

## **REGIONAL AWARDS GENERAL RULES – Revised 2014, Updated 2015, 2017, 2019, 2023**

1. All awards are based on work done during the regional awards year which is June 1- May 31.
2. The awards are competitive between the six New England states. **NOTE:** The term “State Garden Club” used in the Rules means each of the six State Federations.
3. Applications for awards #1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 12A, 12B, 13, 15A, 15B, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21A, 21B, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27 are submitted to the State Garden Clubs Awards Committee, which selects one entry for each award from their state to represent them in the annual regional competition.
4. Awards #7 and 8 do not require applications. The winner is determined from official NGC records.
5. Awards # 12A, 13, 15A, 19, 20, 21A, 22, 26, and 27 receive monetary gifts. **NOTE:** In some cases, funding has run out for an award. Our Treasurer will try to contact the original donor or her family to see if they want to continue to fund an award. An award certificate will continue to be awarded whether there is a cash award or not.
6. Awards # 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12B, 15B, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21B, 23, and 24, receive a Certificate, unless noted differently.
7. All awards except #11 are presented annually at the Regional Meeting.

**SEND APPLICATIONS TO:** New England Garden Clubs Regional Awards Chairman, (information on Application Form) **postmarked on or before September 1st. *Electronic submissions are highly recommended.*** Include an NEGC Award Application Form for each award. Each award application is limited to three pages, one side only. The application form counts as one page. Exceptions will be noted. **Exceptions:** Speech and Essay Contest and Smokey Bear Poster are to be sent directly to regional representative for Youth Activities. The Regional Unified Project application should be sent to the Regional Director.

**YEARBOOKS** – first place winner from each size category are to be sent to the Regional Awards Chairman **no later than September 1.**

**ADDITIONAL RULES:** Due to the limited time available for presentation of awards at the annual regional meeting, it was resolved to limit the number of awards available for competition to past regional directors and Allied Organizations. Changes in, additions to, deletions from awards may be made by the regional board.

### **SCALE OF POINTS FOR ALL AWARDS (EXCEPTIONS NOTED)**

#### **PRESENTATION: 5 points**

Neat, concise, includes all required information on NEGC Awards Application Form (three sheets allowed, one side only, and the Application Form counts as one sheet).

#### **ACHIEVEMENT: 65 points**

Scope of project, need and fulfillment benefit, accomplishment, comprehensiveness of work, activities to attain goals, evaluation of goals reached, educational, very brief history if continuing project, financial report, other.

#### **PARTICIPATION: 15 points**

Size of club, involvement of members, involvement with community, government agencies, professionals, youth, residents in facilities, others.

#### **RECORDS OR DOCUMENTATION: 15 points**

Supporting data (as applicable) clear, well labeled and neatly attached before and after photos if applicable, landscape plan (does not have to be professionally drawn) financial report, letters of appreciation, community awards, newspaper/magazine articles (if possible) radio or TV script (if possible) etc. Photo copies permitted.

