

## Yard of the Month Selection Instructions

Each member is assigned to select a yard in the 5 areas of Spring Lake: Deerfield, Holly Hills, Laketree/Manchester, Spring Ave. Corridor and Woodland West.

Members are responsible for contacting the recipient and getting their name, address, phone number and permission to take photos of property and turn in to the Town Clerk by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month so letters can be mailed out. Residents must agree to have a sign in their yard and photos taken.

Presentations will be made on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday Town Hall meeting of every month and member should attend the meetings to welcome their resident, be present for the presentation and for photographs.

Pictures of YOTM properties will be displayed on the bulletin board or the website.

YOTM signs should be placed and removed in a timely fashion (1<sup>st</sup> and the last days of the month).

## Yard of the Month Judging Criteria

Factors include the overall appearance and neatness of the front of the property as evidenced by pruned, trimmed & shaped foliage, edged and defined lawns, borders & flower beds, and a visually appealing facade. As well as any improvements that is being made.

- **LAWN:** Healthy grass with minimal bare spots or excessive weeds. Grass mowed and edged, and grass around foundations and fences shall be trimmed. Debris shall be picked up and removed. A unified, simple and balanced landscape design. Neat and natural.
- **LANDSCAPE & FLOWER BEDS:** Beds weeded and edged. Dead flowers and plants removed. Trees and shrubs pruned. Natural areas cleaned. Beautification efforts including new flowers, new trees, new shrubs, etc. Plantings in scale with the surroundings.
- **WALKWAYS & DRIVEWAYS:** Walkways and driveways shall be clean. Area in front of curb free from debris and dirt.
- **AESTHETICS:** Overall look of landscaping. Welcoming view at front entryway. Originality and creativity.
- **HOLIDAY SEASON:** In the months of October, November and December a "Best Decorated Holiday Yard" will be awarded, separate from the Yard-of-the-Month award, based on holiday decorations and other seasonal presentations. This is usually for Halloween and Christmas/Hanukkah but may be awarded for Thanksgiving decorations.

**Summary:** While lack of strict adherence to the criteria above does not necessarily result in a disqualification, these principles offer general guidelines that should be recognized by the Spring Lake Appearances Commission Yard of the Month program.

## **Business of the Month Selection Instructions**

Each member is assigned to select a business of the month year round beginning June 2015.

Members are responsible for contacting the business and getting their name, address, phone number and permission to take photos of property and turn in to the Town Clerk by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month so letters can be mailed out. Businesses must agree to have a sign in their business and photos taken.

Presentations will be made on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday Town Hall meeting of every month and member should attend the meetings to welcome their business, be present for the presentation and for photographs.

Pictures of BOTM properties will be displayed on the bulletin board or the website.

BOTM signs should be placed and removed in a timely fashion (1<sup>st</sup> and the last days of the month).

## **Business of the Month Judging Criteria**

Each business is judged based on curb appeal, uniqueness, and creativity, but no artificial plants and /or flowers are allowed.

If a front yard is not an option for the business then they will be judged based on an entrance way, window boxes, hanging baskets, etc.

Businesses will also be judged based on any improvements they have made to improve the appearance of their business.

**Summary:** While lack of strict adherence to the criteria above does not necessarily result in a disqualification, these principles offer general guidelines that should be recognized by the Spring Lake Appearances Commission Business of the Month program.