



**FGCN Revised Rules and Guidelines
for State Awards
January 2022**

Deadline Dates for Awards Submission:

Each year, dates will be determined as to when applications are due. **For 2022, applications are due May 10 to chairmen and May 20, to the awards chair, Chris Martin** All applications from the club or club member are due to the individual FGCN state chairman named below. Entries received later may not be judged. Individual state chairmen must report their awards to State Awards Chairman Christine Martin by May 20thst. Please note: awards may be sent earlier than the due date but NOT later than the due date.

AWARDS YEAR:

Generally for projects, programs, and activities, Jan. 1 through Dec. 31 of the prior year; with some exceptions as noted in scrapbooks, yearbooks, and youth. Certificates and other awards will be presented at the Awards Banquet of the State Annual Meeting. Your submitted materials will be displayed at that time, and you are responsible for them afterward.

APPLICATIONS: Open to all FGCN garden clubs and in some cases to individual club members. A FGCN Application Form may be used. A copy of the form is on the next page. Give the State Award number & name of award you are applying for, and name & town of your club. If a sheet or sheets of paper is/are the application, put the State Award number and name, and the name & town of your club at the top of the first sheet. Pictures should be well identified and described. A project or activity may be eligible for more than one award; in this case similar (but not identical) applications may be submitted to each, with the text tailored to each. And lastly, be sure to send it to the right individual state Chairman. **Please do not exceed 3 pages (fronts only).**

AWARDS: Awards are given at the State Annual Meeting each year. Monetary awards are given for first, second and third place. Generally, this would be \$25 for first, \$15 for second, and \$10 for third. Monetary awards for Civic Development are based upon the amount set by the FGCN Budget. This amount is \$350. This amount can be divided into first, second and third monetary awards at the discretion of the Civic Development chair.

Youth awards for poetry, sculpture, essay and posters are also divided into first place \$7.50, second place \$5 and third \$2.50. At the discretion of the state awards chair, youth award chairs and FGCN Treasurer a monetary award of \$1 can be given to each award submission.

SCALE OF POINTS FOR AWARDS

Presentation 5 points – neat, concise, includes all required information on the application form (3 sheets allowed).

Achievement 65 points – scope of project; need and fulfillment; benefit, accomplishment; comprehensiveness of the work; activities; to attain goals; evaluation of goals reached; educational; prior planning; very brief history if continuing project, financial report; other.

Participation 15 points – size of club; involvement of members, community, government agencies, professionals, youth, residents in facilities, others. Not all of these have to be involved.

Record or Documentation 15 points – supporting data (as applicable), clear, well-labeled and neatly attached before and after photographs; if applicable landscape plan (does not have to be professionally drawn, t), financial report, letters of appreciate, community awards, newspapers/magazine articles (if possible, radio or TV script (if possible), etc. Photocopies are permitted.

Total 100 points



FGCN Awards Application
Submit to appropriate chairperson.

Award #: _____ **Award Name:** _____

Submitted by: _____
[Enter name exactly as it should appear on any award received]

Number of members in club: _____

Please complete each topic, if applicable. Use numbering as below when completing form.

1. New project: Yes____ No____

Beginning date: _____ Completion date: _____

2. Brief summary and objectives of project:

3. Involvement of club members, other organizations, etc.:

4. Project expenses and means of funding:

5. Continuing involvement, follow-up, maintenance:

6. Attach or insert photos, digital photos, and/or landscape plan (does not need to be professionally drawn).

Awards listed by State Chair Titles – (numbers identify awards)

Arboriculture –(#1)

FGCN certificate and monetary award may be given for the best tree-planting program by a Garden Club completed from September 1 to August 31 of the preceding year. Award may be given to a club member, garden club, group of garden clubs or other deserving groups for activities of: a) planting the greatest number of trees, b) educational program regarding the importance of trees, c) design, installation of a public arboretum or, d) volunteering in a public arboretum. Scoring: description of project – 65%, participation by other groups –10% , educational value for youth – 9%, supporting data on expenses, pictures – 8%, neatness and effectiveness of presentation – 8%, total 100%. **Chairman: Alice Hemsath**, 110 East 39th Street, Kearney, NE 68847, 308-224-3771, dhemsath@charter.net

