

2009 CLEANEST CITY CONTEST
Sponsored by
LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, INC.

In 1958, the Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. was first among members of the National Council of state Garden Clubs, Inc. to sponsor a statewide "Cleanest City Contest." This year 2008 marks the fiftieth consecutive year we have sponsored this contest.

The aim of the contest is to instill civic pride in the individual citizens and thus, improve the appearance of towns and cities.

Each year competition has become stronger, and the cities and towns have achieved higher and higher standards of cleanliness.

We point with pride to the many participating communities through the years - and to the ever-increasing number who work year round to keep their communities clean and beautiful.

LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, INC. (LGCF)

LGCF President: Sybil Colicchio 6325 E. Ridge Drive Shreveport, La. 72206-2431
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LGCF State Cleanest City Chairman: Jean Gilstrap 161 Donna Drive Farmerville, La 71241-7245
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Regulations and Procedures for Conducting the Cleanest City Contest

1. The Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc. will sponsor a contest to select the cleanest cities in Louisiana.
2. Each District can have nine (9) categories:
 - Category A (Population 1 to 1,000)
 - Category B (Population 1,001 to 3,000)
 - Category C (Population 3,001 to 7,000)
 - Category D (Population 7,001 to 11,000)
 - Category E (Population 11,001 to 15,000)
 - Category F (Population 15,001 to 19,000)
 - Category G (Population 19,001 to 25,000)
 - Category H (Population 25,001 to 60,000)
 - Category I (Population 60,001 and over)
3. Entries will be judged by specified rules and in accordance to the cleanest city score sheet scale of points.
4. Any Louisiana community, town or city Having a Mayor or duly elected official must be sponsored by a Federated Garden Club to enter the Cleanest City Contest. This Club does not necessarily have to be in your community, town or city.
5. Applications on the proper entry forms and entry fee must be submitted to the LGCF District Cleanest City Chairman by March 1st. Entry fee for the contest is \$50.00. This may be paid by the entrant or the sponsoring club.
6. LGCF District Cleanest City Chairman shall submit to the LGCF District Director and LGCF State Cleanest City Chairman - a complete listing of all entries in the district. The District Cleanest City Chairman sends the entry fee to the LGCF State Cleanest City Chairman.
7. District judging will take place between the last week in March and the first week in April. Entrants will be informed of the date and time of the judging. The local CC Chairman

shall accompany the District CC Chairman AND the judges about town. It is suggested that only one person do the talking for the entrant, other wise it becomes confusing for the judges.

8. The District Director and District CC Chairman will be responsible for the con test within their district. A team of three qualified judges (preferably from out side your district) shall be selected to judge throughout the district by the District Chairman and District Director and approved by the State CC Chairman - prior to March 1st. Results of the CC Contest shall be announced by the district Chairman to All participants in the District within 24 hours of the completion of judging. No ties are allowed. A report will be submitted by each District CC Chairman to the State CC Chairman within 24 hours of the completion of judging.
9. Each top scoring entrant in the 10 categories (with 80 points or over) in each district shall receive a plaque as The District Winner. The engraved plaque shall be presented to the Mayor or other elected official.
10. Entrants receiving scores of 80 points or over will receive a Certificate of Appreciation from the LGCF.
11. No city, club, or clubs shall be assessed more than the entry fee.
12. Clubs should keep a record of procedures used in conducting Cleanest City Contest along with the news releases. "Before and After" pictures taken from exactly the same position(s) and all materials pertaining to the CC Contest (which may be helpful to the judges and the State Chairman) should be put in the scrapbook. The judges will view the scrapbook for District and State judging.
13. State judging will be conducted the first and second weeks of May. Unless changed with the approval of the LGCF at a state meeting.
14. The "Cleanest Cities in Louisiana" will be determined from the District winners in the 10 categories by the State Judging Team; composed of three (3) qualified persons selected by the State Chairman and approved by the LGCF President. The LGCF President-elect will serve as a judge at least one year prior to becoming President. If a state judge is from a city or town in the state finals, she will not be allowed to judge. The State Chairman will then become the third judge.
15. Winners will be notified after the completion of all State Judging. Local news releases shall come from the Cleanest City Chairman. All District Chairmen, District Directors and Mayors will be notified of the results of the judging in their District - also at the completion of the contest.
16. An engraved plaque will be awarded to State Winners in the 10 categories. Presentation shall be made by the Louisiana Garden Club Federation President and the LGCF Cleanest City Chairman at a time suitable to the Mayor and the State Chairman.
17. There is no limit to the number of times your town or city may enter and win this contest
18. Winners will be encouraged to erect the following sign at prominent points in their cities:

