



Edmonton
EHS Horticultural
Society

*Garden
Competition*

ENTRY BOOKLET 2020

Have some good clean fun
See how your garden measures up
Get ideas and suggestions
Grow as a gardener! Win!

There is an Entry Class for everyone, even children!
Enter one or several Classes

ENTRY DEADLINE: July 8, 2020

JUDGING: July 13th & 14th

edmontonhort.com

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The Edmonton Horticultural Society presents

Garden Competition 2020

The *Garden Competition* exemplifies our commitment to gardeners and gardening in the greater Edmonton area. Through a congenial “test of the best”, we aim to promote excellence in gardening, good horticultural practices, and a sense of pride in accomplishment.

Grow, Learn and Win

The Competition is a great way to grow as a gardener. Just being in the Competition can be rewarding. Judges provide an assessment based on scoring criteria and comments for improving your score and your garden.

An Entry Class for Everyone

Entry Classes range from complete yards to features such as water gardens, containers, edible gardens, living walls, plant collections and children’s gardens.

Find Out More

Visit <www.edmontonhort.com>, click on EHS activities and follow the links to see some winning gardens from previous years and to find tips for impressing the judges. Need further information or have questions; please email gardencompetition@edmontonhort.com.

A Program with Heart

This competition is made possible by a dedicated team of trained and experienced volunteer judges who rise to the challenge, and our photographers who enhance the presentation of awards with a visual aid to awe & inspire us. But it is you, the home gardener, who makes it a success, by entering your garden creations and inspiring us with your skill, hard work and love of gardening. We sincerely appreciate the efforts of everyone involved.

Let the judging begin...and good luck!

Jolene Courtney
EHS Garden Competition Chair

Competition Rules, Fees, and Judging

Our aim is to ensure that the *Garden Competition* is judged both fairly and objectively and that home gardeners have the information needed to enter the right Classes and prepare for judging. The EHS has approved and will adhere to the rules, judging, scoring criteria, and all other entry information in this booklet.

**PLEASE READ THIS BOOKLET CAREFULLY BEFORE ENTERING.
THERE MAY HAVE BEEN CHANGES FROM PREVIOUS YEARS.**

Entry Rules

1. The Competition is open to both EHS members and non- members, whose gardens are located within 30 km of Edmonton City Centre.
2. The Competition is open to amateur home gardeners only. Entries must be designed by, at least 50% built by, and wholly maintained* by the home gardener entering. (see exceptions**)

*Some professional services are permitted, including labour in tree care and construction of buildings, sidewalks and retaining walls, etc. (hardscaping).

Gardens that were professionally designed/built more **than seven years ago and since that time have been maintained by the home gardener, are eligible for entry.

3. Home gardeners may enter any number of Classes, **except those entering the Grand Challenge and Newly Designed Garden**. These two Classes are judged on the whole grounds and all features, therefore are not eligible for any other Class.

Entry Fees and Deadline

4. The entry fee for all Classes is \$10 per Class for EHS members, \$15 per Class for non-members. The Competition runs rain or shine. There are no refunds on entry fees after the entry deadline.
5. **Entries must be received by midnight on Wednesday, July 8th.** Please see “How to Enter” on page 5 and the entry form on pages 21 and 22 for details.

Judging, Penalties and Disputes

6. Judging takes place over two days: **Monday, July 13th and Tuesday, July 14th from 7:30 am to 9:00 pm.** Your garden may be visited by more than one set of judges over the two days, as well as by a photographer. **Please prepare for both days. A notice will be placed in your mailbox when judging AND photography is completed.**
7. There is no need to be home, but judges must have entry to your property. You may greet the judges when they arrive but you **must not** be in the garden during the judging. (see #9 below)
8. Entrants who remain in the garden during judging or interfere with the judging in any way **may be disqualified or may be assessed a 10 point penalty.**
9. **Any garden found to contain prohibited noxious or uncontrolled noxious weeds will be assessed a 25 point penalty.** For a complete list of prohibited/noxious weeds visit <www.invasiveplants.ab.ca> and click on “Fact Sheets”. Also check <<http://edmontonhort.com/gardening/weed-mgmt/prohibited-plants/>>. **Be informed so you do not lose points.**
10. Disqualification or docked points may result for entering an inappropriate class or for lack of signage/labelling (**see specific Classes and judging criteria**).
11. **The decision of the judges is final.**

Photography

1. Photographs of all entries are taken for use in a presentation to members. These photographs may also be used by the EHS in newsletters, on the Web site, for display, social media, promotional or educational purposes.
2. By entering the Competition, entrants give their permission for all photography by the EHS and its agents and the above described uses of the photographs by the EHS.