Birds – (#2)

FGCN certificate and monetary award may be given for a book of evidence for conducting the most comprehensive and effective project for bird protection and welfare, e.g. sanctuaries, providing food, houses, and promoting law enforcement relative to bird welfare. Indicate the scope and participation from community groups, school children, club members, etc. Scoring based upon National Guidelines. **Chairman: Marlene Mahoney**, 919 S. 106 PLZ #702H Omaha, NE 68114, marlenemhn801@gmail.com East District Member at Large

Blue Star Memorial –(#3)

FGCN certificate and monetary award may be awarded for the most outstanding Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker landscaping projects. The marker and landscaping may be part of a highway department rest area maintained by the State. The project may have been continuous, but major landscaping must be completed within two years. The project may be a replacement of a destroyed or long neglected landscape. Awards available to the club doing the most for the project or the District contributing the most. **Chairman: Mary Carlson** 658 North 57th Avenue Omaha, NE 68 402-659-3029 marycarlson5@gmail.com Sunset Hills Garden Club

Butterflies –(#4)

FGCN certificate and monetary award may be awarded to a member of a Garden Club for conducting the most comprehensive and effective project on butterflies, e.g. habitat protection, protection of migratory routes, public education, establishment of a butterfly garden at school or community site. **Chairman: Dr. Dale Lindgren** 9292 Mahoney Drove North Platte, NE 69101-8927 308-534-0930 dale.lindren@unl.edu Spade and Hope Garden Club

Civic Development –(#5)

Awards for distinguished or conservation work making permanent improvement for public benefit, e.g. established sanctuaries, experimental forests, municipal gardens, landscaping public buildings or roadways. Any project that improves or beautifies the community will qualify. Projects that are a new phase or addition to a continuing project will be accepted if documentation, maintenance, repair, replanting of already existing sites is not eligible. **Chairman: Onita Robertson** 305 West Avenue M Oshkosh, NE 69154 208-772-0122 onitarobertson@gmail.com Garden Club of Garden County

Backyard Wildlife Habitat –(#6)

FGCN certificate and monetary award may be awarded to a member of a Garden Club for conducting the most comprehensive and effective project on butterflies, e.g. habitat protection, protection of migratory routes, public education, establishment of a butterfly garden at school or community site
This chair will share ideas and information on creating habitats that invite all kinds of nature to your backyard. It can be a home for butterflies, songbirds and more. Plus reduce rainfall runoff to improve water quality and lower energy costs. **Chairman: Dr. Dale Lindgren** 9292 Mahoney Drove North Platte, NE 69101-8927 308-534-0930 dale.lindren@unl.edu Spade and Hope Garden Club

Environmental Awareness, Energy and Endangered Species—(#7)

FGCN certificate and monetary award may be given for the best program or project on endangered species, legislative activity, outstanding work by an individual member of a garden club, most recycling efforts, conservation projects, environmental project or other emerging issue. **Chairman: John Williams, Jr.** 629 6th Avenue Plattsmouth, NE 6804 402-296-2625 402-218-6379 jw64211@windstream.com Plattsmouth Garden club

Flower Show Awards – (#8)

A certificate and monetary award may be given to the most outstanding educational section in a standard flower show sponsored by an individual club, council, or district of two or more clubs. Pictures must accompany application. In addition, a rosette will be given for a flower show in each National category, if merited. Abide by rules, and consult the Fall issue of the National Gardener for a list of categories. **Chairman: Evelyn Boyd**, 630 N 64 RD, Nebraska City, NE 68410, 402-873-5757, mbo2518@windstream.net

