

# Tidy Towns Competition 2008

## *Adjudication Report*

Centre: **Avoca** Ref: **250**  
County: **Wicklow** Mark: **240**  
Category: **B** Date(s): **08/06/2008**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2008
Overall Development Approach	50	33
The Built Environment	50	33
Landscaping	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	17
Litter Control	50	30
Waste Minimisation	20	8
Tidiness	30	20
Residential Areas	40	31
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	31
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>240</b>

### **Overall Development Approach:**

Avoca is welcome to the TidyTowns Competition 2008! Thank you for your completed entry form, clear map and copies of the Avoca Times which made the adjudication all the easier. It is good to note that your efforts are appreciated and that sponsorship has been forthcoming from FÁS, WCC, VADA and CIE. Co-operation with the school has been noted and it is great to see that your achievements to date have motivated increased involvement on the part of the village estates. You should consider developing a three, four or five year plan for the village as there are further marks to be gained in this section by doing so. Perhaps some of the new volunteers could form a sub-committee and have the plan ready for submission for next years competition?

### **The Built Environment:**

Avoca Woollen Mills never fails to please. The grounds and various buildings are presented to the highest standard with an abundance of rambling roses in full bloom. The new apartments and shops on the woodenbridge approach were admired as were the charming stone walls leading into the village. The white and pink building opposite the Post Office was disappointing in its presentation particularly as it is in such a prominent location. The lilac Credit Union looked wonderful. Ongoing work at the old Hall is in fitting with the original style and we look forward to its completion. The Church and grounds as ever, were well presented however the boundary wall was quite stained and should be painted before next years competition. The changing rooms at the playing field at Rooster Park needs repainting and some loose slates too were noted. The Garda Station was still undergoing its 'facelift' on the day of adjudication and scaffolding was still in place.

### **Landscaping:**

The Woodenbridge and Meeting of the Waters approach roads displayed welcoming flower beds and shrubs. A well maintained shrubbery was admired at the entrance to Brookmeadow. The elevated landscaped area at

the Credit Union in shades of pink and violet looked great.

**Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

Your ongoing work regarding woodland trails, promotion of local heritage and the restoration of the stone wall have been noted. Please provide further detailed information with next years submission. The Woodview area is a charming oasis.

**Litter Control:**

Your promotion of a litter free environment is commended through local publicity and co-operation with the school and County Council. A scattering of litter was noted around the bus stop on the Woodenbridge approach. Similarly, there was a considerable amount of litter at the bus stop on the Meeting of the Waters road as there was no bin here. The level of litter in Rooster Park was disappointing and there appeared to be no bins in the area.

**Waste Minimisation:**

Although closed on the day of adjudication the recycling facility was noted. The school is congratulated on achieving their fourth Green Flag. It must be a fantastic to have so many young experts in the village! The book recycling initiative is most innovative and indeed, for a worthwhile cause.

**Tidiness:**

The central part of the village is neatly presented. The traditional style street lighting looked well but would benefit from a fresh coat of paint. The new car park at the school looked fresh. Some of the directional signage was suffering from algae growth and should be cleaned regularly.

**Residential Areas:**

The residences on Station road looked well. Many of the houses in Rooster Park were admired for their freshly painted walls and hanging baskets. The green areas too looked well. The dormer bungalow opposite the school was greatly admired. Avoca Wood looked marvellous and sleepers were used to great effect. The new development at Ballanagh Crescent and more mature properties at Brookmeadow were fresh in appearance and a tasteful mix of lawns, trees and shrubs were noted. Avoca Court is a wonderful addition to the streetscape. New residences at Millmount Meadows are being finished and landscaped to a very high standard and we look forward to their completion in the coming years.

**Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The Woodenapproach was well surfaced, neatly presented paths were weed free and a lengthy stretch of lawn was admired. The car park at the Church was neat and tidy. Paths throughout the village are, for the most part in a good state of repair.

**General Impression:**

Avoca is a thriving village and your committee is congratulated for its continued success - keep up the good work!