

SPECIAL EXHIBITS RULES AND AWARDS

Educational exhibits have no maximum or minimum size, however, to be eligible for an Educational Top Exhibitor Award, an exhibit must occupy a minimum of 18 square feet of surface area. To be eligible for Youth Top Exhibitor Award, Youth Educational Exhibits only require 6 square feet of surface area. Space used may be horizontal, vertical or a combination of both. The use of fresh plant material is encouraged in the Special Exhibits, but is not required.

The Educational Top Exhibitor Award (brown and white rosette) is offered and may be awarded in Section A. Exhibits are designed to instruct the public according to the following scale:

Educational value	60 points
Staging	20 points
Creativity and expression	20 points

The Connecticut Judges' Special Award (yellow and white rosette) is offered and may be awarded in Section A. The winning exhibit must awaken interest in a subject and stimulate the viewer to learn more according to the following scale:

Achieves objective of involving viewer	40 points
One dominant thought	20 points
Staging	20 points
Conformance	10 points
Accuracy	10 points

The Connecticut Silver and Blue Rosette is offered and may be awarded in Section A, at the discretion of the judges (one or more per show) in recognition of Educational and Special Exhibits, scoring 90 or more points.

The Youth Top Exhibitor Award (rosette of red, white and blue ribbons) may be given, if merited, to an exhibit scoring 90 points or more, in the Special Exhibits Division.

The Connecticut Silver and Pink Rosette is offered and may be given in the Youth Section and awarded to exhibits eligible for the NGC Youth Award. It may not be given to the exhibit winning the NGC Youth Award.

The Award of Appreciation (rosette of orchid ribbons) may be presented by the Flower Show Committee, to commercial and other noncompetitive exhibits.

DIVISION III—SPECIAL EXHIBITS
“THE FRUITS OF MANY LABORS”

Section A: The Fruits of Our Labors

Educational Top Exhibitor Award
CT Judges’ Special Award
CT Silver and Blue 90+

Exhibit 1: “Conservation: It Starts With You”

BGC Conservation Committee

The Branford Garden Club Conservation Committee presents three of our many successful projects; Mulches and Composting, Help Save our Native Bees, and Gifts from the Garden. Our presentations are all designed to educate, inform and elicit participation from Garden Club members on issues relating to the environment, wildlife, preservation of natural habitats, as well as the three R's, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

Exhibit 2: “Serving Branford 80+ Years”

Branford Garden Club

The Branford Garden Club not only educates its members, but cuts a wide swath in the community. The maintenance of civic gardens, providing speakers for community groups, the daffodil project, and summer and holiday baskets along the Main Street are only some of the major projects. Youth projects touch the lives of children in early childhood care through 8th grade.

Section B: Passing the Spade to Our Youth

Youth Top Exhibitor Award
CT Silver and Pink 90+

Exhibit 3: “Raised Beds and Composting”

Walsh Intermediate School Garden Club

5th and 6th graders of the Walsh Intermediate School Garden Club, working with their teachers and consulting with members of the Branford Garden Club, learn how to compost vegetable waste and grow vegetables and flowers in a raised bed by their school.

Section C: Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Award of Appreciation

Exhibit 4: “Invasive Plants”

Rose Hiskes, CT Agricultural Experiment Station

An overview of the invasive plant issue and the identifying characteristics and life cycles of some species commonly encountered in Connecticut

Exhibit 5: “Invasive Insects”

Rose Hiskes, CT Agricultural Experiment Station

Learn about the Asian Longhorned Beetle and why it is essential to protect CT from the situation that occurred in Worcester, MA where it was necessary to cut down 26,000 infected trees. Information about the Emerald Ash Borer will also be given.

Exhibit 6: “Local & Native Gardens”

Van Wilgen’s Garden Center

Creative gardens that feature Van Wilgen Grown and locally-grown trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals. As these plants are raised and matured on our farm and in our greenhouses, we are confident they will flourish in your yard.

Exhibit 7: “Come Down to Earth”

Branford Community Gardens

Branford Community Gardens present an exhibit on their first two gardening seasons in twenty rental plots. Additionally, with the assistance of an all-volunteer crew, two 20'x20' plots produce organically grown vegetables for the Community Dining Room and Branford Food Council.

Exhibit 8: “Master Gardener”

Master Gardeners of CT

The University of Connecticut Master Gardener program trains volunteers who assist home gardeners with their garden questions and programs. They complete 90 classroom hours in horticulture and environmental science, and then work with county Cooperative Extension Centers and other experienced mentors.