

## **Contents**

Ga	irden Competition 2022	3
	Competition Rules, Fees, and Judging	2
	Photography	4
	Results, Awards and Prizes	. 4
	How to Enter	. 7
En	try Classes and Scoring Criteria	8
	CLASS 1: HOME GARDEN GRAND CHALLENGE	8
	CLASS 2: NEWLY-DESIGNED GARDEN	9
	CLASS 3: DECORATIVE FRONT GARDEN	.10
	CLASS 4: DECORATIVE BACK GARDEN	11
	CLASS 5: MIXED PERENNIAL BED or BORDER	12
	CLASS 6: COLLECTIONS	13
	CLASS 7: EDIBLE (Vegetable and Fruit) GARDEN	14
	CLASS 8: WATER GARDEN	15
	CLASS 9A: SINGLE CONTAINER, Includes FAIRY GARDENS	16
	CLASS 9B: CONTAINER COLLECTION	16
	CLASS 10: SPECIALIZED AREA OF THE GARDEN	17
	CLASS 11: COMMUNITY GARDEN	18
20	22 Entry Form	19
	Tips for Judging Days	21
	Glossary of Terms Used in this Booklet	22

#### The Edmonton Horticultural Society presents

## Garden Competition 2022

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, and plant collections.

#### **Find Out More**

Visit <a href="https://edmontonhort.com/">https://edmontonhort.com/</a>, click on EHS activities and follow the links to see some winning gardens from previous years and to find tips for impressing the judges. If you 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 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!

#### **Debbi Dickson**

#### **EHS President**

### 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 ARE 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.
- 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 that is entering.\*\*
  - \*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.
- Home gardeners may enter a maximum of 4 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.
- 4. Winners of the Home Garden Grand Challenge are not eligible to enter the Home Garden Grand Challenge until 3 years have passed. They are eligible to enter other categories after winning the Home Garden Grand Challenge.

#### **Entry Fees and Deadline**

- 5. 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.
- Entries must be received by midnight on Wednesday, July 27th, 2022.
   Please see "How to Enter" on page 5. Find the entry form on pages 19 and 20.

#### **Judging, Penalties and Disputes**

- Judging takes place from August 3rd to August 6th from 7:30 am to 9:00 pm. Your garden may be visited by more than one set of judges over the judging period, as well as by a photographer. Please prepare for all days.
- 8. 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.
- 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.
- 10. 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 <a href="https://www.alberta.ca/provincially-regulated-weeds.aspx">https://www.alberta.ca/provincially-regulated-weeds.aspx</a>. Be informed so you do not lose points.
- Disqualification or docked points may result for entering in an inappropriate class or for lack of signage/labelling (see specific Classes and judging criteria).
- 12. The decision of the judges is final.

#### **Photography**

- 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 EHS website, for display, social media, promotional or educational purposes.
- 2. By entering the Competition, entrants give permission for all photography by the EHS and its agents to be used for the uses described in section 1 above.

#### **Results, Awards and Prizes**

- 1. Winners are notified by email following the judging. All entrants will receive a copy of their judging sheets via email.
- 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.
- 4. At the discretion of the Competition Chair, special awards may be presented.
- 5. Awards for each class/sub-class with entries in the 2022 Garden Competition will be announced on our website and social media shortly following the judging process.

#### **How to Enter**

There are a total of 11 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 5).

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

- Carefully review all information in this booklet or at <a href="https://edmontonhort.com/garden-competition/">https://edmontonhort.com/garden-competition/</a> 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 19 and 20 or enter and pay on-line.
- 4. Submit your entry on-line, or by mail. If you choose to submit an entry, the entry must be received by July 27th, 2022.

**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 19 and 20) along with your total entry fee and cheque payable to the EHS.

Mailing address: EHS Garden Competition

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 the home garden, of any size will be considered. 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.
- Entrants in this Class are not eligible to enter any other Class (See page 4, section 3).
- Entrants in this Class are not eligible to enter if they have won first place in the last three years.

Scoring Criteria for C	Class 1	Points
Design and Overall Effect	First impression, visual impact, rhythm/flow	15
Use of Space	Proportion, layout and balance, transition	15
Focal Points/Scale	Visual appeal, placement/location	10
Plant Material Variety	Combinations, use and arrangement, four season interest, colour and texture	20
Condition of Plant Material	Health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	15
Maintenance	Grooming/staking, mulch/condition, pruning, free of debris, weeds and clutter	15
Lawns and Hardscaping	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 C	Class 2	Points
Design and Overall Effect	First impression, visual impact, rhythm/flow	15
Use of Space	Proportion, layout and balance, transition	15
Focal Points/Scale	Visual appeal, placement/location	10
Plant Material Variety	Combinations, use and arrangement, four season interest, colour and texture	20
Condition of Plant Material	Health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	15
Maintenance	Grooming/staking, mulch/condition, pruning, free of debris, weeds and clutter	15
Lawns and Hardscaping	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 C	Class 3	Points
First Impression	Curb appeal, visual impact, wow factor	10
Overall Effect	First impression, visual impact, rhythm/flow	10
Use of Space	Proportion, layout and balance, transition	15
Special Features	Placement/location	5
Plant Material Variety	Combinations, use and arrangement, four season interest, colour and texture	20
Condition of Plant Material	Health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	15
Maintenance	Grooming/staking, mulch/condition, pruning, free of debris, weeds and clutter	15
Lawns and Hardscaping	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 flowerbeds, trees, shrubs and hardscaping.
- Emphasis is on originality of design and decorative effect, and suitability for outdoor living.

