



Piedmont District Club Awards for 2025-2027

Awards Chairman: Susan Rothenberg, Piedmont District Awards Chairman
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Richmond, VA 23229
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804-740-1075

How to Create an Award Application:

- Start by considering the projects your club supports – both ongoing as well as ‘one-time’.
- Any VFGC member may complete an award application, but it should go through the club Awards Chairman or Club President to be sent to the District Awards Chairman by December 1st. (Note: some of the youth awards such as poetry are due earlier.)
- Review your District list of awards to see which ones best suit your project. If the District doesn’t offer one, consult any of the following for their awards:
State website: www.viriniagardenclubs.org
Regional website: www.southatlanticregionalgardenclubs.org
National website: www.gardenclub.org
- Not all District awards will have a corresponding State, Regional and/or National award. You may apply directly for a State, Regional and/or National award; however, the application must still go to the District Awards Chairman by December 1st.
- Download the Award Application Cover Sheet from the State website awards page. Reference numbers go into the spaces indicated at the top of the Application Cover Sheet. These **required** reference numbers are located at the end of each award description.

- Letters indicating **club size** follow the award number.
 - A **small** club has 20 or fewer members.
 - A **medium** club has 21-50 members.
 - A **large** club has 51 or more members.
 - Two or more clubs** working together.
- The awards are scored according to its corresponding Point Scoring Rubric. Knowing what the judges are looking for can be helpful when compiling the application information. These Rubrics are available on the State and National websites.
- Compose the history of your project from inception to completion, focusing on events in this calendar year. Font used may be no smaller than 10; however, 12 is better.
- Insert 3 to 5 clear photos, depending on space available. If you can fit the photos into the text you may not need captions.
- Avoid faces and posed shots. Action is better, and before and after photos are very important. Some awards require a landscape plan (does not need to be professionally drawn.)
- A project may qualify for more than one award. In that case a separate application for each award must be submitted. Submitting an exact duplication of the application will lead to the disqualification of both.
- You are allowed only **3 pages, plus the cover sheet**. Use all the space you need.
- Applications may be submitted either by mail or electronically. If submitting a hardcopy, include **THREE** complete copies of the award application. Keep a fourth copy for your records.
- Newsletter applications are to be sent online and are limited to **one** newsletter.
- Binders and vinyl sheets protectors are no longer allowed.
- Applications will not be returned.

Contributions and support for funding awards are accepted by making a check payable to Piedmont District with AWARDS written in the memo line. Mail to: Claudia Cosby, Piedmont District Treasurer, 3015 Mount Hill Dr., Midlothian, VA 23113-3923.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN ADVANCE!!

CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITY AWARDS

PD-1 BIRD, BUTTERFLY, WILDLIFE SURVIVAL

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for conducting the most comprehensive and effective project for pollinator, bird, or wildlife protection and welfare. This may include habitats or gardens specific to the natural population being supported, sanctuaries, migratory routes, public education project or program, legal and legislative activities or other. (**S #15, SAR #2 or 3, or possibly SAR SP 1, NGC #ED-3**) (see VFGC website or NGC Awards Handbook pg. 19 for point score rubric.)

PD-3 ORGANIC GARDENING PRACTICES

\$20 may be awarded to the **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for the most outstanding project emphasizing and employing the use of organic materials and methods in a gardening project or educational activity. (**S # 16; NGC # EC-6**)

PD-4 CONSERVATION

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for conservation activities, e.g. education or legislative activity; conservation field project; natural resource development, such as a watershed, erosion control, reforestation, wildlife refuge, overall excellence and well-balanced year's conservation activities. (**S # 17; SAR # 5, NGC # EC-1 or EC-2**)

PD-5 WATER

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for the most outstanding project with an emphasis on water conservation and/or clean water. (**S # 18; SAR # 15; NGC # EC-4**)

PD-6 FOOD BANK DONATIONS

\$20 may be donated to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for donating the largest amount of freshly grown food to a food bank, pantry or other organization providing food to those in need in a community. May involve others; community, government agencies, youth, facility residents, etc. Provide verification from the recipient of quantity received. (**S # 20; NGC # CE-3**) See NGC Awards Handbook for point score rubric.

