

Yard of the Month Guidelines for SSOA

Purpose

To recognize and reward homeowners who enhance the beauty and curb appeal of the community through exceptional landscaping and property maintenance.

Program Schedule

- **Seasonal Awards:** Monthly from **January through December** (some months may not be judged due to weather, IE: winter months or drought/dry months)
- **Announcement Date:** Winners announced by the **5th of each month**
- **Recognition Period:** One month (e.g., May winner holds title through May)
- Could have 2nd and 3rd place winners

Eligibility Criteria

- Must be a **member in good standing** (no outstanding dues or violations)
- Property must be **owner-occupied** (or tenant-maintained with owner approval)
- 1st Place Winners are eligible for the final drawing in December
- Common areas and commercial properties are **not eligible**

Judging Criteria

Category	Description
Overall Curb Appeal	First impression, visual impact, harmony with surroundings
Lawn Maintenance	Healthy, mowed, edged, and weed-free lawn
Flower Beds & Plants	Seasonal color, variety, arrangement, and health of plants
Cleanliness & Order	No clutter, debris, or visible maintenance issues
Creativity & Design	Use of hardscaping, lighting, native plants, or unique features
Sustainability (bonus)	Use of drought-tolerant/native plants, water-wise practices (optional)

Judging Process

- Judging conducted by Beautification and Activities **committee members**
- Judging occurs during the **1st-4th of each month**
- Winners are resulted by drawing
- Committee members must **recuse themselves** if their property is under consideration

Recognition

- **Yard of the Month sign** placed in the yard for the month, placed by 1st, 2nd and 3rd
- **Photo and write-up** in the HOA newsletter or placed on Face Book website

Administrative Note

- Committee must maintain **written log of winners and the placement** for transparency
- Winners archived in SSOA records for reference
- Program may be **suspended during droughts or emergencies or by president**