



HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

YARD OF THE MONTH GUIDELINES

The purpose of the Yard of the Month program is to recognize and support Highland Park residents who demonstrate exemplary efforts in maintaining their homes and yards to enhance the overall appearance of the entire community. The program will be managed by members of the Highland Park Neighborhood Association's Physical Improvements Team.

General Guidelines

1. Yard of the Month candidates will be judged on the total appearance of their exterior property and front yard as viewed from the street. Criteria for judging will be based on the visual attractiveness, creativity, originality, beautification, and overall maintenance.
2. All Highland Park properties are automatically eligible to be nominated for Yard of the Month.
3. The upkeep of the yard can reflect the efforts of the residents or that of a professional landscaper or groundskeeper.
4. The same property cannot receive more than one award in the same calendar year.
5. Winners may be disqualified if their property is in violation of any city ordinances.
6. While the property is being recognized as a Highland Park Yard of the Month, it is expected to be maintained in the same manner that allowed them to win the title.
7. Winners must be willing to have photos of their yard published in the neighborhood newsletter and on the Highland Park website.
8. Holiday Yard of the Month candidates for December (Christmas decorations) will be judged on the total exterior appearance of their property and front yard as viewed from the street after sunset.

Award Schedule

Yard of the Month will be awarded in the months of April, May, June, July, August, October, and December.

Contest Submissions

1. Residents may nominate either a neighbor's yard or their own yard for Yard of the Month.
2. Nominations must be in by the first of the award month. There will be two exceptions to this - April and December.
3. Nominees can be submitted online on the HPNA website by simply submitting the address of the home or by providing a photograph of the property. All nominations must include the nominator's name and address.

Judging

1. Judges may consist of HPNA officers, members, honorary members, previous Yard of the Month winners, or Yard of the Month sponsors.
2. Judges will review all nominees for the month and vote on the entries using a scoresheet compiled by the Physical Improvements Team. The nominee with the highest total score will be awarded Yard of the Month.

3. Judges on the panel are not eligible to win Yard of the Month. This rule does not apply to occasional or alternate judges as long as they are not evaluating their own property.

Winners Will Receive

1. A “Highland Park Yard of the Month” sign placed in the yard until the announcement of the next month’s recipient.
2. A picture of their front yard displayed in the Highland Park newsletter and website.
3. A gift certificate (for HPNA members) OR current year paid HPNA membership (for current non-members). December non-member winner will receive a paid HPNA membership for the following year.

The Highland Park Neighborhood Association officers and the Physical Improvement Team congratulate all “Yard of the Month” recipients and encourage all neighbors to join the efforts to maintain our beautiful neighborhood.

If you feel you need help maintaining your property, please contact any HPNA officer or your Street Representative. HPNA’s Physical Improvements Team is working to coordinate volunteers in our community to reach out to those who need assistance.