



**Nomination Form
for the Village of Skokie Beautification and Improvement
Commission's Annual Property Owner Awards**

Full Name of Property Owners: _____

Please write only the first and last name(s) of the property owner(s), or the name of the business. (Prefixes such as Mr. or Mrs., or middle initials will not be printed).

Address of Property: _____

Please return this completed form and mail it so it arrives by August 1, 2018 to

Attn: Chairman of Beautification and Improvement Commission
C/O Public Works – Cathy Stevens
9050 Gross Point Road
Skokie, IL 60077

Applications can be also be emailed to: cathy.stevens@skokie.org. The signed nomination form should be in a pdf file and photos in a jpeg file. If you do not have a digital camera, the Commission will take a photo after receiving the application.

*Property nominations are accepted from homes, businesses, condominiums, schools, churches, or synagogues.

Please completely fill out the following information:

<p>Authorization to use photographs for publicity and promotion</p> <p>I grant permission to the Beautification and Improvement Commission of the Village of Skokie to use the enclosed photographs or to re-photograph my property for the purpose of entering the Annual Property Award Program. All photographs submitted become the property of the Village of Skokie. I also release these photographs to be used for promotion and publicity in the Village of Skokie newspaper, website, and other media outlets.</p> <p>Signature of Property Owners: _____</p> <p>Print Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____ Zip Code: _____</p> <p>Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p>

About the Property-Owner's Award Program

Each year the Village of Skokie Beautification & Improvement Commission evaluates nominated properties throughout the Village. Nominated properties are typically evaluated in late summer and winners receive notice in December or January. Winners receive an awards certificate during the annual ceremony held in March or April.

Please consider nominating a neighbor, a local business, or yourself!

Standards for Evaluating a Property for Nomination

1. Overall, Year Round Appearance

- a. Paving: Clean, free of cracks and weeds
- b. House and buildings: Good overall maintenance
- c. Garden: Exterior plantings enhance overall landscape

2. Garden Design

- a. Color: The color in the landscape should catch attention. The colors should harmonize with the surrounding structures. Flowering annuals, perennials, or various colors of foliage should be incorporated into the landscape.
- b. Layout: The design should flow well and provide continuity. There should be a natural transition in heights of plants (i.e. stair step effect).
- c. Originality: The design of the landscape should reflect an element of creativity and distinction.
- d. Balance: The plantings should relate to the scale and proportion of the surroundings. Repeating patterns and groupings of plants add continuity to the landscape.
- e. Texture: There should be a variety of plants including conifers or foliage plants that provide year round interest.
- f. Condition: The garden should be deadheaded, mulched, edged, and watered. Spent material should be removed. The landscape should have a vigorous, healthy, and well kept appearance.

3. Condition of Lawn and Ground Covers

- a. The lawn should be free of weeds and without bare spots. It should be healthy looking and a rich green in color.
- b. The lawn should be edged in areas adjacent to sidewalks and drives.

4. Trees and Shrubs

- a. The trees and shrubs should be in proportion and to scale of the property. They should be maintained, free of dead branches, and not overgrown.
- b. They should be disease free and in healthy condition.
- c. Landscaped beds should be mulched and edged.
- d. Note that parkway trees are the responsibility of the Village, but parkway maintenance is the responsibility of the property owner.

For more information, please visit: www.skokie.org. Click on 'Village Government', then 'Boards and Commissions'.