

Communities in Bloom Committee seeks volunteers

The Municipality of Bluewater Communities in Bloom Committee (CIB) seeks enthusiastic persons to join the planning committee.

This committee of volunteers plans and presents participation in the provincial Communities in Bloom program on behalf of the Municipality of Bluewater. Each year, CIB aka *Bluewater Blooms* determines what aspects of the community to highlight that fit the criteria of the program evaluation. The criteria include Tidiness, Environmental Action, Heritage Conservation, Urban Forestry & Trails, Landscape, and Floral Displays. These aspects are combined into a community profile book and a two-day evaluation. Bluewater invites two professional judges to evaluate the accomplishments of the entire community (municipal, private, corporate, institutional and citizens) in July or August. The committee and the provincial judges are always astounded with the volume of positive achievements of the citizens and municipality.

“The judges tour was well planned and executed,” said 2016 judges Betty Lamont and Kathy Smyth. “There were so many highlights that it is impossible to mention them, although the sun going down to a full bagpipe band playing *Amazing Grace* is a memory that will never be forgotten...We urge the Municipality to consider entering Communities in Bloom at the National level.”

Blooms ratings are awarded to all participating communities across Ontario. Bluewater has won the top award, Five Blooms, for four consecutive years!

The Municipality of Bluewater joined Communities in Bloom Ontario in 2010 to celebrate and recognize the bringing together of five communities (Bayfield, Hensall, Zurich and the townships of Hay and Stanley). Communities in Bloom Ontario is the provincial edition of the national program, a Canadian non-profit organization committed to fostering civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification.

Please fill out the *Bluewater Committee Application Form* to communicate your interest in joining the Bluewater Communities in Bloom Committee. Persons must be appointed to the Committee by Council.

To find out more about the Bluewater Communities in Bloom Committee, the community profile book and access the application form, please visit the municipal website www.municipalityofbluewater.ca and select Municipal Services/Council/Committees. You may also call Nellie Evans, Secretary, at 519-236-4351 ext 236 or email nevans@municipalityofbluewater.ca



Bluewater Blooms committee members Heather Redick and Harlie Johnston (far right) outline the heritage plaque project in St. Joseph Memorial Park to CIB Judges Martin Quinn and Ray Hurd during the 2013 evaluation.