

Y O U N G H A R R I S & T O W N S C O U N T Y



BARN QUILT

PROGRAM



History of Barn Quilts

The history of barn decoration dates back to the mid 1800's. Painting symbols on barns originated from traditional folk art passed along from the German and Swiss immigrants who settled the Pennsylvania Dutch region in southeastern Pennsylvania. Once these groups including Lutherans, Moravians, Mennonites and other Christian reformists, built their family farms and communities, they would paint small patterns on their barns to celebrate their heritage and bring good fortune. Originally these patterns were simple stars, compass roses, or stylized birds from traditional folk art.

Today's barn decorating revival became popular with a woman named Donna Sue Groves, from Adams County, Ohio. She wanted to honor her mother by hanging a colorful painted quilt square on her barn. Instead of just one quilt square, she began a community project with twenty quilts being displayed along a driving trail to encourage visitors to travel through the countryside. This was the start of our first quilt trail in America. Quilt trails are now being organized all across the country. Barn quilts are displayed around communities and then mapped out for tourists to follow these amazing works of art. They promote tourism and help draw visitors into our rural communities. Traditional stars and various quilt patterns are now being displayed on barns, homes, sheds and sides of buildings. They are also put on posts and displayed in yards and parks.

Heritage Barn Quilts

The Young Harris Barn Quilt Project began in 2020 when the City was accepted in the Georgia Placemaking Collaborative. Recognizing the city's rich cultural heritage and the heritage of the Appalachian region as a whole the committee knew barn quilts were a way to showcase local artists while exploring our area and discovering the beauty of our county, and uncovering the many businesses we have to offer.



Quilt Trail Guidelines

Thank you for your interest in being part of the Barn Quilt Program. We offer the following guidelines for Joining the Young Harris Barn Quilt Program.

If you would like to participate in the program and need a quilt designed for you we have local artists available to custom design your barn quilt. See page 3 for additional information.

- The barn quilt must be located within 30582 or 30546 zip codes. Other locations will be considered upon request.
- The barn quilt must be a separate piece attached to a barn, shed, house, garage, business, post, or similar location.
- The barn quilt must be visible from a public road.
- The barn quilt must be made of durable, high-quality materials (metal or wood) and paint.
- The barn quilt cannot be an advertisement for a business or industry.
- The barn quilt belongs to the owner, who is responsible for installing the quilt and for maintaining its appearance. (a list of installers is available upon request)
- The Barn Quilt Trail will use photographs of the barn quilt and its address for all marketing, and advertising (printed and electronic).
- The owner agrees to hold harmless, the City of Young Harris, its officers, and its committee for and against any and all claims, liabilities, losses, and causes of action related to the barn quilt and the Barn Quilt Trail.



Sample of styles and artist contact information

Traditional
Margaret
Windham
229-344-6866
mwindham2@
gmail.com



Traditional
with a Twist
Dana Cable
678-497-5393
dcbetti@
rocketmail.com



Landscape
Margaret or
Dana



Whimsical /
Abstract
Jess Harris
706-851-6395
bohemianhoot
owl@gmail.com



Barn Quilt Application

Date of request: _____

Name: _____

Address of proposed site: _____

| | | |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Contact Person (s) | | |
| Telephone Number: | | |
| Email: | | |

In making this application, the undersigned agrees to accept the following conditions and requirements Please initial each line below to indicate your agreement.

| | |
|--|---|
| | I/We recognize that having a quilt block display on our property may increase traffic and/or visitors to our location. |
| | I/We will contact the Young Harris Barn Quilt Committee if the quilt block is removed from the original location. |
| | The barn/building site is visible from the road or on a site that is frequently visited. The Young Harris Barn Quilt Committee will have the final say as to the appropriateness of the site. |
| | I/We agree to have the quilt block included in promotional materials for the Barn Quilts of Young Harris and Towns County Project. I /We agree to include the quilt as part of any "Quilt Trail" developed, following the guidelines set by the Young Harris Barn Quilts Committee. |

Additional Information:

This information is used for in print and web-based marketing of the Barn Quilts of Young Harris & Towns County. The information is not required, but by completing this information you are giving the Young Harris Barn Quilt Committee permission for it to be included in all marketing materials.

Does the pattern or colors used have any special significance? Please share any other interesting stories or information:

Please share any interesting stories about your quilt, family, business, the area that you would like included in the story of your quilt. You may dedicate the barn quilt in memory or honor of someone if you like.

How did you decide on the location of the quilt block?

Please include 3 to 5 photos of the barn quilt if you are using an existing quilt.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Applicant's Name (Printed) _____

Send completed application to:

Young Harris City Hall
Attn: Barn Quilt Committee
P.O. Box 122
Young Harris, GA 30582

Deliver in Person to
Young Harris City Hall
50 Irene Berry Drive
Young Harris, GA 30582

