservation	Describe how or why your project demonstrates a commitment to the conservation and preservation of biodiversity in your area?
Heritage & Culture	Describe how or why your project demonstrates a commitment to the conservation and preservation of heritage in your area.
Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation	Describe how or why your initiative implements effective mitigation strategies and/or effective adaptive capabilities throughout your area.
Sustainability in Agriculture	Describe how or why your initiative demonstrates a commitment to producing food or fibre in more environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable way.
Local Legends	Describe how the nominated individual or group has demonstrated an ongoing commitment to sustainability and the environment?

If you wish to enter the Overall Category, please submit your category entries before completing the Overall Entry Form, referencing your category submissions.

Now that you are prepared, visit <https://www.kabnsw.org.au/sustainability-awards-nsw/tidy-towns/> to start your submission



# Judging Criteria

So that entrants understand exactly what our esteemed judges are looking for, and provide a more transparent and educative judging process (for both our entrants and our judges) a copy of the judges' scoresheet is provided below.

## ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

Assessment	Score	Criteria
Outstanding	5	Outstanding responses and excels in meeting the criteria and is of extremely high standard and quality.
Excellent	4	The responses have been answered at a high standard but requires additional evidence to score higher.
Good	3	Moderate quality entry and has met the category outcomes and criteria sufficient to finalise.
Limited	2	The entry demonstrated limited evidence in meeting the criteria.
Poor	1	The initiative is of minimal quality with insufficient evidence of meeting the category criteria.

## SCORESHEET

Section	Question	Score
Background	1a (/5)	
	1b (/5)	
Partnerships & Collaboration	2a (/5)	
	2b (/5)	
Planning & Delivery	3a (/5)	
	3b (/5)	
Implementation	4a (/5)	
	4b (/5)	
Evaluation & Learnings	5a (/5)	
	5b (/5)	
	5c (/5)	
Category Question (/10)		
<b>TOTAL (/65)</b>		

## FEEDBACK/SUGGESTIONS

Area	Notes
Overall	
Positives	
Areas for improvement	
Any other feedback/suggestions	

# Terms + Conditions

1. Entrants should endeavour to attend the Awards Weekend in November 2023. (Inability to attend does not disqualify entry.)
2. Entry is free and open to both KAB NSW members and non-members.
3. Entries must be based in New South Wales.
4. All guidelines should be addressed in your online nomination. Supporting documents and photographs should be attached to your nomination if relevant.
5. By entering the Awards the entrant gives permission to KAB NSW to publish, exhibit and promote the content of the submission, including supporters of the Awards, where their use of submission content is specifically related to their promotion of their involvement in the Awards.
6. Entrants agree to media publicity and promotion associated with the Awards nomination, including any photos submitted or taken at the Awards Presentation ceremony.
7. All entrants must be prepared to submit further material for exhibition and publication if required, such as additional photography.
8. Entries close on 31 July 2023.
9. The 2022 Overall winner is not eligible to enter the Overall Award category for 2023.
10. By entering, the main contact declares that they are authorised to submit the project, and that they have obtained appropriate releases and authorities in writing from project clients, collaborating organisations, copyright holders for entry submission materials, licensees, photographers. In particular where images of children are used.
11. By entering this program, the entrant agrees to absolve KAB NSW from any liability relating to confidentiality or intellectual property issues that may be raised by any party.
12. KAB NSW is committed to providing a quality awards program and makes every attempt to ensure accuracy, currency and reliability of the information included in this document and elsewhere. However, changes in content and process may become necessary at the absolute discretion of KAB NSW. KAB NSW accepts no liability for any use of the said content or reliance placed upon it.

## Further Information + Contacts

We look forward to hearing about all of the amazing things you have been doing in your city and community! If you have any questions related to the Tidy Towns Awards, feel free to reach out to the KAB NSW Team.

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