



Media release

The Hon Ryan Smith MP
Minister for Environment and Climate Change
Minister for Youth Affairs

Monday 30 January 2012

Is your town the Tidiest Town this year?

Victoria's tidiest towns, most sustainable cities and cleanest beaches are gearing up to showcase their attractions as they compete for the annual Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria's awards.

Today Minister for Environment and Climate Change Ryan Smith announced entries for this year's awards are now open.

"I encourage all those communities who have entered previously and those who might be considering participating for the first time to get their entries in," Mr Smith said.

Mr Smith said the awards were a great way to recognise Victorians who made a real difference in their communities and help create a healthier and more sustainable Victoria.

"The awards have grown over the years to encompass sustainability activities as diverse as reducing waste, preserving heritage and culture, saving energy, improving biodiversity and conserving water," Mr Smith said.

"With three award programs, every community across the state has the opportunity to enter their sustainable, environmental and community-based actions."

Tidy Towns - Sustainable Communities Awards are for communities in regional Victoria, *Sustainable Cities Awards* are for metropolitan Melbourne local councils and satellite cities, and *Clean Beaches Awards* are for beachside communities.

Last year 95 entrants from across Victoria competed for the awards, with Mornington winning the *Victorian Tidy Town of the Year Award*, Yarra City taking out the *Victorian Sustainable City of the Year Award* and Frankston Foreshore winning the *Victorian Clean Beach of the Year Award*.

This year also marks the 30th anniversary of the *Tidy Towns - Sustainable Communities Awards*.

Entries for the Sustainable Cities and Clean Beaches Awards close on 11 April and entries for the Tidy Towns – Sustainable Communities Awards close on 11 May.

To enter the awards please visit www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/kabv

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