

RULES FOR THE YARD OF THE MONTH CONTEST

The #COVINGTONPRIDE Yard-Of-The-Month (YOM) program has been established to recognize the efforts of residents, businesses and industries within the City of Covington, whether they are owners or tenants, who demonstrate a clear and consistent desire to maintain or improve their respective properties above normal expectations. The #COVINGTONPRIDE Committee would like to give you the recognition you deserve for creating a beautiful, well-kept yard. This is a great way to improve the value of your home and make our city a better place to live.

RULES

#COVINGTONPRIDE YOM is a yearlong event. The #COVINGTONPRIDE Committee will accept entries monthly to determine the winner of the YOM. The entries will be accepted via email: planning.building@covingtontn.com. The entries must include before and after pictures of the property as well as owner/tenant name, address, phone number and email. Residents of the City of Covington also may submit recommendations for the YOM, notifying the #COVINGTONPRIDE Committee by sending an email to planning.building@covingtontn.com and indicating the address of the property to be judged and sending before and after pictures. Emails or letters that do not give a complete address or contain before AND after pictures will not be judged.

All entries must be in by the end of the third week of the month and will be considered for the following month.

Resident's lawns will be judged the last week of the month prior to the awarded YOM.

Potential YOM winners are judged solely on the total exterior appearance of their property and front yard as viewed from the street.

Properties may win yard of the month no more than once a year.

#COVINGTONPRIDE Committee will notify the winner either in person or by mail and request to take the residence photos and yard taken and published in the newsletter and website.

Property owner must be in good standings with payments of taxes and with the City of Covington Codes Dept.

Judging factors include the overall appearance, tidiness and neatness of the front of the property as evidenced by:

- Well-groomed (properties can have a natural, wildscape appearance, but grass must be mowed, and the perimeter of the property must be edged).
- Attractive; pleasing to the eye (eg. green lawn; a variety of plants such as trees, shrubs, ground cover, flowers, wildflowers; plants with a variety of heights, textures, and colors; landscape features such as fountains, large rocks in beds, etc.)
- Buildings, fences, porches, and patios on the property are required to be in good repair, i.e. minimal distraction from the landscape due to deterioration, damage or construction. Extra consideration may be given to properties that have invested extra effort through the use of attractive art pieces (eg. pottery, ironwork), potted plants, birdhouses, patio or lawn furniture, windsocks, decorative mailboxes, etc.

- All selected properties must be free of litter, junk and debris.
- All selected properties must have no appliances or indoor furniture on porches or patios.
- All selected properties must be free of junked or inoperable vehicles.
- All selected properties must have no parking on the lawn.

Evaluation Checklist

- ✓ Lawn mowed neatly; low spots filled with topsoil; no brown spots in grass
- ✓ Lawn and flowerbeds are free of leaves and grass clippings; area walks swept

- ✓ Sidewalks and driveways edged (includes around foundations, patios, trees ...)
- ✓ Very few weeds in lawn and cracks of sidewalks/driveway
- ✓ Mulching flowerbeds/bushes/trees
- ✓ Appearance and condition of flowers
- ✓ Bushes trimmed neatly (no higher than bottom of window sills except for corner or “Specimen” bushes & trees)
- ✓ Front yard clear of clutter, garbage cans, litter, etc. (most visible area from street)
- ✓ Overall appearance — is it neat and clean (water hose neatly stored when not in use)

PLEASE NOTE: Your property WILL NOT be eligible if it is maintained by a professional lawn care/landscape provider.

Winners will receive:

- A specially designed sign placed in their front yard until the announcement of the next month’s winner
- A gift certificate
- A picture of their front yard displayed in the newsletter and website