

2023-2025 GCFP Award Deadline Dates (Updated 7/2023)

State Awards Chair: Marilyn Small, GCFPAwardsMSmall@gmail.com; Vice Chair: Sheri Lowry, gcfpawardsslowry@gmail.com

DEADLINE DATE	GCFP AWARD NAME	CAR-SGC OR NGC AWARD NAME	<p align="center">APPLICATION FORMS AND GUIDANCE</p> <p align="center">Consult the GCFP 2023-2025 Awards Manual, CAR-SGC Awards Rules 2023-2025 NGC 2023-2025 Awards Handbook for Requirements and Rules UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ONE (1) GCFP/NGC/ CAR-SGC APPLICATION IS REQUIRED WITH EACH SUBMISSION</p>	SEND APPLICATION TO...
August	<p align="center">District Laurels</p> <p align="center">ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION</p>		Follow your District’s guidelines and refer to p. 9 of the 2023-2025 GCFP Awards Manual. There may be various due dates for various District Awards that may be presented at the Annual District Meeting.	Your District Director or District Awards Chair before your District’s specified deadline. The District Awards Chair oversees printing and distribution of District Awards Certificates which are presented at Annual District Meetings.
August	<p align="center">District Forget Me Not Honorary Award</p> <p align="center">ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION</p>		This a District Award that is presented at each District’s Annual Meeting. Refer to p. 10 of the GCFP Awards Manual for the 6 qualifying criteria. Each nominating club will complete an Awards/Cover Sheet and provide a one-page narrative describing their nominee’s qualifications, and a photo suitable to submit to the KG Online. An article showcasing each District’s Forget Me Not Honoree will be shared in the KG Online.	<p>Your District Director or District Awards Chair before your District’s specified deadline.</p> <p>DD sends electronic brief write-up and photo of Honoree to the State Awards Chair Marilyn Small to be submitted to the KG Online.</p>
August 1	<p align="center">District Exceptional Horticulturist</p> <p align="center">ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION</p>		This a District Award that is presented at each District’s Annual Meeting. Refer to GCFP Awards page on pagardenclubs.org for award criteria.	Clubs send application to Exceptional Horticulturist Chair Joanne Celaschi by August 1.
October 15		<p align="center">PLANT AMERICA Community Project Grants</p>	Guidelines and Application can be downloaded and from the NGC Forms site. Email one application form and one budget form. (2 PAGES TOTAL) DO NOT SEND PHOTOGRAPHS. Recipients of grants will be notified and all money will be awarded by January 31, 2023. Projects must be completed by February 28, 2024, and final reports are due by April 1, 2024. Up to \$1000 is available to be used for direct expenses of 2023 projects.	Email the application and budget forms, or questions to David Robson, Plant America Project Chair, PlantAmericaGrants@gardenclub.org

