

# STUDENT GARDEN COMPETITION

## State Fair of Virginia

Meadow Event Park  
13111 Dawn Blvd, Doswell, Virginia 23047  
Caroline County

**Deadline for Entries: September 14, 2018 or until all spaces are filled**

**2018 Theme: "Edible Landscaping"**

### 2018 Schedule

Garden installation will be Wednesday & Thursday, September 26 & 27, 2018 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. All garden installation must be completed by 7:00 pm. Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

Pick-up of materials/supplies will only be allowed Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Any materials remaining after that time will be considered abandoned and disposed of by the State Fair of Virginia.

**Entry Procedures:** All entries must be made by September 14<sup>th</sup>. Entries will be closed when all 10 spots are assigned.. To enter contact Glenn Martin, [gmartin@statefairva.org](mailto:gmartin@statefairva.org)

### General Rules and Guidelines

1. These gardens shall be educational as well as artistic.
2. Design and installation of these gardens shall reflect the work of the students as assisted by the instructor and sponsors as appropriate, through the classroom program.
3. The garden designs will be based on the theme "**Edible Landscaping.**" Plant materials selected should be both perennials and annuals & relate to both the theme and season and must be labeled, with information and explanations (if any) to be readable by the general public from outside the display space.
4. Each school is responsible for providing a laminated sign for their garden that includes school name, sponsors/donors, explanation of design, participating student names, and a title for the garden.
5. *Signs are to be given to Glenn Martin to ensure a 'blind' judging process. Signs will placed on gardens after judging.*
6. Participating schools are responsible for keeping their exhibition gardens attractive, removing and replacing dead plant material, etc. Lights, pumps and fountains must be kept in good working order.
7. Awards will be withheld if the garden plot is not cleaned and restored after the Fair.
8. **Each school will be given 8 tickets to be used for checking on the garden** during the fair to assure that it remains attractive.
9. **If power is needed please request at time of entry.**

**Exhibition Garden Sites** - Plots for the gardens are in the outdoor section of the State Fair Gardens. The spaces are approximately **10 ft. x 12 ft.** Any screening between plots must be provided by the competing school(s).

**Judging – SCHOOL MUST PROVIDE SIGN (SEE #6 ABOVE FOR DETAILS):**

Judges will be selected to combine expertise in design and horticulture education. The evaluation perspective will emphasize demonstration of commercial design quality by high school students based on the following criteria:

**Design Concept:** The design is a creative and imaginative solution to the theme for this competition. The use of the principles and elements of design (focus, scale, proportion, harmony of color and materials, rhythm and unity) is evident in the design.

**Design function:** The design meets the intended purpose in achieving the garden theme and develops the garden plot to its fullest potential for that purpose. Hardscapes, garden ornaments and plants develop and support the garden purpose. Hardscapes (paved and unpaved) are in context with the design, of suitable size and material for their function, and they show a flow or point of destination. Plant materials work together harmoniously and exhibit similar environmental requirements.

**Design Execution:** All elements of the design create the illusion of reality. The plantings appear to be established. Attention given to finished detail of constructed hardscapes, garden ornaments and plants. Plants are labeled and readable from outside the garden.

**The Best in Show:** The winning garden excels in design concept, function and execution demonstrating the highest level of design and visual impact.

Cash Awards

1<sup>st</sup> Place: \$300.00

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: \$200.00

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: \$100.00

Ribbons will be awarded through 6<sup>th</sup> place

All cash awards will be paid to the participating School

State Fair Scholarship Program

Thanks to the former Virginia Green Industry Council for their generous donation which will provide additional funding for the 2016, 2017 & 2018 Student Garden Competition Scholarships and Awards. Scholarship funds will be divided equally between the participating students representing the winning garden. Please see the State Fair website, [www.statefairva.org](http://www.statefairva.org) for more information regarding the scholarship program.

1<sup>st</sup> place \$1,750.00