PD-7 LITTER/RECYCLING/RECLAMATION

- A. **\$20** may be awarded to a club (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for the most outstanding community project on litter prevention, reclamation and/or recycling, e.g., year-long program, organizing recycling program, establishing community composting site. (**S # 19; SAR # 17**)
- B. **\$20** may be awarded to a club (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for the most complete promotions of Chucky Chipmunk and the "STOP Throwing and START Stowing" anti-litter theme: i.e., poster contest, newsletter, school program.

PD-8 HISTORIC PRESERVATION

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for a historic

preservation project such as the restoration of a park, a building, and/or garden of importance to local, state, or national heritage. (*S # 29; SAR # 8; NGC # CE-9, A or B*)

PD-9 DECORATION OF HISTORIC BUILDING

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for decorating a historic building/house/mansion. Decorations are not required to be of the period of the building, but should be creative, distinctive, and harmonize with the building's style. Designer's choice of all materials within purview of curator, official, or owner of the building. (*S # 30*)

PD-10 HORTICULTURE THERAPY

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for an outstanding program working with the physically or learning challenged in nursing homes, schools, prisons, etc. (*S # 31*)

PD-11 HORTICULTURE THERAPY GARDEN PROJECT

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for establishment of a garden/s to benefit the physically or learning challenged, residents in nursing homes, schools, prisons, low-income housing, Habitat for Humanity, etc. Includes barrier-free garden, accessible gardening, community garden, meditation garden at hospital, etc. (*S # 32; SAR # 6 or 7; NGC # G-3*)

PD-12 PLANT TOGETHER COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT

\$20 may be awarded to the **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) having the most outstanding Plant Together project. These projects may involve community clean up, planting a new area, container gardening, or other projects designed to spark an interest in gardening. All projects **must** involve partnering with other groups in your community. (*S # 28; NGC # CE-1 A, B, C or D*)

PD-13 RECLAIMING UNUSABLE SPACES

\$20 maybe awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for the most outstanding project in reclaiming an unusable space. It must be an area that has not been used in the past (an empty lot, an area that has become "a dumping spot", etc.). The project photos must reflect a definite change in the use and look of the space. Please include before and after photos and details of work and location. (*S # 23*)

PD-14 FLORAL DESIGN PROGRAM

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for the most outstanding single program or single workshop teaching floral design to club members and/or the public. Three single-sided page limit (plus cover sheet) applies. (*S # 21; SAR #20 A or B; NGC #FD-2*) See VFGC website or NGC Awards Handbook pg. 27 for point score rubric.

PD-15 COMMUNITY LANDSCAPE DESIGN

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for the most outstanding project/significant contribution in planning and planting for: commercial property, church or synagogue, hospital, library, civic center, park, waterfront, etc. Copy of landscape plan must be included in application. (*S # 26; SAR # 4; NGC # CE-8*)

PD-16 GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE EDUCATION

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for the most notable project or projects educating the public on the benefits of gardening for wildlife. Extra points will be given for originality and new ideas. Include the number of members in the club the percentage of members participating, the approximate number of people educated and how they were notified of the

project. Club may partner with youth groups like scouts. See NGC Awards Handbook for point score rubric. (*S # 40; NGC # EC-3, or # G-4* for establishing a public wildlife garden with signage.)

PD-17 MEMBERSHIP

\$20 may be awarded to the **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) with the highest percentage of new members (percentage increase based on dues paid between Feb. 1 of the previous year to Jan. 31 of the current year. No list of new members is required. No application is required. The State Treasurer will furnish the names of the clubs with the highest percentage increases for each size group to the state membership chairman. The name of the winning club in each size group will be sent to the VFGC Awards Chairman by Feb. 15. (*S # 33*)

PD-18 NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for the best overall promotion of National Garden Week. Entry to show community awareness throughout the entire week and may include local and/or state proclamations. (*S # 34; SAR # 10; NGC # MAE-5*)

PD-19 CIVIC PROJECTS WITH NATIVE PLANTS

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for establishing wildflower gardens, memorial gardens or the restoration of historic gardens with emphasis on native plant material to our region. (*S # 22; NGC # CE-5*)