Garden Therapy—(#9)

A Certificate and monetary award may be awarded to a club or clubs sponsoring an outstanding program in garden therapy whereby gardens are established to benefit the physically or learning challenged, residents in rest homes or care centers, schools, prisons, lower income housing. This could include barrier free gardening, community gardens, meditation gardens at hospitals, etc. **Chairman: Terri Henry** 614 West F Ogallala, NE 69153 308-385-6148 terrihenry52@yahoo.com Ogallala Garden Club

Garden Tours—(#10)

FGCN certificate and a monetary award may be given to the club or a club member for a project such as open to the public, open to garden club members only, or a tour of garden club member's gardens, include publicity, photos, etc. **Chairman: Dianne Keller**, 42199 Drive 746 ,Eustis, NE 69028-3031,308-486-4471,ddkeller@nebnet.net

Horticulture—(#11)

FGCN certificate and a monetary award may be awarded to an individual submitting a Book of Evidence of 3 or 4 pages with a brief summary and/or pictures of their garden, vegetables, fruits and flowers. Include successive and companion plantings and any new cultivar names. There are 2 categories:

#11-A: A SMALLER GARDEN: A garden approximately 12' by 15'. **#11-B: LARGER GARDENS:** A garden approximately 40' by 50'. **Chairman: Del Hemsath**, 110 East 39th Street, E-1, Kearney, NE 68847, 308-367-7172, dhemsath@charter.net

Landscape Design—(#13A & #13B)

#13A: COMMUNITY LANDSCAPE DESIGN AWARD: A certificate and a monetary award to a club for a landscape design project to improve their community. Example: a landscaped community garden, a community feature such as a statue, fountain, park area, or community building, such as a firehouse, police station, library, etc.

#13B: HOME LANDSCAPE DESIGN AWARD: A certificate and a monetary award to a member or members working together to landscape in good design a feature and/or area within a home property. Book of Evidence to include a description of the project: before and after pictures; expenses, number of persons involved; number of hours to complete the project; any publicity with date and name of publication.

Chairman: Alice Hemsath, 110 East 39th Street, E-1, Kearney, NE 68847, 308-224-3771, dhemsath@charter.net

Membership—(#14A & #14B)

All are noncompetitive awards no applications necessary.

#14A: CLUB MEMBERSHIP: FGCN certificate and a monetary award to the club with the greatest percentage of increase in membership.

#14B: DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP: FGCN certificate and a monetary award to the district with the greatest percentage of increased membership. No application necessary as will be based on FGCN membership figures.

Chairman: Lorraine Patrick 3716 Schuemann Drive Bellevue, NE 68123 402-502-2548 lorraine_patrick0809@yahoo.com Plattsmouth Garden Club

National Garden Week—(#15)

National Garden Week is the first full week in June. Participation by every club is requested. Each garden club is asked to set up a gardening with a poster board of pictures from your club activities, gardening pamphlets on different subjects, and the FGCN Information pamphlet at your library, County Extension office, schools, or any civic event. Take pictures setting up, during, and at the event. Have someone at the event at designated times to answer questions and to invite people to attend an event at your garden club. Invite people to your club meetings. Send a report with pictures to FGCN Newsletter Editor Jim Rouch, and a book of evidence to **Chairman: Charlotte Swanson**, PO Box 97, Dalton, NE 69131.

Native Plants & Wildflowers—(#17)

FGCN certificate and a monetary award may be given to the club having the most comprehensive wildflower program for the club, such as studies, wildflower tours, planning projects along roadsides and rest areas, entrances to towns, establishing wildflower gardens, establishing outdoor classrooms, nature trails, wildflower walks, or educating the public on the importance of preserving native material. **Chairman: Charlotte Swanson, P.O. Box 97, Dalton, NE 69131-0097, 308-249-2168, swannson@daltontel.net**

Nebraska Garden News Article—(#18)

No application for State award, RMR and NGC have awards for writing including yearbooks, scrapbooks, newsletter, articles for publication, calendars, cookbooks, etc. **Chairman Alice Hemsath**, 110 East 39th Street, E-1, Kearney, NE 68847, 308-224-3771, dhemsath@charter.net

Photography—(#19)

This award is open to a garden club member, garden club, group of garden clubs, or other individuals. The subject matter should reflect garden club work, and/or State and National objectives. Examples are:

- a. Photos
- b. Video
- c. Power Point presentation, or other digital presentation.

