

Loretta Spencer
Mayor



"The Space to be
in the 21st Century"

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Huntsville ranked a top "Green City"

Popular Science magazine recognizes nation's best cities for environmental living

Huntsville, Ala. --- Huntsville's recognition as one of the country's most environmental cities was furthered today by *Popular Science* magazine in its listing of "America's Top 50 Greenest Cities".

Using data from the U.S. Census Bureau and the National Geographic Society's Green Guide, the study collected information on U.S. cities with more than 100,000 people. The categories analyzed were electricity, transportation, green living, and recycling and green perspective.

"The quality of life that we enjoy is closely tied to maintaining a clean city with green space for residents," Mayor Spencer said. "Huntsville consistently receives compliments from visitors on how evident our respect for our city's environment is."

Placed at 18, Huntsville was the only southern city ranking in the top 20. Lexington, Kentucky placed at 25 with Athens-Clarke, Ga, Louisville, Ky and Greensboro, NC taking the 33rd, 42nd and 50th spots, respectively.

Within the categories Huntsville earned 4.5 points out of 5 under "Recycling and green perspective". This category measured how comprehensive the city's recycling program is and how important residents consider environmental issues.

"It was a goal 12 years ago to clean up the city," Mayor Spencer continued. "This shows what can be accomplished when city departments, businesses and residents work together in taking pride in our neighborhoods, parks and streets."

Joy McKee, director of the city's Landscape Management/Operation Green Team department commented on the community's support for keeping the city clean, "Every weekend in March, April and May is filled with neighborhood clean-ups or litter-free events, and the 'litter hotline' continues to ring. This shows everyone is aware and willing to take action to keep our city clean and green."

Huntsville was ranked as one of the nation's top 10 "Green Cities" by *The Green Guide* in 2006 and as one of the country's top adventure cities by *National Geographic Adventure* magazine in 2007.

For more information on how you can become involved in keeping Huntsville a green city contact Operation Green Team at 427-5159.

Read the article online at www.popsci.com/environment/article/2008-02/americas-50-greenest-cities.

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