YOUTH

PD-22 YOUTH ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for the most outstanding project in the field of environmental education involving youth. (*S # 38; SAR # Y-1; NGC # YW-9*)

PD-23 YOUTH HORTICULTURE EDUCATION

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) for the best promotion of gardening among youth; based on the belief that youth should be educated to become future horticulturists. (*S # 39; SAR # Y-1, NGC # YW-8*)

PD-24 THE SAVED SEED EDUCATION AWARD

\$20 may be awarded to the **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs)) with the best project utilizing *The Saved Seed* book with you. The project must involve more than reading the book to children and should demonstrate connecting children with nature. (*S # Y-1*)

PD-25 POLLINATOR GARDENS WITH YOUTH

\$20 may be awarded to the **club** (small; medium; large; two or more clubs) with the best project of planting pollinator gardens while educating youth. These gardens may be container gardens. Gardens may be in public or private locations. (*S # 41; SAR # Y-1; NGC # YW-9*)

PD-26 SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL POSTERS

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** with the greatest number of posters submitted to Youth Poster District Chairman. VFGC Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Chairman will report results to VFGC Awards Chairman by January 9. No application required. (*S # 37*)

Piedmont District Youth Chairman, Pat Merson prwtm@aol.com

PD-27 YOUTH POETRY CONTEST

\$10 may be awarded to winners of all grade levels (K-9 grades). Students must follow NGC rules. Send entries to District Youth Activities Chairman by specified deadline. (**SAR # Y-4**) District Chairmen then send winning poems to VFGC Youth Activities Chairman by December 1st. VFGC Youth Activities Chairman is LouAnn Dumminger, fannyL75@gmail.com State winners are sent on to SAR. Do not use VFGC/NGC award application. For more information, see NGC website under youth contests/poetry contest.

PUBLICATIONS AND PROMOTION

PD-28 PUBLICATIONS

\$20 may be awarded to a:

A. Club (small; medium; large;)

B. Group of clubs (councils or districts, etc.)

for the entry judged best in each category 1-8. Notices or flyers for one-time events are not eligible. Printed publications or those prepared for electronic distribution are acceptable entries. (**S # 42; NGC # MAE-4 E, F and G**) See VFGC website or NGC Awards Handbook pg. 38 for point score rubric) NGC no longer judges cookbooks or calendars.

Categories:

- 1) manuals, handbooks (e.g., procedural, duties of officers, awards)
- 2) educational (e.g., environmental, landscape, gardening, horticulture therapy)
- 3) horticulture, design (e.g.: judging, guide to exhibiting, floral design, mechanics)
- 4) history
- 5) membership (e.g., brochure, leaflet)
- 6) calendars
- 7) cookbooks
- 8) other

Scale of Points for Publications can be found on the VFGC Awards webpage or on the NGC List of Awards on the NGC website. Submit entry in an envelope with **one application form secured to outside and one enclosed inside each envelope.**

PD-29 CLUB NEWSLETTER

- A. \$20** may be awarded to a club (small; medium; large;) publishing a one-page (may be both sides) newsletter – at least 3 times per year under one-editorship or management. See NGC Awards Handbook for point score rubric. (**S # 43; SAR # 18; NGC # MAE-4 A**)
- B. \$20** may be awarded to a club (small; medium; large;) publishing a newsletter of 3-12 pages – at least three issues. (**S #43; SAR # 18; NGC # MAE-4 B**)
- C. \$20** may be awarded to a club (small; medium; large;) publishing a newsletter of 13 or more pages – at least three issues. (**S # 43; NGC # MAE-4 C or D; NGC #MAE 4 A – D**) Please see VFGC website or NGC Awards Handbook pg. 39 for point score rubric.

**** New as of summer of 2023 – submit ONLY ONE sample issue via email. No longer accepting paper copies of newsletters.** Remember to complete the application cover sheet form and at least one additional page addressing the items on the point score rubric.

