

# TEXAS CITIES: APPLY FOR PRESTIGIOUS STATEWIDE AWARD

Is your city taking strides in litter prevention, beautification, or waste reduction? Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB) is kicking off its 2018 awards season, and invites you to apply for the Governor's Community Achievement Award (GCAA). The competition distributes \$2 million in funding from the Texas Department of Transportation across ten communities, with the award amount based on population size. The funds are used for landscaping projects along local rights-of-way. A community's environmental program is judged on achievements in seven areas:

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

## Why Should Our City Apply?

- Applying for the GCAA creates a written record of your city's environmental achievements, which is helpful when applying for grants and state funding.

- Working toward the GCAA brings together various segments of your community, including children, adult volunteers, and law enforcement, creating a sense of community pride.
- Studies show that a focus on litter prevention and beautification has positive economic effects on the community, reducing crime rates, and increasing tourism and economic development.
- Winning a GCAA earns your community positive state-wide recognition, prestige in your region, and a plaque from TxDOT that you can proudly display at in a prominent place.

Whether you're a first-time applicant or you need a refresher, KTB has an online toolkit to help you with the application process. Topics include tips and tools for writing winning award applications, application questions and answers, and online instructions.

**The application deadline is February 6, 2018.** Learn more and apply at [www.ktb.org/gcaa](http://www.ktb.org/gcaa).

## Congratulations to the 2017 GCAA Winners

Category 1: Population Up to 3,000  
**Muenster**

Category 2: Population 3,001-5,500  
**San Saba**

Category 3: Population 5,501-9,000  
**Bastrop**

Category 4: Population 9,001-15,000  
**Athens**

Category 5: Population 15,001-25,000  
**Murphy**

Category 6: Population 25,001-40,000  
**Copperas Cove**

Category 7: Population 40,001-65,000  
**Flower Mound**

Category 8: Population 65,001-90,000  
**Longview**

Category 9: Population 90,001-180,000  
**McAllen**

Category 10 Population 180,001  
**Fort Worth**