

**WHAT:** The Governor's Community Achievement Awards (GCAA) are presented to communities in nine population categories for exhibiting the best grassroots volunteer environmental programs in the state. The Awards have been sponsored by Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB) since 1969 and funded by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) since 1986. The winning communities share a \$1 million grant provided by TxDOT designated for landscaping along state rights-of-way in their communities.

The GCAA program is one of the most prestigious environmental awards presented to communities in Texas. The awards recognize community excellence in the areas of:

- Community Leadership and Coordination
- Education
- Public Awareness
- Litter Prevention and Cleanup
- Illegal Dumping Enforcement
- Beautification and Property Improvement
- Solid Waste Management

**WHEN:** The Governor's Community Achievement Award winners are announced annually in May. Recognition takes place each year during a ceremony at the Annual Keep Texas Beautiful Conference.

This year's conference is June 26-29 at the Dallas/Plano Marriott at Legacy Town Center in Plano, Texas. 2006 GCAA winners will be recognized on Thursday, June 29, 2006

**MISSION:** The KTB mission is to empower Texans through education to take responsibility for enhancing their community environment.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Eligibility is open to all Texas communities. A program entered for competition may consist of more than one community, but one community may not have more than one GCAA entry. A community is defined as a region or regions with shared or adjoining boundaries whose beautification and litter abatement programs are administered by a common organization.