December 1	GCFP Club Yearbook Award HARD COPY SUBMISSION REQUIRED	CAR-SGC YB-1 Yearbook Award	Send 2 fully completed GCFP/CAR-SGC/NGC Application/Cover Sheets with your hard copy of your yearbook . Fold one copy and insert inside the yearbook, and tape the other to the outside of the yearbook before enclosing in an envelope and mailing to the GCFP Yearbook Chair. The Award number is YB-1, Name of Award is the Club Yearbook Award. Refer to the GCFP Awards Manual, p. 9-10, for judging criteria.	GCFP Club Yearbook Awards Chair Iris Cisarik Chair sends list of all winners and 1 st place yearbooks to the GCFP Awards Chair Marilyn Small, by January 5, who forwards top entries to the CAR-SGC Regional Chair before January 15.
December 1	MAE-1 Membership Awareness ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION REQUIRED	MAE-1 Membership Awareness	Given for the most innovative activity, set of activities, or most outstanding effort to increase public visibility, club membership, or make the public aware of the mission and activities of garden clubs. This includes publications such as membership brochures, leaflets, or other publications as well as publicity received. Refer to p. 32 of the NGC Awards Manual and MAE-1 Specific Scoring Rubric, p. 33. .	GCFP State Awards Chair Marilyn Small First place winners in each size category are forwarded the NGC Publications Chair before January 15.
December 1	MAE-2-A or C Websites MAE-2-B or D Social Media Pages ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION REQUIRED	MAE-2 A or C Websites MAE-2 B or D Social Media Pages	Refer to p. 34 of NGC Awards Manual to select category eligibility and club size. Narrative attached to the Awards Application/Cover Sheet should include the WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA ADDRESS , who maintains the site, frequency of updates, yearly cost to maintain, and website platform used. Refer to the MAE-2 Specific Scoring Rubric on p. 35 of the NGC Awards Manual. When filling out the Name of the Award and Number, clearly specify on the Application/Cover Sheet whether the application is for a WEBSITE (Categories A or C) OR SOCIAL MEDIAPAGE (Categories B or D).	GCFP Websites/Social Media Chair Janet Fassbender Chair sends first place winners in each size category and list with breakdown of all winners, places, size categories, and district numbers to GCFP Awards Chair Marilyn Small, by January 1, who forwards 1 st Place Winners to the NGC Awards Chair before January 15.
December 1	MAE-3 Digital Media Presentation ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION REQUIRED	MAE-3 Digital Media Presentation	Only Digital Presentations that can be forwarded electronically will be accepted. Presentations that support NGC objectives may include History/Archives, private or public garden tours, Flower Shows, Projects, Programs, or other. Audio quality, clear images, design, and creativity are among the presentation elements emphasized in the rubric. Refer to p. 35-36 of NGC Awards Manual for the MAE-3 Specific Scoring Rubric. For examples, visit the NGC Website “Video Café” found under Member Resources.	GCFP State Awards Chair Marilyn Small First place winners in each size category are forwarded to the NGC Awards Chair before January 15.
December 1	MAE-4 (A thru G) (1 thru 5) Publications (EX. MAE-4 B-1S) GCFP Newsletter/Magazine Award ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION MAY BE REQUIRED	MAE-4 (A thru G) (1 thru 5) Publications (EX. MAE-4 B-1S) NGC Newsletter/Magazine Award	Refer to p. 37-39 of the NGC Awards Handbook for MAE-4 Specific Scoring Rubric, determination of publication category, (A-G), and group/size identifiers. Categories A-D enclose 3 issues in a large manilla envelope with 3 completed Application/Cover Pages. (Staple one application to outside of the manilla envelope, enclose one with newsletter samples inside envelope, and the third copy is kept for the Chair’s records.) Forward packet in a mailing envelope. SEND HARD COPIES; ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION MAY BE REQUIRED BEFORE JANUARY 10.	GCFP Club Newsletter Awards Chair Joyce Peterson Chair sends first place winners in each newsletter size category and club size category and list of all place winners to the GCFP Awards Chair Marilyn Small, by January 1, who will forward all First Place Winners in each size category to the NGC Publications Chair before January 15.

December 1	GCFP FS-(1 thru 16) (A thru D) Flower Show Achievement Awards ELECTRONIC and HARD COPY SUBMISSION REQUIRED	FS-(1 thru 16) (A thru D) Flower Show Achievement Awards	Refer to p. 25 of the NGC Awards Handbook, the NGC Website Guidance for the Flower Show Achievement Award Application, and all other required forms in the FORMS section of the NGC website for guidance. Enclose <u>1 NGC FS Achievement Award Applications</u> , and <u>1 GCFP Application for Flower Shows</u> with your Flower Show Book of Evidence. (BOE (A Flower Show BOE example can be found on the NGC FS Forms site)	GCFP Flower Show Book of Evidence (BOE) Evaluation Chair Deb Stumpf A List of all winners and the First Place Winners in each category are forwarded to the GCFP Awards Chair Marilyn Small by January 10. GCFP First Place Winners scoring 95+ are forwarded to the NGC Awards Chair before January 15.
December 1	GCFP Standard Flower Show Schedule Award GCFP Youth FS Schedule Award ELECTRONIC and HARD COPY SUBMISSION REQUIRED	CAR-SGC Standard Flower Show Schedule Award	Refer to pg. 8 of the CAR-SGC Awards Manual and p. 17 and 27 of the GCFP Awards Manual. Enclose 1 GCFP Flower Show Application with your schedule. (Judges use the NGC Form 29 (3/2021) Scale of Points to evaluate each schedule.)	GCFP Flower Show Schedule Award Chair Margie Buccì A list of all winners and First Place Winners in each category are forwarded by February 15 to the GCFP Awards Chair Marilyn Small. First Place Winners scoring 95+ in each category are sent to the CAR-SGC FS Schedule Chair before April 1.
December 1	GCFP Youth Poetry Contest HARD COPY SUBMISSION GCFP Youth Sculpture Contest HARD COPY SUBMISSION High School Essay ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION REQUIRED	CAR-SGC/NGC Youth Contest Awards (With CAR-SGC Winners) Poetry Contest (Grades K-9) "I Spy with My Little Eye Something Green Outside - Celebrating Our Green World" Youth Sculpture Contest (Grades 4-8) High School Essay Contest (Grades 9-12) "What is the current and future impact on our society of the wildfires caused by climate change?"	For all Contests: Refer to GCFP Awards Manual p. 22-23 and CAR-SGC Awards Rules pgs. 9-12. Judge entries for all three contests on LOCAL level, and mail ONLY First Place through Honorable Mentioned Winners for each contest and grade level to Chris Hawthorne. One Parental Permission Slip Per Winning Student is Required before posting locally and/or forwarding entries to GCFP. Refer to GCFP Website Forms Library. (www.pagardenclubs.org) POETRY: When working with teachers, emphasize that the theme is not to be used as the poem title. Student contact info is to be placed on a label taped to the back of the entry. SCULPTURE: Mail up to 4 photos of recycled sculpture (ideally placed before staging panels) attached to completed NGC Sculpture Entry Forms. (Size Limit: Sculpture must fit onto 8 x 10" piece of paper.) ESSAYS: Refer to GCFP Awards Manual p. 24, CAR-SGC Awards Rules p. 9 .	GCFP Chair of Youth Activities Chis Hawthorne TOP LOCALLY JUDGED POEMS AND PICTURES OF SCULPTURES WITH THEIR SPECIAL APPLICATION FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 1. JUDGING IS DECEMBER 2. Winning entries in all categories with list of judged results are forwarded to GCFP Awards Chair by January 15, 2024 deadline. Winning entries are forwarded to the CAR-SGC Chair before February 1. Winning CAR-SGC entries are forwarded to the NGC Chair by March 1. Contact Chris Hawthorne with further questions.
December 1		All other NGC Awards SUBMIT ELECTRONICALLY	Refer to the NGC Awards Handbook for Award Names, numbers, size categories, and appropriate Scoring Rubric. A completed application includes a completed Application/Cover Sheet with up to 3 pages of narrative describing the project, event, or individual. Must be sent electronically.	GCFP Awards Chair Marilyn Small First place winning entries are forwarded to the appropriate NGC Awards Chair before January 15.

