

**HUNTSVILLE BOTANICAL GARDEN
SCARECROW TRAIL & COMPETITION**

Presented by Crestwood Medical Center

**Contest Entry Form
September – October 2008**

Information & Rules

1. Entry Fee is \$25 per 'crow for families and schools. The entry fee for corporations and businesses is \$50. All Entry Forms must be completed with the final name of the scarecrow and turned in by August 15th.
2. Set up will be at the Garden the week of 8/23-8/29 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (8-12 p.m. on Friday). You must have an appointment time to set up your 'crow. Appointments are scheduled every 30 minutes. Please limit your 'crow and props to a 3 foot by 3 foot area. Most Scarecrow locations are inside the Garden, please limit your 'crow and props to what can fit inside our golf cart. If you need to make arrangements that are exceptions to the above rules, please do so with Special Events staff before your appointment.
3. Each scarecrow will be assigned a location & number. A six-foot tall PVC pipe form with a two-foot shoulder piece will be provided to each entry. This will be placed over a fence post in the Botanical Garden, to provide support. The form will be available in the parking lot of the Visitor's Center at the beginning of August. If you prefer, you may make your scarecrow free standing. A metal sign indicating the name and builder of the scarecrow will be provided and installed by the Garden. One Scarecrow sign will be made per entry. All entries must be kept on display until Saturday, November 1. Each entry is responsible for installing, maintaining, and taking down their scarecrow.
4. Scarecrows must be in good taste; those that reflect controversial social or political situations will not be accepted. Scarecrows must be constructed to withstand weather conditions. Huntsville Botanical Garden reserves the right to remove any scarecrow that does not meet these standards. No handouts, promotional materials or free giveaways can be associated with any entry.
5. Huntsville Botanical Garden is not responsible for any loss or damage to entries.
6. Decisions of the judges will be final. The judging will take place September 1.
7. You are responsible for removal of your scarecrow from the Garden. Take down will be on Saturday, November 1 from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. No appointment time is needed. Please note: Any scarecrow left in the Garden on November 2nd will be thrown away.
8. Huntsville Botanical Garden reserves the right to use photographs of the scarecrows for future publicity.

**QUESTIONS?? Call Special Events @ 430-3572 ext. 225
4747 Bob Wallace Avenue, Huntsville, AL 35805 Fax: 830-5314**

Please print clearly!

Contact Name _____

Business name (if applicable) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ email _____

NAME/TITLE OF SCARECROW _____

Payment Method for Entry Fee:

Check _____ Mastercard/Visa _____ Exp. Date _____

**If writing a check, please make check payable to HSVBG, 4747 Bob Wallace Avenue, Huntsville, AL 35805
PRIZES: A \$100 cash prize will be awarded to each winner**

TIPS FOR MAKING SCARECROWS

- Scarecrows will be subject to the weather for two months, so they need to be constructed with weather-resistant materials. Clothing that does not fade easily, such as nylons and polyesters, hold up better than cottons.
- Scarecrows must be either freestanding or built around the PVC form provided by the Garden. The PVC form is six feet high with two feet wide shoulders. The PVC pipe fits over a stake installed and provided by The Garden.
- Stuffing can be anything, but newspaper or water-soluble peanuts will not work. Plastic bags hold up for months. Newspaper can be placed inside plastic bags for stuffing.
- Facial expression is the first thing a viewer will notice. Use an old milk jug, pot, wood, basketball, soccer ball, pillowcase or burlap bag (with painted or sewed on face).
- Ideas for hair and head: gourds, yarn, broom, corn, shredded plastic, moss, raffia, or old mop head
- Clothes are usually the easiest part and FREE- or nearly so. Check out thrift stores for colorful and cheap clothing and accessories.
- These 'crows stay out in the Garden so make sure everything is secure. Sewing is best, but large safety pins or staples will work well.
- Remember the details-a glittering pair of high-heeled shoes, for example, will make all the difference.
- Do not use latex gloves, as they quickly disintegrate outdoors.
- Spray Scotchgard inside and out of clothes to prevent mildew.

Thank you for helping the Huntsville Botanical Garden with our Scarecrow Trail!