

Tidy Towns 1997

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **EMYVALE**
County : **MONAGHAN**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	26	25
Landscaping	40	31	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	26	24
Tidiness	20	14	12
Residential Areas	30	25	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	206	200

Emyvale, County Monaghan

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Emyvale continues to impress this adjudicator. There is obviously a strong commitment on the part of all sectors of the community to get involved and this is reflected in the all round presentation of the village. Your partnerships with FAS and Monaghan County Council are paying dividends and their contribution is significant. A very clear focus is now required to identify opportunities for further progress which will bring you back into contention for a major award. As mentioned in last year's report an action plan will identify what needs to be done - it will give you a direction that will expedite progress.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The adjudicator was very impressed with the presentation of business premises and the manner in which community buildings were cared for. The Leisure Centre, Dispensary, Credit Union and Garda Station deserve special mention and the presence of hanging baskets and other floral displays added greatly to the streetscape. Do pay attention to boundary areas and improve the presentation of open spaces. An excellent performance under this heading has been rewarded with an increase in marks. Well done.

LANDSCAPING

The children's park is coming along nicely. However, the young trees need greater care as some have not developed and have an uncared for appearance. The landscaping on the main approaches was colourful and the new planting on Mullin Road was admired. Annual flowers should not dominate and greater emphasis on tree planting and shrubs for year round effect should be considered in estates and on new developments. The adjudicator was impressed with the many workers who were attending the landscaped areas on adjudication day. Well done to all concerned.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The development of wildlife sanctuaries in the River area and the Children's park beside the lake are projects that could get you marks under this heading. The lake area itself offers great potential and should be surveyed to identify where wildlife habitats are located and the type of species. Invite your local environmental experts to get involved and seek the specialist information required to advance your ideas. Do remember that wildlife habitats in most cases adjoin towns and villages and may be found in woodlands, rivers, hedgerows, grass verges etc. The amenity development on the approaches to the village were outstanding in presentation. Congratulations to Emyvale Development Association for their Heritage Town leaflet. An excellent production.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was excellent, - except for incidental litter in the porchway of a house on the Main Street. Litter bins were presented well and the mechanical sweeper was in use on the Main Street. Considering Emyvale is such a busy border town the absence of litter is most commendable. The setting up of your litter alert committee is totally justified. Congratulations on this initiative.

TIDINESS

As mentioned in last year's report there was a general air of tidiness about Emyvale - the well cared for approaches from all directions set the standards for the rest of the village. The only blight on the landscape was the storage of County Council materials near the river and the poor state of the access road to the Council yard. This whole area was noted for poor presentation. It should be easy to rectify this - the adjudicator would expect the Council to respond favourably.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Private houses with very attractive gardens were presented well and the housing estates (Oriel Park and Lakeside) continue to catch the eye for all the right reasons. Congratulations to all. The floral displays in some of the gardens were outstanding. All broken boundary walls and fencing should be repaired to ensure uniformity of good all round presentation. You have again scored strongly under this heading.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Derry and Monaghan approaches are neat and colourful and represent a welcoming introduction to Emyvale. Well maintained open spaces, verges neatly trimmed, sensible planting and well cared for ornamental features. Side roads also looked well and signposting was to the adjudicators satisfaction. The black and amber roadside barriers would look better if cleaned or painted. The Welcome to Emyvale advance signs were nicely presented - bilingual signs might be considered when you are reviewing your signposting programme.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The adjudicator was very pleased to note that you have acted upon many of the recommendations contained in previous reports. You have a very active and enthusiastic community supporting your efforts and this has enabled you to achieve further progress which is reflected by an increase in marks. Do give consideration to an action plan and strengthen your relationship with the County Council. Thank you for the detailed entry form and map; they were much appreciated by the adjudicator. Keep up the good work and best wishes for 1998.