December 1		SR-1 Award of Excellence for Non-Members	Requires Awards Form 2 from the NGC Forms Library (gardenclubs.org). SUBMIT ELECTRONICALLY	GCFP Awards Chair Marilyn Small by December 1; winner submitted to NGC by January 1.
December 1	GCFP SR-4 Member of Honor Award SUBMIT ELECTRONICALLY	GCFP/CAR-SGC/NGC SR-4 Member of Honor Award	Refer to p. 10 of the GCFP Awards Manual, p. 43 of the NGC Awards Manual, and p. 17 of the CAR-SGC Awards Manual . Requires SR-4 application found on the NGC Forms site and Book of Evidence.	GCFP Awards Chair Marilyn Small First Place Winner will be forwarded to CAR-SGC by January 1. The CAR-SGC winner is forwarded to the National Award of Honor Chair before January 15.
January 1	GCFP Outstanding Educational Exhibit Award SUBMIT ELECTRONICALLY	GCFP/CAR-SGC Outstanding Educational Exhibit Award	Refer to p. 5 of the CAR-SGC Awards Manual for submission requirements. Requires a cover sheet and max 3 pages of description including photos	GCFP Awards Chair Marilyn Small by January 1 First Place Winner is forwarded to CAR-SGC Outstanding Exhibit Chair before April 1.
January 15	GCFP Gold Seal Award HARD COPY BOOK OF EVIDENCE REQUIRED GCFP Silver Seal Award HARD COPY BOOK OF EVIDENCE REQUIRED		Refer to p. 18 of GCFP Awards Manual. A substantial Book of Evidence describing the nominee's efforts toward the advancement of garden club work and its far-reaching influence is required. Scoring is based on rubric found on p. 18 of GCFP Awards Manual. Enclose Application/ Cover Sheet with Book of Evidence. Silver Seal is awarded to a non-member, or to an institution or organization other than a garden club. Refer to p. 19 for eligibility requirements and scoring rubric.	GCFP Awards Chair Marilyn Small by January 15
January 15	GCFP Governor's Trophy Award HARD COPY BOOK OF EVIDENCE REQUIRED		SMALL CLUBS (1-20 MEMBERS) MAY APPLY FOR THE 2023 AWARDS YEAR. Refer to p. 19 of GCFP Awards Manual for requirements and special scoring rubric. A substantial Book of Evidence with up to 25 pages/50 surfaces is required. MEDIUM CLUBS (21-50 MEMBERS) MAY APPLY FOR THE 2024 AWARDS YEAR.	GCFP Awards Chair Marilyn Small by January 15
January 15	All other GCFP only awards categories including Awards for: Civic Achievement Conservation/Environment Horticulture Special Recognition (A-H) Club Program A or B (A-L)		Refer to GCFP Awards Manual for requirements and guidance on particulars for each award, and appropriate scoring rubric. Attach narrative of up to 3 pages with Application/Cover Sheet and submit electronically.	GCFP Awards Chair Marilyn Small by January 15