Results, Awards and Prizes

1. Winners are notified by phone or email following the judging. All entrants will receive a copy of their judging sheets via email.
2. First, second and third places are generally awarded in each Class with at least five entries. Where there are fewer entries in a Class or other considerations, awards may be limited at the discretion of the judges, in consultation with the Competition Chair.
3. First place winners in each Class are presented with a keepsake plaque for display in their garden. All winners are presented with a certificate and a photograph of their entry.
4. At the discretion of the Competition Chair, special awards may be presented.
5. Awards for each class/sub-class with entries in the 2020 Garden Competition will be announced on our website and social media on July 24th, 2020.

How to Enter

There is a total of 13 entry Classes/Sub-classes. Please carefully consider the Classes and their scoring criteria before entering to avoid losing points (see **Judging, Penalties and Disputes** on page 3).

If you are considering either the Class 1: Grand Challenge or Class 2: Newly-Designed; please be aware that the judges will look at the entire grounds—front, back, sides, work areas. For individual Classes, only the area/item entered will be judged, but the entry **must be CLEARLY identified in the garden.**

1. **Carefully review all information in this booklet** or at <http://edmontonhort.com/garden-competition/ehs-garden-competition> and choose the Class(es) you wish to enter.
2. Questions? Email gardencompetition@edmontonhort.com
3. Complete all sections of the entry form on pages 21 and 22 or enter and pay on-line.
4. Submit your entry on-line, or by mail:

On-Line: To enter and pay online using a credit card, go to edmontonhort.com/store, click on “Garden Competition Entry”, complete the entry form and follow instructions.

By mail: Include the completed form (see pages 21 and 22) along with your total entry fee by cheque payable to the EHS.

Mailing address: EHS Garden Competition
c/o Jolene
10746 – 178 Street,
Edmonton, AB T5S 1J3

Entry Classes and Scoring Criteria

**PLEASE READ THIS BOOKLET CAREFULLY BEFORE ENTERING.
THERE MAY BE CHANGES FROM YEAR TO YEAR AND THERE ARE
PENALTIES FOR ENTERING INAPPROPRIATE CLASSES.**

CLASS 1: HOME GARDEN GRAND CHALLENGE

- The entire grounds of home gardens of any size.
- Gardens are judged on total horticultural effort, including trees, shrubs, lawns, annuals, perennials, vegetables, containers, hard- scaping, recreation and work areas, in the front, back and side yards.
- **Entrants in this Class are not eligible to enter any other Class** (See page 2).

Scoring Criteria for Class 1	Points
<i>Design and Overall Effect:</i> -first impression, visual impact, rhythm/flow	15
<i>Use of Space:</i> -proportion, layout and balance, transition	15
<i>Focal Points/Scale:</i> -visual appeal, placement/location	10
<i>Plant Material Variety:</i> -combinations, use and arrangement, four season interest, colour and texture	20
<i>Condition of Plant Material:</i> -health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	15
<i>Maintenance:</i> -grooming/staking, mulch/condition, pruning, free of debris, weeds and clutter	15
<i>Lawns and Hardscaping:</i> -maintenance/health, effective use of hardscaping	10
TOTAL	100

CLASS 2: NEWLY-DESIGNED GARDEN

- For home gardeners who have moved into a new home or have inherited an existing landscape and have redone the landscape **within the last four years**.
- Gardens are judged on total horticultural effort, including trees, shrubs, lawns, annuals, perennials, vegetables, containers, hardscaping, recreation and work areas, in the front, back and side yards.