NAME OF CITY

LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION
"CLEANEST CITY CONTEST WINNER"
POPULATION CATEGORY

YEAR

RULES FOR STATE AND DISTRICT CLEANEST CITY JUDGES

1. Cities and towns must be entered in the Cleanest City Contest in their proper population category (within corporate limits).
2. The judges, whether State or District, never reveal the point scores to entrants. Score sheets are never given to entrants for their scrap books.
3. Special attention should be given to the landscaping and overall litter-free, clean appearance of Blue Star Markers.
4. Approaches to a city or town should be carefully observed. Weeds around poles, signs, and in roadside ditches detract as well as subtract points from the Judges' scores. Care should also be taken to see that there are not weeds growing in broken cracks of sidewalks or on street curbs.
5. Special attention should be given to make sure no weeds or tall grass is growing along school ground fences. Students could be given the job of policing the grounds to ensure that they are litter-free. This will help encourage pride in the cleanliness of their school.
6. Vacant lots should be mowed at least 10 feet from the street or high way. We know It is not always possible to mow the entire lot - although it does look better. Vacant lots must be litter-free.
7. Abandoned cars are one of the worst litter problems. A good anti-litter project is to rid the community of such objects.
8. The State or District Judges have the privilege of asking the City Chair man to take other than the designated or "prepared" judging route.
9. The State or District CC Chairman should make arrangements for City Officials to meet the state or District Judges at the time of judging, or when an award is to be presented.
10. The State Cleanest City Chairman should be notified well in advance of the time and place she is to meet with local chairmen and City Officials, so that she may plan her itinerary.
11. A "Certificate of Appreciation*" will be given to all state entrants who score more than 80 points, but do not win Top Honors.
12. Hospitality of some sort is usually offered to the Judges. This is not mandatory. It is a courtesy and is greatly appreciated.

Display the Green Flag of Ecology as a Symbol of your commitment and as a Pledge to Act as an Environmental Conservator of our Earth.

The Greek Letter "theta" - warning of death, symbolizes a threat to Earth and its atmosphere. Green stripes are for unspoiled land; white, for pure air.

Once the air was clean, the water good. We could enjoy the smell of the earth; we could walk the land. It is incredible what we have done to America in 200 years. Too much of it is now noisy, cluttered, ugly, and dirty. As citizens, we need a new commitment to clean up, to enhance and to restore our country - and to use our natural resources wisely.

TIPS FOR CLEANEST CITY

LITTER SURVEY:

Divide the community into sections and assign individuals and groups to canvass a certain area, taking pictures of litter accumulation and other spots to be improved. Enlist the aid of City Officials and/or adult and youth organizations in cleaning up these places. Particular attention might be given to improving your city entrances. Take "before" and "after" pictures to be used for publicity purposes and in your scrapbook.

SET UP A SPEAKER'S BUREAU:

Make arrangements to address local adult and youth groups on the subject of litter prevention. Secure statistics from municipal and state officials on costs for cleaning up litter and on law enforcement practices - for your speakers.

CONDUCT A "LITTER WORKSHOP":

Cooperate with groups such as the Chamber of Commerce, civic and state clubs, women's clubs, scout organizations and other youth groups, and municipal officials in conducting workshops on the subject of litter prevention. As an entrance fee, ask each participant to bring a piece of litter that they found on the way to the meeting. Be sure the meeting results in broadened community action to prevent litter and to improve the area.

HOLD A CONTEST:

Categories for the best poster, song, skit, jingle, or slogan - on Litter Prevention will receive special recognition. Arrange to display the winning posters in the windows of local business firms. Use the jingles, songs, and slogans in the local newspapers, radio stations, or on bank and realtor signs.

GOOD TURN DAY:

After making appropriate arrangements, a group of citizens could spend a Saturday cleaning up and landscaping town monuments.

**Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.
Cleanest City Contest
Entry Form**

	Date _____
City _____	District _____
Population _____	Category _____
Mayor _____	Phone _____
Contact number other than office for emergency use only (cell) _____	
Address _____	Phone _____
City Chairman _____	Phone _____
Address _____	Zip _____
District Chairman _____	Phone _____
Address _____	Zip _____
Sponsoring Garden Club(s) _____	
Garden Club President(s) _____	
Address _____	Phone _____

If additional space is needed, attach extra page.

Local Newspaper _____ Phone _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

- Mail application and entry fee of \$50.00 to your LGCF Cleanest City Chairman, Jean Gilstrap, 161 Donna Drive, Farmerville, LA 71241
- Make checks payable to LGCF Cleanest City Contest.
- Submit entries after November 1. Deadline for receiving entries is March 1
- Please include directions to City Hall, or arrange to meet the judges at the City Limits. Please remember to include an emergency phone number in case of an emergency or for further information needed by the judges.

**CLEANEST CITY CONTEST SCORE SHEET
LOUISIANA GARDEN CLUB FEDERATION, INC.**

City _____ Population _____
 District _____ Category _____

Division	Points	Score
1 APPROACHES: (Within city limits)	8	
2 PUBLIC AND/OR MUNICIPAL BLDGS.: (Schools, churches, hospitals, libraries, fire station, City Hall, nursing homes) liner free, lawns well kept fences and posts free of litter, weeds and grass.	10	
3 PARKS & RECREATION AREAS & CEMETERIES: (Litter free, well kept)	12	
4 BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS: (Litter free, well kept)	10	
5 RESIDENTIAL AREAS: (Litter free, well kept)	10	
6 STREETS, SIDEWALKS, POSTS & NEUTRAL GROUNDS: (Lawns mowed & edged, litter free; posts & fences free of weeds & grass)	13	
7 VACANT LOTS: (free of litter, junk & abandoned cars; grass, weeds cut 10 feet from street & sidewalk)	10	
8 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: (evidence sufficient to establish participation of Scouts, service clubs, church groups, schools, etc.)	10	
9 SCRAPBOOK: (publicity 'before' & "after" pictures taken from same position showing progress.) This book is Judged.	7	
10 OVERALL IMPRESSION OF CLEANLINESS: (WELL KEPT & ATTRACTIVE APPEARANCE)	10	
 TOTAL POINTS	 100	