



**VIRGINIA**  
**FFA ASSOCIATION**

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## STUDENT GARDEN COMPETITION

### State Fair of Virginia

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



**Deadline for Entries: September 15, 2021 or until all spaces are filled**

**Registration: Click [Here](#)**

**2021 Theme: "We're Back"**

#### 2021 Schedule

Garden installation will be Wednesday & Thursday, September 22 & 23, 2021 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. All garden installation must be completed by 9:00 am. Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.

Pick-up of materials/supplies will only be allowed Monday, October 4<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 15<sup>th</sup>. Entries will be closed when all 10 spots are assigned. To enter fill out the registration Google Form.

#### 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 "We're Back." 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 Andy Seibel or Alison Jones to ensure a 'blind' judging process. Signs will be 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. Other participating schools can assist those schools that can't attend on a regular basis for upkeep.
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**

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 \$1,500.00