Scoring Criteria for Class 2		Points
<i>Design and Overall Effect:</i>	-first impression, visual impact, rhythm/flow	15
<i>Use of Space:</i>	-proportion, layout and balance, transition	15
<i>Focal Points/Scale:</i>	-visual appeal, placement/location	10
<i>Plant Material Variety:</i>	-combinations, use and arrangement, four season interest, colour and texture	20
<i>Condition of Plant Material:</i>	-health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	15
<i>Maintenance:</i>	-grooming/staking, mulch/condition, pruning, free of debris, weeds and clutter	15
<i>Lawns and Hardscaping:</i>	-maintenance/health, effective use of hardscaping	10
TOTAL		100

CLASS 3: DECORATIVE FRONT GARDEN

- Front gardens that are welcoming and have curb appeal, while displaying a flair for the challenges of horticulture.
- Entries are judged on the balance between the house and the planting of flowerbeds, trees, shrubs and hardscaping.
- Emphasis is on originality of design and decorative effect.



Scoring Criteria for Class 3		Points
<i>First Impression:</i>	-curb appeal, visual impact, wow factor	10
<i>Overall Effect:</i>	-welcoming, balance/rhythm/ flow	10
<i>Use of Space:</i>	-proportion, layout and balance, transition	15
<i>Special Features:</i>	-placement/location	5
<i>Plant Material Variety:</i>	-combinations, use and arrangement, four season interest, colour and texture	20
<i>Condition of Plant Material:</i>	-health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	15
<i>Maintenance:</i>	-grooming/staking, mulch/condition, pruning, free of debris, weeds and clutter	15
<i>Lawns and Hardscaping:</i>	-maintenance/health, effective use of hardscaping	10
TOTAL		100

CLASS 4: DECORATIVE BACK GARDEN

- Back gardens that are attractive and comfortable, while displaying a flair for the challenges of horticulture.
- Entries are judged on the balance between the house and the planting of flower beds, trees, shrubs, and hardscaping.
- Emphasis is on originality of design, decorative effect and suitability for outdoor living.

Scoring Criteria for Class 4	Points
<i>First Impression:</i> -visual impact, wow factor	10
<i>Overall Effect:</i> - balance, rhythm/ flow	10
<i>Use of Space:</i> -proportion, layout and balance, transition	15
<i>Special Features:</i> -placement/location	5
<i>Plant Material Variety:</i> -combinations, use and arrangement, four season interest, colour and texture	20
<i>Condition of Plant Material:</i> -health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	15
<i>Maintenance:</i> -grooming/staking, mulch/condition, pruning, free of debris, weeds and clutter	15
<i>Lawns and Hardscaping:</i> -maintenance/health, effective use of hardscaping	10
TOTAL	100



CLASS 5: MIXED PERENNIAL BED or BORDER

- A **designated bed/border** that has a minimum of 25 different genuses of perennials. Plant material, excluding trees and shrubs, must be at least 75% herbaceous perennials.
- **Area to be judged must be clearly marked to avoid penalty.**
- Emphasis is placed on the design elements and variety of plant material.

Scoring Criteria for Class 5		Points
<i>Design and Overall Effect:</i>	-first impression, visual impact, rhythm/flow, wow factor	20
<i>Integration:</i>	-balance and proportion, creativity, use of color	20
<i>Plant Material Variety and Use:</i>	- combinations, textural contrast, variety of foliage	15
<i>Condition of Plant Material:</i>	-health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	15
Uncommon Plants:	-unusual plants, borderline hardiness, plant labelling	15
<i>Seasonal Appeal:</i>	-succession of bloom, four season interest	10
<i>Maintenance:</i>	-grooming/staking, mulch/condition, free of weeds, debris and clutter	5
TOTAL		100



CLASS 6: COLLECTIONS

- A collection* of plants from any one plant genus**, which includes a minimum of 15 different species or cultivars.
- Must be expected to be at or near peak performance in mid-July (whether the highlight is foliage or blossom).
- May be gathered in one area or distributed throughout the garden. **To avoid penalty, collection to be judged must be clearly marked and individual plants labelled where necessary.**
- **A listing of species/cultivars as complete as possible must be posted in the garden for the judges.**
- Emphasis will be placed on the variety and maturity of the collection.

