

# Tidy Towns Competition 2007

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Northlands** Ref: **1424**  
County: **Cavan** Mark: **195**  
Category: **A** Date(s): **18/07/2007**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2007
Overall Development Approach	50	25
The Built Environment	50	25
Landscaping	50	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	25
Litter Control	50	25
Waste Minimisation	20	5
Tidiness	30	15
Residential Areas	40	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	25
General Impression	10	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>195</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

This area was entered as part of the drive by SuperValu to work with communities to approve the environmental standards of their areas through participation in the National TidyTowns Competition. Areas were entered on the basis that they fall within the catchment area of the nearest SuperValu store and this 'baseline assessment' is intended to provide a basis on which progress could be made over the coming years through partnership with residents, businesses and local agencies. As such it should not be interpreted as a critique of the area but rather an opportunity for everybody to work together to make their hometown a better place to work, live and visit. As part of SuperValu's strategic approach to sustainable development in the area, a nominal mark has been given to reflect this. Further marks will be awarded in future years where more tangible TidyTowns structures are developed and local environmental plans prepared and implemented.

### **The Built Environment:**

I could not find any public buildings in your townland, and I understand that the local Post Office closed down a few years ago.

### **Landscaping:**

Most of the large amount of houses that were constructed in the townland over the past few years boast well landscaped appearances, and ornate the area very well. Road margins are maintained in a rural fashion and are not formally cut.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

You could consider undertaking a study of the habitats of the wildlife in your area

**Litter Control:**

It was obvious that litter is not controlled in a formal manner, as there were bits of litter present at intervals in the hedgerows and along the grass margins. This is caused mainly by papers etc dispersing in the wind from the different building sites.

**Waste Minimisation:**

Without details of ongoing community projects, it was difficult to assess the extent of progress being made under this category and I would look forward to seeing whether progress has in fact been made on future assessments. However taking into account the existing council facilities and SuperValu's own commitment in this area, I believe a nominal mark is appropriate for this year.

**Tidiness:**

Again, I must refer to the amount of building that is taking place in the townland, as some sites are naturally untidy until all the construction is finished and formal lawns, boundary walls and fences are put in place. However, the building contractors are observing good practices and are not defacing the roads.

**Residential Areas:**

The population of the townland has increased considerably in recent years with all the new houses. There is a selection of fine houses of various designs both bungalows and two storey designs built in a ribbon development style. They are now very much outnumbering the old traditional style farmhouses of the locality.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

Part of the townland stretches along the main road from Shercock to Kingscourt, and the rest, as far as I could ascertain, is along the narrow road that circles over the hill and comes back down to the main road again further down the road. You could try to get Cavan County Council to erect signposts for Northlands.

**General Impression:**

It could be a good idea to form a residents association to act as a kind of watchdog / lobby group for future development in the townland, either by the County Council or by private developers. Resident's association meetings can also be a good way of getting new residents to meet their neighbours and thereby have a social outlet for people.