#### **TOTAL: 100 points**

*Revised 6/2023*

## LIST OF NEGC AWARDS

1. **THE SEARS CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION AWARD:** This award was established in 1966 by Sears, Roebuck & Company for work done by member clubs to beautify their communities. Each State Garden Club may select one Civic Beautification Project to submit as the most outstanding in their state from June 1 - May 31 of each year.
2. **THE LAURA WETMORE CONSERVATION AWARD:** Established in 1968 by Mrs. E. Van Dyke Wetmore (CT) for work done by member clubs in Environmental Education and Conservation. Each State Garden Club may submit one Environmental Education and Conservation project as the most outstanding for work done from June 1 - May 31 of each year. Projects will also be evaluated according to the donor's specification that the work must have been undertaken for the specific purpose of environmental education, and may have been done for the benefit of young people, the club members, or the general public.
3. **AWARD RETIRED.**
4. **THE MARIE E. LEWIS CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES AWARD:** Donated in 1974 by the Community League Garden Club, Weston, MA for the best work to acquire, preserve or develop a natural resource. Each State Garden Club may select one project (one club or one group) to submit as the most outstanding, for work done from June 1 - May 31 of each year in acquisition, preservation, or development of natural resources.
5. **THE CORNELIA WILLIAMSON WATSON AWARD FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION:** Established in 1974 by Mrs. Watson (CT) for the best work of lasting benefit to the community or state in the field of historic preservation. Each State Garden Club may select one project by a member club or an individual member to submit as the most outstanding work done to save and restore an historic building or landmark; to preserve an ancient cemetery or private burial ground; to list old homes with history of ownership; to restore or plant a garden to enhance a restored building or area; or to assist in teaching local heritage. Project may have been done in cooperation with Historical Societies or related groups.
6. **AWARD RETIRED.**
7. **THE HELEN HUSSEY CHAMPLIN AWARD:** Established in 1977 by the New England Region to the State Garden Club with the largest number of new members. No application necessary. Award will be determined by official NGC records.
8. **THE MILDRED BLACK PETTIT AWARD:** Established in 1977 by Mrs. Pettit (ME) to the State Garden Club with the largest percentage increase in new members. No application necessary. Award will be determined by official NGC records.
9. **AWARD RETIRED.**
10. **THE MARY STONE GARDEN THERAPY AWARD:** Established in 1980 by Mrs. Francis Stone (NH) for work done by members with handicapped, elderly or ill in a variety of well-balanced garden related projects. This award is given annually to a member club for their outstanding work from June 1 - May 31 of the award year.
11. **THE JEAN MERRIMAN WILLIAMS REGIONAL UNIFIED PROJECT AWARD:** Established in 1984 by Mrs. Williams (VT) this award goes to the State Garden Club that has the most outstanding or meaningful project related to the regional two-year program or project. Each State Garden Club to present their project in competition with the other State Garden Clubs in the Region. The State Garden Club project selected as the most outstanding will receive a Certificate of Merit to be awarded at a NEGC gathering at the NGC Convention in the odd-numbered years. Book of Evidence should include: **1.** Complete description of the work done during the term. **2.** Summary of prior work

done if the project was begun before the beginning of the term and/or future plans if it is a continuing project. **3.** Supporting evidence to give ALL essential information. **4.** The Book of Evidence MUST be received by the NEGC Director **by November 1** in the even-numbered year. The NEGC Director shall extrapolate from State Garden Club reports and compile a regional Book of Evidence. Guidelines for preparing an Award application for both State Garden Club and Region are found on the NGC website. The NEGC Director may choose the method used to judge. She may make the selection or may appoint a committee.

**12A. THE MARY LOUISE MARKS SMITH FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE AWARD:**

Established in 1987 by Mrs. Smith, (ME) for the best schedule for a Standard, Small Standard, Design Specialty, or Horticulture Specialty Flower Show presented by an individual garden club and held during the regional year June 1 to May 31 each year. Please enclose two schedules (unattached) with the application. Send to Awards Chairman indicating number of award and name of state on front of manila envelope. An annual award of \$25 will be presented to the winning club. In 2004 Mary Louise Smith's husband continued this award in her memory.

**12B.** Same requirements as 12A except this award is for States, Districts, or Judges' Councils, and the winner receives a certificate of merit. Scale of accordance with the current Handbook for Flower Shows.

**13. THE VIRGINIA F. THURSTON LANDSCAPE DESIGN AWARD:** Established in 1989 by Virginia and William Thurston (MA) for a landscape design education program or project using good design for public benefit. A \$100 annual award will be presented to the winning garden club, and a certificate will be presented to the State Garden Club and the winning garden club. Each State Garden Club may submit one project (one club or one group) selected as the most outstanding work done from June 1 - May 31 in the area of landscape design, educational program, or in an actual project or projects using good design for the public benefit.

**14. AWARD RETIRED.**

**15A. THE VIRGINIA KENNEY/MAUREEN COLTON AWARD:** Established in 1995 by Virginia Kenney and Maureen Colton (RI) for the best Horticulture Division in an NGC Standard or Small Standard Flower Show. A \$25 annual award will be presented to the winning member club. Each State Garden Club may submit one entry, selected as the most outstanding by the state's NGC flower show judges. The award presentation shall contain a one-page description with four (4) representative photographs on the reverse side to be placed in one glassine protector. A copy of the schedule and other pertinent information required below shall be attached.

**SCALE OF POINTS:**

Copy of Schedule judged for correct wording (See Handbook for Flower Shows current edition) **5 points**

Number of Members Exhibiting **40 points**

Number of club members, Number of exhibits, Quality of exhibits (list all awards presented including number of first, second, third, honorable mention and 90+ as well as top awards [TEA] presented) **40 points**

Relationship of Staging to Design Staging **10 points**

Staging Presentation **5 points**

**TOTAL: 100 points**

**15B.** The same requirements as 15A except this award is for States, Districts, or Judges' Councils, and the winner receives a Certificate of Merit.