January 24	GCFP Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest (Grades 1-5) HARD COPY SUBMISSION OF POSTER REQUIRED.	CAR-SGC/NGC Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest (Grades 1-5)	Refer to p. 23-24 of GCFP Awards Manual and p. 11 of CAR-SGC Awards Rules . Updated rules are released by August and are found in the NGC Forms Library at www.gardenclub.org . Grade 1-5 Students draw Smokey Bear in his official colors to communicate 5 rules of fire prevention on 11 x 17" poster.	GCFP Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl (SBWO) Chair Betty Grossheim Winners in every grade category are reported to GCFP Awards Chair, Marilyn Small. Winning posters in each grade are forwarded directly to the CAR-SGC SBWO Chair before February 15. Regional winners are forwarded to the NGC Chair before March 16.
January 25	GCFP Publicity Press Book HARD COPY BOOK OF EVIDENCE REQUIRED.	CAR-SGC Publicity Press Book	Refer to p. 12 of the GCFP Awards Manual and p. 6 of the CAR-SGC Awards Rules for requirements and scoring rubrics. Requires Book of Evidence. 2 Application/Cover Sheets should accompany BOE. Include a stamped, self-addressed mailing envelope for return of BOE.	GCFP Publicity/Pressbook Chair Becky Zeeger. Winners in every category are reported to GCFP Awards Chair, Marilyn Small by February 19. Winning BOE's are forwarded directly to the CAR-SGC Press Book Awards Chair before February 23.
February 1	GCFP Scholarships (13)		Scholarship forms may be downloaded from the GCFP Website Forms Library. Applicants apply through their local sponsoring clubs. The completed application must be signed by the President of the Sponsoring Garden Club.	GCFP Scholarship Chair Sandra Hendricks Sponsoring Clubs forward their applicants to the Scholarship Chair who provides the GCFP Awards Chair, Marilyn Small, with a listing of winners by February 15.
February 15	GCFP Seed Money		Download and complete the Seed Money Application from the GCFP Website Forms Library. (One Application Per Club) for ONE project. If possible, Include before/after pictures of project.	GCFP Seed Money Chair Marjorie Stilwell Sears Applications are judged and winners are announced at the 2024 GCFP Convention.
March 1	District and GCFP Perennial Bloom Award ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION REQUIRED	CAR-SGC Perennial Bloom Award for Regional Winners	Use the current CAR-SGC Perennial Bloom rules and application form on the GCFP Awards Website. Include a photo of your applicant, and no more than 3 pages of supportive data. Your club's applicant should be a long-time, enthusiastic, supportive leader, ideally a club officer or chair who was/is instrumental to the longtime success of your club. Your club is encouraged to plant a tree in honor of your Perennial Bloom. The GCFP Perennial Bloom will be announced at the at the GCFP Convention.	Your District Director (or District Awards Chair) who sends one entry from the District to the State Awards Chair Marilyn Small by March 15. The winning GCFP entry is forwarded to the CAR-SGC Perennial Bloom Award Chair by April 1. The CAR-SGC Perennial Bloom and State Winners are announced at the CAR-SGC Fall Convention.

June 15, 2024	GCFP Seeds of Service- District President's Project - "We're Keeping PA Beautiful"		Download and complete form from GCFP Website/Awards page. Include 1-page description addressing 1 or more categories out of 4, and 1 photo of project(s) done between May 1, 2023 - May 1, 2024.	YOUR DISTRICT DIRECTOR by June 15. Top applicants in each of the 4 categories from each District are forwarded to the President's Project Chair Barbara Campbell by June 30. Winners are announced at the Annual District Meetings and noted in the Keystone Gardener/KG Online.
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A link to the new NGC PowerPoint "[Creating an Award Winning Application](#)" is provided on our GCFP Awards webpage. It features technical tips, a winning application as an example, and how to use the scoring rubric to organize your narrative and include required criteria.

References to the GCFP Awards Manual, CAR-SGC Awards Rules, and NGC Awards Manual refer to the most current updated documents found on the corresponding websites. Links to these manuals and supporting documents can be found on the Awards Page of the GCFP Website, www.pagardenclubs.org. Contact information for the Special Awards Chairs can be found on the Directories Page of the GCFP Website. **(This information is password protected. Contact your Club President or District Director for the password.)**

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