*Collection examples include: Roses (*Rosa*), Lilies (*Lilium*), Daylilies (*Hemerocallis*), Hostas (*Hosta*)...any genus/species that fits the criteria above.

**NOTE: A collection of succulents from different plant genres is allowed.

Scoring Criteria for Class 6		Points
<i>Design and Overall Effect:</i>	-first impression, visual impact, placement in the garden	15
<i>Plant Material:</i>	-variety of species/cultivars, unusual cultivars, impact of colour/texture/ combinations	30
<i>Condition of Plant Material:</i>	-health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	30
<i>Maintenance:</i>	-grooming/staking (as applicable), deadheading (as appropriate), free of debris, weeds and clutter	20
<i>Uncommon Plants:</i>	-unusual species, borderline hardiness, plant labelling	5
TOTAL		100

CLASS 7: EDIBLE (Vegetable and Fruit) GARDEN

- A designated area with at least 80% vegetables and fruits. Ornamentals may be used for aesthetics or as companion plants.
- As this Class is judged early in the season, entrants are encouraged to display developing produce so that judges do not disturb crops.
- **Area to be judged must be clearly marked to avoid penalty.**



Scoring Criteria for Class 7		Points
<i>Design and Overall Effect:</i>	-aesthetic appeal, integration, decorative features	15
<i>Use of Space:</i>	-layout for maximum production of edibles, adequate spacing, adequate access for harvesting	15
<i>Plant Material:</i>	-suitable for site, uncommon or rare plants, seasonal variety, effective combinations for health or visual appeal.	20
<i>Condition of Plant Material:</i>	-health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	30
<i>Maintenance:</i>	-adequate support/staking, thinning, free of debris, weeds and clutter	10
<i>Evidence of Good Practices:</i>	-water conservation, composting, weed control	10
TOTAL		100

CLASS 8: WATER FEATURE

- An in-ground* environment that supports aquatic plants.
- This Class may include fish, amphibians, waterfalls, marginal plants and marshes **within the water garden**.
- At least 5 aquatic plant genres must be present in the water garden.
- **Area to be judged must be clearly marked to avoid penalty.**

*May be raised but must not be “stand-alone” as a container.

Scoring Criteria for Class 8		Points
<i>Design, Arrangement, Sound:</i>	-visual impact, site choice/integration with rest of garden, movement/water sound	15
<i>Use of Space:</i>	-proportion, layout and balance	10
<i>Special Features/Focal Point:</i>	-visual appeal, living fish (not necessary but advantageous)	15
<i>Plant Material and Variety of Aquatic Plants:</i>	-combinations, contrast, suitability	15
<i>Condition of Aquatic Plant Material:</i>	-health/vigour, maturity	15
<i>Bank Edge Plant Material:</i>	-variety, health, integration	15
<i>Maintenance and Cleanliness:</i>	water clarity, algae control, free of debris, filtration system	15
TOTAL		100

CLASS 9a: SINGLE CONTAINER, Includes FAIRY GARDENS

- One container with at least four species of flowering or non- flowering plants.
- **Container to be judged must be clearly marked to avoid penalty.**
- **Limit of two entries per household.**

CLASS 9b: CONTAINER COLLECTION

- An arrangement of two or more containers with at least four species of flowering or non-flowering plants in the arrangement.
- **Containers to be judged must be clearly marked to avoid penalty.**
- **Limit of two entries per household.**

Criteria for Classes 9a and 9b	Points
<i>Design and Overall Effect:</i> -first impression, visual impact, proportion and balance.	15
<i>Originality:</i> -intrigue, choice of container(s), creativity, textural contrast, visual appeal	25
<i>Relationship with Surrounding Area:</i> -placement/location, integration with rest of garden	10
<i>Plant Material:</i> -combinations, colour and texture, flowers and foliage	20
<i>Condition of Plant Material:</i> -health/vigour, maturity	15
<i>Maintenance:</i> -grooming, deadheading, free and debris and clutter	15
TOTAL	100

CLASS 10: SPECIALIZED AREA OF THE GARDEN

- A defined area or feature that stands apart from the rest of the garden because of plant requirements, a special function or design. Examples: side garden, alpine garden, annual bed, planting integrated with pathways/ hardscaping, xeriscape or living walls, and plant artwork.
- Judged on its own merits.
- **Area to be judged must be clearly marked to avoid penalty.**