16. **THE NANCY H. ATWELL AWARD:** Established in 1997 by Nancy H. Atwell (ME) for the most outstanding publicity incorporating NGC and NEGC objectives. A certificate will be presented annually to the winning State Garden Club or member club. Each State Garden Club may submit one entry from the member club or State Garden Club as the most outstanding for “Publicity Demonstrating National Garden Clubs, Inc. or NEGC Objectives.”
- 17A. **THE JEANNE-MARIE PARKES AWARD:** A certificate may be awarded to an individual, or club, for creating an educational exhibit that can be displayed at a flower show, library, or other public building to encourage awareness of our environmental problems.
- 17B. The same requirements as 17A but this award is for States, Districts, or Judges’ Councils, and the winner receives a Certificate of Merit.
18. **THE VIRGINIA GRANDPRÉ WILDLIFE GARDENING AWARD:** Established in 1999 by Virginia GrandPré (NH) for the most outstanding work in wildlife gardening. A certificate will be presented annually to the winning club. Each State Garden Club may submit one club project as the most outstanding work in wildlife gardening. The award will be presented to the garden club with the best Butterfly/Bird Garden project in a public area (including schools). The project may be one already instituted but must have new activity during the award year June 1 - May 31.
19. **THE LINA F. WAGNER PERENNIAL GARDEN AWARD:** Donated in 2000 by Lina F. Wagner (CT) for creating and maintaining a perennial garden on private or public land by an individual garden club member. \$100 and a certificate may be awarded annually to the winning club member. Each State may submit one perennial garden Book of Evidence compiled by the winning state entry. The State winner will have been judged and selected by a three-person panel appointed by the State President. The panel will consist of a landscape design consultant, an accredited flower show judge, and a horticulture expert. The garden must be at least three years old.

#### **SCALE OF POINTS:**

Design, fitness, suitability beauty and distinction    **25 points**

Plant material, sustainable maintenance, suitability to site and design    **25 points**

Presentation -- Documentation using colored photographs of garden before and after with descriptions.

Sketch of plan listing botanic names of all plants (refer to NGC Awards Rule #8). Please note:

Application not to exceed 6 pages (12 surfaces.) Table of Contents not needed.    **25 points**

Maintenance    **25 points**

**TOTAL: 100 points**

20. **THE DEANNA J. MOZZOCHI CREATIVE DESIGN AWARD:** Established in 2004 by Deanna J. Mozzochi (CT). Design must have been created during the NEGC award year June 1 - May 31. This award is for the best Creative Design of the year, exhibited by an NGC member at a Standard, Small Standard, or Design Specialty Flower Show, arrangers’ group, library, museum, gallery, etc. A certificate and \$50 will be awarded annually to the winner.

#### **Requirements:**

Design must have been created during the NEGC Award year, June 1 – May 31. A 4” x 6” photograph or digital photograph of the design to be sent to the State Judges’ Council Chairman **by August 1**. No ribbons or people should be in the photograph.

On the back of photograph (use a Post-It note) list the following:

A. Name and date of event at which design was exhibited.

- B. Class name or title.
- C. Plant material used.
- D. Name and garden club of designer.
- E. A brief description of the design (optional).

**Judging:**

A panel of three Accredited judges chosen by the State Judges' Council Chairman will select that state's winning exhibit. The photograph of the winning exhibit from each state, plus the information and Application Form for Award #20 must be sent to the New England Garden Clubs Awards Chairman **by September 1**. A panel of three Accredited Judges will select the Award winner. The Scale of Points for Designs listed in the Handbook for Flower Shows, current edition, will be used in all judging.

- 21A. THE MAUREEN COLTON AWARD:** Established in 2005 by Maureen M. Colton (RI). This award is for the best class of designs exhibited by NGC members in the Design Division of an NGC Standard, Small Standard, or Design Specialty Flower Show. Garden clubs are eligible for this award. Each state may submit one entry. A certificate and \$50 will be presented to the winning regional club.

**Requirements:**

The application, placed in a binder, shall contain a one-page description of the show listing the name, date, type of show and its location. On the reverse, the class title and a photograph of each exhibit in the class. A copy of the schedule must be included. Two application forms should be attached to the inside cover. A panel of three Accredited Judges chosen by the State Judges' Council Chairman will select that state's winning exhibit. The Scale of Points for Designs listed in the Handbook for Flower Shows, current edition, will be used in all judging.