Chairman: Julie Lester, 6108 Surrey Drive, Omaha, NE 68122-5059, 402-571-1274, jlester1274@hotmail.com

FGCN Photography Award 2022:

1. All entries must relate to horticulture, gardening, design, wildlife, nature, etc.
2. Each person may enter one (1) photo per category.
3. Image must be the work of the entrant.
4. Image must be matted; no frames allowed.
5. Image size 8x10 inches; overall size with mat not to exceed 11x14 inches.
6. Professional printing and matting is permitted.
7. Photo may have minor enhancements (cropping, filters, red eye adjustments, etc.)
8. Include separate sheet of paper with information listed below for each entry.
9. Scales of Points:

Interpretation of Category	25	
Composition	25	
Artistry/Creativity/Impact	25	
Technical Achievement	25	
Total	100	

Categories 2022:

1. **“Landscape”** Must be a photo of any type of landscape.
2. **“Black & White”** Must be a black and white photo.
3. **“Beautiful Bloom”** Must be a photo with a bloom as the focal point.
4. **“Birds”** Must have at least one bird in the photo.

Include on a separate sheet:

Category:

Name of Photo (opt.):

District:

Club:

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Brief Description of Photo: Include list of plant materials if known.

Scholarships—(#21)

FGCN certificate and a monetary award may be awarded to clubs giving a scholarship. Furnish information on the amount given, when, to whom, school, and how many years this has been done.

Chairman: Nancy Fisher, 2407 Lake Avenue, Gothenburg, NE 69138, 308-537-4456, nancyfisher7476@msn.com

Scrapbook—(#22)

FGCN certificates and a monetary award for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place may be given. All scrapbooks should include information from Jan. 1 to Dec. 1 annually, unless your club year differs, in which case the scrapbook should cover the last completed club year. The person preparing the scrapbook must sign inside the back cover.

RULES AND POINTS FOR JUDGING SCRAPBOOKS:

Neatness, attractiveness and originality, 15%: Scrapbooks shall measure no less than 9" x 12". Loose-leaf cover shall display club's name. Use both sides of paper with a quarter-inch margin, with the inner margin being larger. Be consistent in whatever you do. Highlight important information. Group projects together according to topics, i.e. all club meetings, yard of the week, etc. Evidence of interesting and worthwhile programs, 50%: Membership participation and speakers. Exhibits at meetings such as horticulture specimens, arrangements, and others relative to programs. Indication of a study of topic from yearbook. Include one complete yearbook at the back of scrapbook. Publicity, etc. Club projects and activities, 35%: Stressing state and national objectives, community projects, tours, etc. Publicity, if any. On pictures, include the names of those in the picture, the date taken, occasion, and place.

Chairman: Chris Martin PO Box 86, Friend, NE 68359 402-540-2241, dzrcc8@yahoo.com

State Chairman—(#23)

This is an award for State Chairmen who give awards. FGCN certificate, and a monetary award presented to the Chairman who has the largest increase in entries from last year. Individual State Chairmen are to give the number of applications received when reporting their award by May 20, to State Awards **Chairman: Chris Martin PO Box 86, Friend, NE 68359 402-540-2241, dzrcc8@yahoo.com**

Yearbooks—(#24)

Send out yearbooks as soon as they are ready. Awards will be for clubs current year, whether January through December, or the prior June through current May, etc. Standard system of ribbons by National Council will be used on the FGCN Certificates: 1st place-90% and above; 2nd place-85% and above; 3rd place-80% and above; Honorable Mention-75% or above. Note: Clubs should send a yearbook to the following State Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary/Historian, Awards Chairman, Award of Excellence Chairman and your District Director. If you wish, you do not need to include covers except to the Yearbook and Awards Chairman, your title pages should be adequate for identification for the other chairman. A monetary award will be presented for the top Yearbook.

