



2025 Alexandria Beautification Awards Criteria

Criteria Applicable to ALL Nominees and Awards

- ♣ For all awards, judging is limited to properties visible to the public right of way.
- ♣ Properties that have won an award within the last seven (7) years are ineligible.
- ♣ Individuals and firms may win multiple times within 7 years for **different** properties.
- ♣ Properties that are listed for sale are not eligible.
- ♣ Properties with substantial Beautification Commission or Commissioner involvement are not eligible.
- ♣ Properties are judged on design, aesthetic appeal, creativity, sustainability, maintenance, neighborhood context, and use of native plant materials (as applicable).
- ♣ Beautification Commission members make the final decisions on all award recipients.
- ♣ All nominations must include on the online form a short description of the property, noting the award criteria and why the property is being nominated for the award.
- ♣ Utilization of sustainable design or green practices should be considered, such as:
 - using renewable energy,
 - rainwater capture or filtering,
 - use of native, non-invasive plants and natural materials,
 - permeable walkways,
 - no-mow lawns,
 - contribution to tree canopy,
 - improvements to community spaces,
 - recycling,
 - composting,
 - mulch,
 - rain barrels,
 - water treatments, etc
- ♣ Design may include different plant colors, heights and natural textures (e.g. different types of stone, wood, mulch, plants) and seasonal plants that bloom at different times of the year.



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Award Categories and Criteria

Community Beautification Award

Up to eight awards (four each from East and West)

♣ Awarded for recognition of public or publicly-accessible private properties that promote beautification in the community.

- Judging is limited to the property visible to the public right of way.
- Examples include public parks, other public properties, or private properties with public access that contribute to the beautification of the City through landscaping, public art, architecture, or environmentally sustainable practices.

♣ Awards can also be given to individual or group efforts/activities that promote beautification in the community.

- Examples include cleanups, invasive plant removals, or other efforts that contribute to the beautification of the City through landscaping, public art, architecture, or environmentally sustainable practices.

Residential Beautification Award

Up to six awards (three each from East and West)

♣ Award recognizes private homes and residential communities that contribute to the beautification of the City through landscaping and architecture.

♣ Criteria for judging include plant materials, design, public art, architecture, the inclusion of environmentally sustainable practices, maintenance, and neighborhood context.

Residential Street Award

Up to two awards (East, West)

♣ At least 3 properties on one street meeting awards criteria, with at least 2 not having won awards in the past 7 years.