- 21B.** Same as 21A, but this award is for States, Districts or Judges' Councils and the winner receives a Certificate of Merit.
- 22. THE PAMELA C. HEBERT GARDEN OF YOUTH AWARD:** A certificate and \$50 may be awarded annually to a State Garden Club project. Each State Club may submit one club project. This award is designed for club members to work with children – our future garden club members and stewards of the land. This will involve a beautification and a youth educational project combined into one making the project an educational experience or venture for the youth. This is a continuance of our Unified Project 2005-2007 “SPROUTS “. The greatest gift we can give to our children is our time, so together we can continue to encourage our children to stop – look – and learn.
- 23. THE NEW ENGLAND WILDFLOWER SOCIETY AWARD:** Established in 2009 by the New England Wild Flower Society (now called the Native Plant Trust) for an education program or project using native plants. A certificate will be presented to the winning garden club. Each State Garden Club may submit one project (one club or one group) selected as the most outstanding work done from June 1 - May 31 in the area of a native plant education program or in an actual project or projects using native plants for the public benefit. Criteria for use of native plants is provided by the Native Plant Trust.
- 24. EXCELLENCE IN TEAMWORK AWARD:** Established in 2010 by Kathleen Thomas (MA) for an outstanding project completed by a garden club in collaboration with another organization. Each State may submit one project selected by the State Garden Club Awards Committee as the most outstanding work done from June 1 to May 31 of each year. The winner will receive a certificate.
- 25. NATIONAL GARDENING ASSOCIATION AWARD:** The National Gardening Association Award was established in 2010. A certificate of merit and may be awarded to a New England Regional Garden Club for their work with children or junior garden clubs who create an edible garden. The project may be one already instituted but must have new activity during the award year June 1 – May 31. Only one application per state will be accepted.

26. **THE JOYCE A. KIMBALL CONTAINER GARDENING AWARD:** Established in 2013 by Joyce A. Kimball (NH) for the most outstanding container garden display designed for public space. A certificate and \$25 may be awarded annually to a member club.
27. **THE MARIA J. NAHOM TABLE DESIGN AWARD:** Established in 2015 by Maria J. Nahom (CT). Awarded to the best Table Design exhibited in an NGC Standard, Small Standard, or Design Specialty Flower Show. A certificate and \$75 may be awarded annually to the winner.

**Requirements:**

Table Design must have been created during the NEGC Awards Year June 1 – May 31.

A photo of the design, minus ribbons or people, to be sent to the State Judges' Council Chairman **by August 1** each year. Please include a 'Post-it' note with:

- A. Name and date of show where design was exhibited.
- B. Class Title.
- C. Plant material used.
- D. Designer's name and garden club.

**Judging:**

A panel of three accredited judges chosen by each State's Judges' Council Chairman will select their state's winning exhibit. A photograph of the winning exhibit in each state, the required information, and an NEGC Award Application form must be sent to the NEGC Awards Chairman **by September 1**. Three accredited judges will select the NEGC winner. The scale of points for Designs listed in the current Handbook for Flower Shows and any updates listed on the NGC website will be used in judging.

**GRANTS:**

**THE VIRGINIA THURSTON CIVIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT:**

**NOTE:** *Until it's determined if there is funding for this grant, it is suspended for the time being.*

This is a grant for new or ongoing projects that New England Garden Clubs maintain. A long-term maintenance program must be included with the application. The application cannot be more than 3 total pages and must include a budget and description of the project. Photographs are encouraged. The Universal Grant Form should be used as Part 1 of the application.

**Purpose:** To encourage the New England Garden Clubs to work on community improvement projects by providing monetary grants for new or ongoing permanent plantings. Completed projects and commercial plantings are not eligible. Up to \$200.00 is available each year to be awarded by the awards committee. Only one application will be accepted from each state.

**Procedure:** Submit copy of the application no later than July 1 to your State Awards Chair (electronic applications are preferred). Applications are due to the NEGC Awards Chairman **by September 1**.

Clubs receiving grants are expected to take an active role in the project and matching funds will be considered favorably. The club will have one year from the notification of the award to complete the project and must provide completed documentation, progress photographs, a one-page report and complete financial information **by December 1** of the following year. Grant money can only be used for the specific project it was granted and cannot be transferred. If the Club fails to submit reports it will be asked to return the funds. One-year extensions must be applied for and will be granted if the Awards Committee approves. Winning clubs may not apply the following year.