Scoring Criteria for Class 4		Points
First Impression	Curb appeal, visual impact, wow factor	10
Overall Effect	First impression, visual impact, rhythm/flow	10
Use of Space	Proportion, layout and balance, transition	15
Special Features	Placement/location	5
Plant Material Variety	Combinations, use and arrangement, four season interest, colour and texture	20
Condition of Plant Material	Health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	15
Maintenance	Grooming/staking, mulch/condition, pruning, free of debris, weeds and clutter	15
Lawns and Hardscaping	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 C	Class 5	Points
Design and Overall Effect	First impression, visual impact, rhythm/flow, wow factor	20
Integration	Balance and proportion, creativity, use of colour	20
Plant Material Variety and Use	Combinations, textural contrast, variety of foliage	15
Condition of Plant Material	Health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	15
Uncommon Plants	Unusual plants, borderline hardiness, plant labelling	15
Lawns and Hardscaping	Succession of bloom, four season interest	10
Maintenance	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.

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

Scoring Criteria for Class 6		Points
Design and Overall Effect	First impression, visual impact, placement in the garden	15
Plant Material	Variety of species/cultivars, unusual cultivars, impact of colour/texture/combinations	30
Condition of Plant Material	Health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	30
Uncommon Plants	Unusual plants, borderline hardiness, plant labelling	5
Maintenance	Grooming/staking (as applicable), deadheading (as appropriate), free of debris, weeds and clutter	20
TOTAL		100

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

#### **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
Design and Overall Effect	Aesthetic appeal, integration, decorative features	15
Use of Space	Layout for maximum production of edibles, adequate spacing, adequate access for harvesting	15
Plant Material	Suitable for site, uncommon or rare plants, seasonal variety, effective combinations for health or visual appeal.	20
Condition of Plant Material	Health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	30
Maintenance	Adequate support/staking, thinning, free of debris, weeds and clutter	10
Evidence of Good Practices	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 genuses must be present in the water garden.
- Area to be judged must be clearly marked to avoid penalty.

<sup>\*</sup>May be raised but must not be "stand-alone" as a container.

Scoring Criteria for C	Class 8	Points
Design, Arrangement, Sound	Visual impact, site choice/integration with rest of garden, movement/water sound	15
Use of Space	Proportion, layout and balance	10
Special Features/Focal Point:	Visual appeal, living fish (not necessary but advantageous)	15
Plant Material and Variety of Aquatic Plants:	Combinations, contrast, suitability	15
Condition of Aquatic Plant Material	Health/vigour, maturity	15
Bank Edge Plant Material:	Variety, health, integration	15
Maintenance and Cleanliness	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(s) 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.
- Container(s) to be judged must be clearly marked to avoid penalty.
- Limit of two entries per household.

Scoring Criteria for C	Classes 9a and 9b	Points
Design and Overall Effect	First impression, visual impact, proportion and balance	15
Originality	Intrigue, choice of container(s), creativity, textural contrast, visual appeal	25
Relationship with Surrounding Area	Placement/location, integration with rest of garden	10
Plant Material	Combinations, colour and texture, flowers and foliage	20
Condition of Plant Material	Health/vigour, maturity	15
Maintenance	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.

Scoring Criteria for C	Class 10	Points
Design and Overall Effect	First impression, visual impact, rhythm/flow	15
Use of Space	Integration, balance/proportion, transition into adjacent garden	15
Focal Points/Scale	Visual appeal, placement/location	10
Plant Material Variety	Combinations, use and arrangement, colour and texture	20
Condition of Plant Material	Health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	15
Maintenance	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: 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.

Scoring Criteria for C	Class 11	Points
Design and Overall Effect	Aesthetic appeal, integration, decorative features	15
Use of Space	Layout for maximum production of edibles, adequate spacing, adequate access for harvesting	15
Plant Material Variety	Suitable for site, uncommon or rare plants, seasonal variety, effective combinations for health or visual appeal	20
Condition of Plant Material	Health/vigour, hardiness, maturity	30
Maintenance	Adequate support/staking, thinning, free of debris, weeds and clutter	10
Evidence of Good Practices:	Water conservation, composting, weed control	10
TOTAL		100

# Edmonton Horticultural Society Garden Competition 2022 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.

## 

#### Eligibility

Please ensure that you thoroughly read and understand the competition rules, judging and scoring criteria and entry Classes descriptions. You may enter **a maximum of 4 Classes** 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.
- If you have placed first in a specific category in the last three years, you are not eligible to win again in that category for a period of three(3) years.

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

**Deadline:** Entries must be received by midnight on Wednesday July 27th, 2022.

Please mark with an "X" the Class(es) you are entering.	
Class 1: Grand Challenge	☐ Class 7: Edible Garden*
☐ Class 2: Newly-Designed	☐ Class 8: Water Garden*
☐ Class 3: Decorative Front	☐ Class 9a: Single Container*
☐ Class 4: Decorative Back	☐ Class 9b: Container Collection*
☐ Class 5: Mixed Perennial Bed*	☐ Class 10: Specialized Area*
Class 6: Collections*  *For those Classes that require identifying the include a separate page with description/loca	
your garden.	tion details and mark them clearly in
Complete to Enter	
I have read, understood and agreed 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 locat	tion for years.
Total classes entered x \$10(member) or \$15 = Total Enclosed: \$ Please enclose a cheque for total fees, payable to EHS.	
Mail to: EHS Garden Competition 10746 – 178 Street Edmonton AB, T5S 1J3	Deadline:  Must be received by midnight Wednesday  July 27th, 2022

**Choose Entry Classes** 

#### **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 the judging period.

Have your garden ready for judging and photography **by 7:30 am** throughout the judging period. Even if someone visited your garden on day one, another judge or photographer may visit on day two, three or four.

Turn off water sprinklers.

Restrain all pets.

On each of the 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 fertilised.

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