

On Behalf of the Country View Village HOA, the *Yard of the Month* award program is to recognize neighbors property who exemplify the vision of our Country View Village Neighborhood – beautiful, inviting and well kept.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the program is dedicated to improving the quality of living and appearance of our community. We encourage residents to take pride in their homes and neighborhood. In turn, we look to celebrate those who do a superior job in maintaining their yards in such a way that they enhance the overall curb appeal of the entire community.

### **General Judging Criteria**

Yard of the Month candidates are judged solely on the total exterior appearance of their property and front yard and or side yard as viewed from the street. General upkeep of the yard and property is paramount. Factors include the overall appearance, tidiness and neatness of the property as evidenced by pruned, trimmed and shaped foliage, edged and defined lawns, borders & flower beds, and a visually appealing facade. The upkeep of the yard can reflect the efforts of the residents themselves or that of a professional landscaper or groundskeeper.

### **Rules**

1. The Landscaping Committee will judge yards.
2. Landscape Committee Members are not eligible to win.
3. Judging will take place the last week of the month (for the following months winner).
4. Judging will take place every calendar month
  - October & December will be the Holiday decorating contest.
5. No resident may receive Yard of the Month more than once in any calendar year.
6. An award duration term lasts a single calendar month, and run from the first day to the last day of that same month.
7. The homeowner must be in good standing with the Home Owners Association and no violations of Bylaws and/or Covenants.
8. Yard of the Month sign will be placed in the yard on the 1st day of the month and placed where it is most visible from the street.
9. The Winner will be acknowledged in the Country View Village Newsletter and on the website along with a picture. Winners will also receive a Yard and Home Improvement Store Gift Card in the amount of \$25. (i.e. Lowes, Home Depot, Rainbow Gardens, etc)

## **Detailed Judging Criteria Checklist:**

### **LAWN (5pts each)**

- Healthy grass with no bare spots or excessive weeds
- Grass mowed and edged
- Grass around foundations and fences trimmed
- Debris be picked up and removed (garbage, newspapers, pet waste, etc.)

### **LANDSCAPE & FLOWER BEDS (5pts each)**

- Beds weeded and edged
- Flowers deadheaded and dead plants removed
- Trees and shrubs pruned
- Beautification efforts including new flowers, new trees, new shrubs, etc.
- Good use of texture and color
- Plantings in scale with the surroundings and limited to a few different types rather than too many which may confuse the eye

### **WALKWAYS, DRIVEWAYS (5pts each)**

- Clean and stain free with trash containers and yard products removed from view
- Curb free from debris and dirt

### **AESTHETICS: (10pts each)**

- Overall look of landscape is pleasing (formal or informal, use of color and textures)
- Inviting look of front entryway (hanging baskets, pots, cleanliness, etc.)
- Originality/creativity (any special touches of the owner (yard art, bird feeders, etc.)

### **OTHER COMPONENTS: (10pts)**

- Houses, fences, porches, and patios on the property are required to be in good repair, i.e. minimal distraction from the landscape due to deterioration, damage or construction

### **OCTOBER/DECEMBER HOLIDAY DECORATING COMPONENTS:**

- Design - unique, inventive and thoughtful layout
- Holiday Spirit - use of materials: lights, sounds, inflatables, figures, etc.
- Creative use of holiday imagery, symbols or color