Chairman: Alice Hemsath 110 East 39th Street E1 Kearney, NE 68847 308-224-3771 dhemsath@charter.net
Soil Sisters and Misters Garden Club

Guidelines for Club Yearbooks

Format:

BOOK STRUCTURE: Practical, convenient size for membership, durable, neat. 2 pts. Yearbooks may be stapled, spiral, or 3-ring binders. Material should be well placed with ample margins, and font size suitable for members to read.

COVER: Include name of club, town, state organization, year, and an appealing design. 2 pts. If 3-ring binder cover is used, substitute with paper cover and include required information listed above, and so note.

TITLE PAGE: Include name of club, town, state organization, year, number of members (dues paying), and affiliated organizations, (district, region, NGC, other) 2 pts.

TABLE OF CONTENTS: Number the yearbook pages and list titles on Contents page. 1 pt.

SUBSEQUENT PAGES: In any order most useful to members and best fit for page placement. Information in a club yearbook should be in logical order. National and state info does not have to be in front.

Club Officers & Committee Chairmen. 1 pt.

Membership Roster with complete mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses. Fax numbers may be included. Don't crowd list. Note: "All area codes 219 and postal zip codes 79943 unless otherwise noted".

2 pts.

Name of NGC President with state of residence, theme, and projects, (Locate this information at www.gardenclub.org) 1 pt.

Name, address, phone number, and e-mail of NGC Regional Director, State President, State District Director, Council President (if applicable). List themes for Regional Director and State President. Others are optional. 2 pts.

Calendar of Events: List dates and locations for district/state/regional/national meetings and events to encourage members to attend and to eliminate the setting of conflicting dates. 2 pts.

Programs: Topics should cover a variety of NGC goals and objectives such as: Birds, Blue Star Memorials, Butterflies, Conservation, Environment, Floral Design, Horticulture, Therapy, Recycling, NGC and State President projects, etc. ▪

At least seven (7) meetings a year 3 pts. ▪ List date and time of meeting, location with address. 3 pts. ▪ List name

of speaker/s, qualifications (brief), program title. 4 pts. ▪ Variety of program topics (theme not required). 14 pts. ▪

Variety of styles of programs (lectures, slides, power point, tours, etc.) 12 pts. ▪ Variety of speakers (specialists, members, panel, etc.). 14 pts.

Projects: Projects involve membership participation that benefit the community and further NGC

Goals and Objectives. Some fund raisers (sales of bulbs, bedding plants, herbs, cookbooks, etc.) may help to beautify the community, as well as produce revenue for clubs. Some fund raisers may help promote NGC Member Services as well as publicize our organization and goals. ▪ List Continuing and New Projects (a club is not required to have new projects). 15 pts. ▪ Give brief word description of projects: Include location, name of chairman, how members participate, list of donations if applicable, in-kind donations if applicable, plans for maintenance if applicable, etc. 20 pts. Example: Establish a Teaching Garden at Adkins Elementary School - after school program with planned curriculum, 4 days a week from 3:30-5:45 p.m. Laurie Benson, Chairman.

OPTIONS: (no points given) ▪ Some clubs include bylaws, budget, fund raising, roll call, former club presidents. ▪ Club theme. If theme is used, it should be evident throughout the book. Themes may be interpreted with monthly program topics and/or titles, graphics, quotes. Projects do not need to be limited to the theme. ▪ NGC Mission Statement ▪ NGC Conservation Pledge ▪ NGC Environmental Mission Statement ▪