

# **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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winners are eligible for the final drawing in December
- Common areas and commercial properties are **not eligible**

## **Judging Criteria**

Category	Description
<b>Overall Curb Appeal</b>	First impression, visual impact, harmony with surroundings
<b>Lawn Maintenance</b>	Healthy, mowed, edged, and weed-free lawn
<b>Flower Beds &amp; Plants</b>	Seasonal color, variety, arrangement, and health of plants
<b>Cleanliness &amp; Order</b>	No clutter, debris, or visible maintenance issues
<b>Creativity &amp; Design</b>	Use of hardscaping, lighting, native plants, or unique features
<b>Sustainability (bonus)</b>	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-4<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>
- **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**