

**Town of Amherst  
MEDIA RELEASE**

TO: Amherst Daily News [dcole@amherstdaily.com](mailto:dcole@amherstdaily.com) & [bworks@amherstdaily.com](mailto:bworks@amherstdaily.com)  
CKDH Newsroom [ckdh@ckdh.net](mailto:ckdh@ckdh.net)  
Tantramar Community Radio [gdegannes@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca](mailto:gdegannes@cumberlandcounty.ns.ca)  
Chronicle Herald [tmccoag@herald.ca](mailto:tmccoag@herald.ca)  
Website [webmaster@town.amherst.ns.ca](mailto:webmaster@town.amherst.ns.ca)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MR#** 2008039

**DATE:** July 7, 2008

**RE:** Amherst to Participate in National Communities in Bloom Competition

The Town of Amherst will participate in the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the Communities in Bloom national competition. Amherst has participated two years provincially and this will be the fourth year entering national competition. In past years, the Town of Amherst has received four blooms for sports playing fields, four blooms for environmental awareness for stadium renovations and four blooms for the Cumberland County Museum and Archives.

Communities in Bloom is a Canadian beautification program that provides information and education, and awards Bloom Ratings for achievement in areas of floral displays, landscapes, turf, urban forestry, community involvement, heritage, conservation, environmental awareness and tidiness.

This volunteer- based non-profit organization fosters civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification through community participation and the challenge of national competition. Amherst will be in competition to outbloom Merritt BC, Winkler BC, Hinton AB, Minto ON, Weyburn SK, Dauphin MB and New Glasgow NS in the 8001- 10,000 population category.

The Community in Bloom judges, Gaetan Deschenes and Lorna McIlroy, will arrive in Amherst on August 7 for a three day community evaluation. Gaetan Deschenes from Montreal, Quebec has worked in the radio business for thirty years and has written six publications about agriculture and horticulture. Deschenes has also written countless articles about public and private gardens all over the world. Lorna McIlroy a resident of Grande Prairie, Alberta has been a horticultural judge for over fifteen years, and has been an instructor for over ten years. Her passion for education and gardening inspired her to become involved on a national level.

Amherst's participation will be led by the Community and Economic Development Department. Throughout the summer, staff will work to beautify our community by a variety of floral and tree plantings, turf care and much more. Community groups, organizations and residents are encouraged to join the town's efforts in this national competition.

**- 30 -**

Direct Inquires to:  
Dwight Jones  
Phone- 667- 667- 6506  
[gherrett@town.amherst.ns.ca](mailto:gherrett@town.amherst.ns.ca)

Authorized: \_\_\_\_\_

**[www.amherstns.com](http://www.amherstns.com)**

P.O. Box 516, Amherst, NS B4H 4A1  
667-3352

