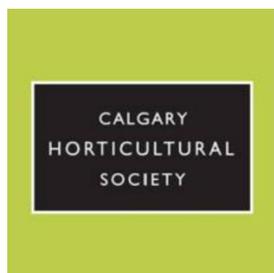




Calgary Evergreen Community Association 2023 Gardening Contest Rules



Sponsored by:



Registration

Registration will open March 1st, 2023 and will close at midnight of June 30th, 2023. Judging will be during the weekends in August; dates and times to be determined.

Find the registration form on the website www.myceca.ca/gardening. See below 'How to Enter'.

Email gardening@myceca.ca, if you have any questions.

Prizes

Prizes will be awarded to the top three, who score well in the listed criteria. Sponsors are Spruce It Up Garden Centre, and the Calgary Horticultural Society, and hopefully some others.

Judging Criteria

Gardens will be judged on areas of aesthetics, plant variety and condition, neatness, and unique features. Judging will take place during the weekends in August, and you will be informed a couple days prior. Judging criteria is listed below.

Class categories

For the first year we will only be judging the yards and gardens of single detached, semi-detached, townhouse, and rowhouse homes.

There may be potential classes in future years for categories to be developed for condo balcony gardens, children's gardens, and vegetable gardens. Those classes will depend on the interest of those homes.

Entry rules:

1. Competition is open to home gardeners only. Entries must be designed by, at least 50% built by, and wholly maintained by the home gardener.
 - a. Exceptions:
 - i. Some professional services are permitted: labour in tree care, construction of buildings, sidewalks and retaining walls, etc. (hard landscaping)
 - ii. Gardens professionally built more than 7 years ago, but have been maintained by the home gardener, are eligible.
2. Registration will open March 1st, and entries must be received by midnight on June 30th. Entry forms can be filled out online or downloaded and emailed to gardening@myceca.ca. A registration form can be found on the website www.myceca.ca/gardening starting March 1.
3. Contest is open to residents of Evergreen only. Residents of Evergreen Estates and Shawnee Slopes/Park are not eligible.
4. Participation of condo balcony gardens, children's gardens, and vegetable garden will depend on interest of those residents and creation of separate category, in future years.
5. Judging will take place during the weekends of August. Entrants will be notified a few days prior of their judging time.
6. Entrants who are deemed to have interfered with the judging in anyway can be disqualified.
7. Any garden found to have prohibited noxious or uncontrolled noxious weeds will be assessed a 20-point penalty or will be disqualified at the judge's discretion.
8. The decision of the judges is final.
9. Entry by members of the CECA Board of Directors will not be allowed due to appearance of potential favouritism.

Photography

- Photographs of all entries will be taken for presentation and promotional purposes.
- By entering the contest, entrants give permission for photos to be taken.

Results, Awards, and Prizes

- Winners will be notified by email and a presentation will be made at a future event or meeting.
- There will be prizes for the top 3 finishers.
- Top 3 winners will also be awarded a frameable certificate and photo of their garden.

How to Enter (3 methods to chose from)

- To enter the contest, download the entry form on our website and email it to gardening@myceca.ca.
- Fill out the online entry form at www.myceca.ca/gardening
- To enter by mail, fill out the entry form from the newsletter, or downloadable online, and mail to Evergreen Gardening Contest, Calgary Evergreen Community Association, PO Box 24007, RPO Evergreen, Calgary, Alberta, T2Y 0J9.

Judging Criteria

- The voting criteria used by the judges will be the following. Each criteria item will be scored on a scale of 1-10 with 10 being the best.

Judging Criteria	Description	Score
Design and Overall Effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- First impression- Visual impact- Rhythm and flow- Use of space- Originality	1-10
Plant Material Variety and Condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Combinations- Use and arrangement- Four season interest- Colour and texture- Health and vigour- Hardiness- Maturity- Maintenance- Uncommon plants	1-10
Use of Lawns and Hardscaping	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Grooming and staking- Mulch/ condition- Pruning- Free of debris, weeds, and clutter	1-10
Focal points, special and unique features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fountains, ponds- Visual appeal- Relationship with surrounding area- Placement and location	1-10
Max Total		40

Eligibility

- Will have to be a resident of the Evergreen community, not including Evergreen Estates or Shawnee-Slopes/Park.
- Residents of Evergreen Estates and Shawnee Slopes/Park are part of the Shawnee-Evergreen Community Association.
- Families of/and CECA Board members will be exempt from entering to avoid conflict of interest.

What is not allowed?

- Noxious weeds as identified on the Calgary.ca website.
 - o Below are noxious and invasive species common to Calgary:
 - Blueweed
 - Canada thistle
 - Common tansy
 - Diffuse knapweed
 - Leafy spurge
 - Nodding thistle
 - Purple loosestrife
 - Scentless chamomile
 - Spotted knapweed
 - Toadflax
 - Creeping bellflower
 - View a [full list of noxious and invasive species common to Calgary](#) that must be disposed of at the landfill.
 - <https://www.calgary.ca/parks/pests/invasive-plants.html>
- Professional landscaping services within the last seven years

Tips for entrants on judging days

- Depending on the number of entries, judging will take place on the weekends in August, weather permitting.
- You will be told the date that the judging will take place a couple of days in advance, that way you can be prepared.
- Ensure that your garden is accessible. Make sure your garden is ready for judging on the days you have been told.
- Turn off sprinklers.
- Restrain pets.
- Judging will happen rain or shine but will be postponed due to any thunderstorms or extreme weather.
- Make sure the garden is watered and looks fresh.
- Hoses, garden equipment, etc. are put away.
- Flowers are deadheaded.
- Dried branches, twigs, and yellow leaves are discarded.
- Walks, decks, and patios are swept and tidy.
- Garage and home doors are closed.
- Yard is clear of weeds.

- Plants are staked or supported where needed.
- Adjoining patios or decks are tidy and clean.

Questions and clarification

- If you have any questions or would like to clarify anything in the rules, please email gardening@myceca.ca
- The judge's decision is final.