

The Meadows of Chestnut Ridge

Homeowner Association

Yard of the Month Program

The purpose of the yard of the Month Program (YOTM) is to promote goodwill and reward exemplary lawn and property maintenance in the Meadows at CR neighborhood. The Program will recognize and support neighbors who demonstrate exceptional efforts to maintain and improve their property in a manner that contributes to the overall appearance of the community. The program will begin in May and end in August. In October one home will be selected for their fall/Halloween decoration.

General Criteria

Yard of the Month candidates will be judged solely on the exterior appearance of their property and front yard as viewed from the street.

Guidelines

1. The program will be managed by a Yard of the Month Committee of volunteers chaired by a Director who will Chair the Committee and oversee the program.
2. All current Meadows of CR properties are automatically eligible to include current board members
3. Award winners are selected based on the judging criteria, factors and guidelines listed in this document.
4. The upkeep of the yard can reflect the efforts of the residents themselves or that of a professional landscaper or groundskeeper.
5. An award duration term is approximately a calendar month and runs until the following month's winner has been notified. (Durations may vary due to judging schedules and holidays). The previous month's winner must surrender sign upon notification of current winner.
6. The same property cannot receive more than one award in the same year. This does not include the December Holiday decoration contest.
7. No more than one Yard of the Month recipient will be selected in a single month.
8. Yard of the month winners must be current with their Association fees and free from violations.
9. Winners may be disqualified if their property is in violation of any HOA covenants regulations.
10. The Meadow of CR "Yard of the Month," winners are expected to maintain their yard in the same manner that allowed them to win the title.
11. Winners must be willing to have photos of their yard taken and published on the HOA website.

General Judging Factors

With the exception of December (Holiday decorations), factors include the overall appearance, tidiness and neatness of the front of the property as evidenced by pruned, trimmed and shaped foliage, edged and defined lawns, borders & flowerbeds, and visually appealing. Judges will utilize the following factors when selecting Yard of the Month candidates:

a. Yard Maintenance

- (1) Healthy lawn, neatly mowed and edged
- (2) Pruned and trimmed shrubs and trees
- (3) Healthy, living plants
- (4) Minimum weeds in flowerbeds
- (5) Yard free of debris and clutter
- (6) Driveway free of oil and other stains
- (7) Buildings, fences, porches, and patios on the property are in good repair
- (8) House number is displayed attractively

b. Design and Landscaping

- (1) Use of color and texture
- (2) Creative, unique curb appeal
- (3) Overall aesthetic appeal
- (4) Pleasing appearance making the property an asset to the community

October Criteria

- (1) Use of color and texture
- (2) Creative, unique curb appeal
- (3) Overall aesthetic appeal
- (4) Pleasing appearance making the property an asset to the community

December Criteria

Holiday Yard of the month candidates (Holiday decorations) will be judged solely on the total exterior appearance of their property and front yard as viewed from the street at night. The judges will select three winners and deemed them 1st, 2nd & 3rd place.

Holiday Judging Factors

Factors for December include the overall appearance of the decorations on the front of the property, overall level of holiday enthusiasm, aesthetic layout and balance and the use of appropriate holiday display items. Judges will utilize the following factors when selecting Holiday Yard of the month candidates:

a. Design

- (1) Use of color and texture
- (2) Creative, unique curb appeal
- (3) Overall aesthetic appeal
- (4) Pleasing appearance making the property an asset to the community

b. Holiday Spirit

- (1) Use of materials — lights, sounds, inflatables, figures, etc.
- (2) Creative use of holiday imagery and symbols
- (3) Unique, inventive and thoughtful layout

Awards

YOTM winners will generally be selected as close to the beginning of the month as possible. The Yard of Month winner will be awarded within 5 days of selection. The Holiday decoration winners will be announced in December.

Yard of Month winners will be presented a gift card. The gift card selection is at the discretion of the committee chair. Holiday decoration winners will also receive a gift card for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

All award winners receive an official "Yard of the Month" lawn-sign, to be placed on their property for the duration of their award as well as a gift card. Winners will be recognized on the HOA website.

The Meadows of Chestnut Ridge board member(s) will present the winners with the sign and gift card.

Judges

The yard of the month committee chair will seek judges from outside the residents of Meadows of CR. The judges will nominate three candidates as potential winners.

1. Judges will utilize the Criteria, Factors and Guidelines within this document to select Yard of the Month candidates.
2. Nominees must not be delinquent in their Association fees or are in violation of any covenants or regulations.
3. Judges will advise the Yard of the Month Committee Chair of their selection prior to notifying the homeowner.
4. Judges' decisions are final following review by the Chair for eligibility.
5. Volunteer judges will provide the Yard of the Month Committee Chair with the following:
 - (a) Property address
 - (b) Three to five photographs of the yard suitable for website publication.
 - (c) A short narrative why this yard should be YOTM.