Criteria for Class 10		Points
<i>Design and Overall Effect:</i>	-first impression, visual impact, rhythm/flow	15
<i>Use of Space:</i>	-integration, balance/proportion, transition into adjacent garden	15
<i>Focal Points/Scale:</i>	-visual appeal, placement/location	10
<i>Plant Material Variety:</i>	-combinations, use and arrangement, colour and texture	20
<i>Condition of Plant Material:</i>	-health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	15
<i>Maintenance:</i>	-grooming/staking, mulch/condition, pruning (as applicable), free of weeds, debris and clutter, lawn and hardscaping well cared for (if applicable)	25
TOTAL		100

CLASS 11: CHILDREN'S GARDEN

- An edible, flower or fairy garden (in-ground or raised bed) of at least 9 square feet (approximately 1 square metre), designed and maintained primarily by a child or children ages 14 and under.
- Must include at least two plant genres
- **Feature to be judged must be clearly marked to avoid penalty.**



Scoring Criteria for Class 11		Points
<i>Design and Overall Effect:</i>	-fun and appealing, decorative features	20
<i>Use of Space:</i>	- adequate spacing for growth	15
<i>Plant Material:</i>	-suitable for site, uncommon or unusual plants (eg watermelon)	15
<i>Condition of Plant Material:</i>	-health/vigour, maturity	30
<i>Maintenance:</i>	-adequate support/staking, use of mulch, thinning, generally tidy and weeded	20
TOTAL		100

CLASS 12: COMMUNITY GARDEN

- A garden tended collectively by a group of amateur gardeners, such as on a church or community hall grounds, a seniors' residence, or community plots.
- The garden must contain a combination of edible and ornamental plants.
- Both horticultural and decorative effort will be judged.
- Entire area, including workspaces, composting areas and any planters will be judged.



Criteria for Class 12	Points
<i>Design and Overall Effect:</i>	-aesthetic appeal, integration, decorative features 15
<i>Use of Space:</i>	-layout for maximum production of edibles, adequate spacing, adequate access for harvesting 15
<i>Plant Material:</i>	-suitable for site, uncommon or rare plants, seasonal variety, effective combinations for health or visual appeal 20
<i>Condition of Plant Material:</i>	-health/vigour, hardiness, maturity 30
<i>Maintenance:</i>	-adequate support/staking, thinning, free of debris, weeds and clutter 10
<i>Evidence of Good Practices:</i>	-water conservation, composting, weed control 10
TOTAL	100

Edmonton Horticultural Society

Garden Competition

2020 Entry Form

Please print clearly. Please complete all sections/both pages.

OR ENTER ON-LINE and pay by credit card. See page 5 for details.

Contact information

Name(s): _____

Street: _____

City/Town: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

*Mailing address if different from garden address: _____

Eligibility

Please ensure that you thoroughly read and understand the Competition rules, judging and scoring criteria and entry Classes descriptions. You may enter as many Classes as you wish with the following exceptions:

- If you enter Class 1 (Home Garden Grand Challenge) or Class 2 (Newly-Designed Garden), you are **not eligible** to enter any other Class this year.

Entry fees: \$10/Class for EHS Members, \$15/Class for non-members

Deadline: Entries must be received by midnight on **Wed. July 8, 2020.**

Choose Entry Classes

Please mark with an "X" the Class(es) you are entering.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Class 1: Grand Challenge | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Class 2: Newly-Designed | <input type="checkbox"/> Class 8: Water Garden* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Class 3: Decorative Front | <input type="checkbox"/> Class 9a: Single Container* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Class 4: Decorative Back | <input type="checkbox"/> Class 9b: Container Collection* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Class 5: Mixed Perennial Bed* | <input type="checkbox"/> Class 10: Specialized Area* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Class 6: Collections* | <input type="checkbox"/> Class 11: Children's Garden* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Class 7: Edible Garden* | <input type="checkbox"/> Class 12: Community Garden |

*For those Classes that require identifying the space/item to be judged, please include a separate page with description/location details and mark them clearly in your garden.