PD-30 CLUB YEARBOOKS

An orange rosette may be awarded to a **club** for the most outstanding yearbook in each of the following categories, determined by number of members, including Life Members, on whom VFGC dues are paid. Yearbook must be from current year. *(S # 44; SAR # 22)*

1. Clubs with under 20 members
2. Clubs with 20-29 members
3. Clubs with 30-44 members
4. Clubs with 45-69 members
5. Clubs with 70-99 members
6. Clubs with 100-299 members

Scale of Points for Yearbooks can be found on the VFGC Awards webpage. Complete the top of the Award Application. Do not answer the questions. Firmly clip two copies of the completed application form to the inside front cover. No envelope needed. Send only 1 yearbook. Do not send 3-ring binder. Substitute with paper cover. **NGC no longer judges yearbooks, but VFGC and SAR still do.** *(S # 44)*

FLOWER SHOWS

PD-31 FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE – SINGLE CLUB

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large;) for the clearest, most accurate, specific and comprehensive flower show schedule for any type of NGC flower show. *(S #45; SAR # 24A)*

The Scale of Points for Flower Show Schedules can be found on the VFGC Awards webpage or on pg. 306 - 308 of the *Handbook for Flower Shows* (2017 edition). As of January 2018, new rules went into effect, found on pages 135 – 138 of the 2017 edition. Attach copy of flower show schedule as given to the judges to award application.

PD-32 FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE – TWO OR MORE CLUBS

\$20 may be awarded to **two or more clubs** or a **council** for the clearest, most accurate, specific and comprehensive flower show schedule for any type of NGC flower show. *(S # 46; SAR #24B)*

The scale of points for Flower Show Schedules can be found on the VFGC Awards webpage or on pg. 306 – 308 of the *Handbook for Flower Shows* (2017 edition). As of Jan. 2018, new rules went into effect, found on pages 135 – 138 of the 2017 edition. Attach copy of the flower schedule as given to the judges to award application.

SOCIAL MEDIA PROMOTION

PD-33 WEBSITE

\$20 may be awarded to a **club** (small; medium; large;) for the most outstanding website promoting the sponsoring organization and NGC objectives. Complete cover sheet/application and

attach one page with your website address, who maintains site, how often updated, and cost. Ease of navigation will be considered while judging from the current site. (*SAR #21, NGC # MAE 2*) Point Score Rubric for Websites can be found on the VFGC Awards webpage or on the NGC Awards Handbook pg. 34.

PLANT A TREE

PD-34 PLANT A TREE (*replaces Penny Pines*)

\$20 may be awarded to a club donating the most money to Plant a Tree program in the calendar year. Clubs report their total donations to the District Plant a Tree Chairman, who then reports totals for each district to the State Plant A Tree Chairman, who then informs the VFGC Awards Chairman. No application form/cover sheet needed, just club name, size and total money donated. (*S-#11*)

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2025-2027 (VFGC Presidential Awards)

PD – 35 YOUTH AWARD – READING IS FUN BUT SO IS GARDENING

\$20 may be awarded to a club (small club, medium club, large club)

Once a class or group of children has selected their favorite book, they should work with VFGC club members to design a garden to illustrate it.

- a. The submission must include the name of the book, a diagram of the proposed garden and plant list. (For example, if the book chosen is “The Adventures of Peter Rabbit”, the design would be for Mr. McGregor’s garden and list the vegetables to be planted.) Any group of children is eligible, not limited to public schools. Please submit by Dec. 1 of 2025 and/or 2026.
- b. The same as above but includes an actual garden according to the design and list of chosen plants. In addition, the submission should include pictures of the garden. This award may be for two years of the Administration, so not judged until Dec. 1, 2026. (*SP # 1*)

PD – 36 FLORAL DESIGNS FOR THE COMMUNITY

\$20 may be awarded to a club (small club, medium club, large club) for an outstanding program bringing the beauty and hope of flowers to those who are facing challenges including hospice, assisted living, meals-on-wheels or other locations in the community. This would be for floral arrangements made FOR a community in need, not with them. Please submit by Dec. 1 of 2025 and/or 2026. (*SP # 2*)

PD – 37 NEXTREX FILM RECYCLING CHALLENGE

\$20 will be offered each year to the overall winner, regardless of club size, who collects the most pounds of recyclable plastic film. Complete the VFGC cover sheet/application form and attach a page with the total weight you have collected for the calendar year ending Dec. 1. Please submit by Dec 1 of 2025 and /or 2026. (*SP # 3*)