Complete to Enter

- I have read, understand and agree to the entry, judging, penalty, scoring, photography, and prize rules and requirements.
- EHS Member Non-Member Please send me membership info

I have been gardening at my current location for _____ years.

Total classes entered _____ x \$10_(member) or \$15 = Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Please enclose cheque for total fees, payable to EHS.

Mail to:

EHS Garden Competition
c/o Jolene
10746 – 178 Street
Edmonton AB, T5S 1J3

**Deadline: Must be received by
midnight Wed. July 8, 2020**

Appendix: Tips and Glossary

Tips for Judging Days

After all your preparations, you will want to ensure that all goes smoothly when the judges and photographers visit your garden.

Remember that judging goes ahead rain or shine and prepare accordingly.

Ensure that garden areas to be judged are accessible to the judges and photographers throughout BOTH days.

Have your garden ready for judging and photography **by 7:30am** on **BOTH** judging days. Even if someone visited your garden on day one, another judge or photographer may visit on day two. **Check your mailbox for a notice that judging AND photography have been completed.**

Turn off water sprinklers.

Restrain all pets.

On each of the two judging days **IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** that:

- ☒ The garden has been watered and looks fresh.
- ☒ Hoses, garden equipment and general clutter are put away.
- ☒ Flowers are deadheaded. (If you are saving seeds for next year, keep only a few spent heads.)
- ☒ Dried branches, twigs and yellow leaves have been discarded.
- ☒ Walks, decks and patios are swept and tidy.
- ☒ Garage and doors are closed.
- ☒ The yard is free of weeds.
- ☒ Plants are staked or supported using unobtrusive materials.
- ☒ Plants are identified, particularly for specific Classes as noted, or in cases of uncommon plants.

Glossary of Terms Used in this Booklet

Cultivar: Plant raised or selected in cultivation that retains distinct, uniform characteristics when propagated.

Flow: Good movement in the garden through the use of plants, features or hardscaping that relate to each other.

Focal Points: Special interest items that highlight an area of the garden, such as a statue, obelisk, gazing ball, showy plant or group of plants. May be enjoyed from more than one point of view.

Four Season Interest: Plant combinations that provide interest through blossom, seed-head, colour, shape or texture throughout the seasons.

Genus: Primary category of plant classification between family and species, which encompasses species that share a wide range of characteristics.

Hardscaping: The permanent elements of the garden, including decks, walls, pavement, gravel, rock layers, walkways and paths.

Identification: The labelling or listing of plants including genus, species, cultivar and common name. This applies wherever labelling/identification is required.

Integration: The complementary aspects of the various elements, including architectural features of the house, the plant material, the natural landscape, adjacent landscape, etc.

Layout: The physical arrangement of the elements in the garden, and their balance, flow, accessibility, scale, etc.

Mulch: Any material used to cover soil in beds, including wood chips, bark, gravel, compost and lawn clippings.

Overall Effect: What you see when you first look at the garden, first impression, intrigue, visual impact and “wow” factors.

Proportion: The size of the beds, plants and hardscaping, in relation to each other and the surrounding elements. A garden in good proportion seems to fit together, with no elements out of scale.

Special Features: Examples include pergolas, gazebos, archways, arbours, birdbaths, sculptures and water features, as well as unusual plants in a surprising or unexpected context.

Species: A subdivision of a genus considered as a basic biological classification and containing individual plants that resemble one another and may interbreed. For instance, *Rosa* (genus) *rugosa* (species).

Use: Where plants are placed in the garden so that they thrive or serve a specific function such as screening, shading, contrast, specific season of bloom, etc.

Maintenance:

Pruning: Where and when appropriate, according to guidelines for specific plant requirements or for effect.

Deadheading: Removal of spent flower heads to encourage further flower production while inhibiting seed development.

Staking: Tall plants provided with some form of unobtrusive support or provided with adequate decorative support using screens, pergolas, arbours, etc.

Pest management: Reduction of aphids, ants and other common pests as deemed appropriate for plant health.

Lawns: Free of weeds and debris, edges trimmed, adequately watered and fertilized.

Garden beds: Free of weeds and debris, with soil freshly turned or mulched, and watered early in the day.