

Tuesday 27 June 2017

DIG DEEP FOR RYDE'S SPRING GARDEN COMPETITION 2017

Ryde residents are encouraged to dig deep in preparation for the City of Ryde Spring Garden Competition.

The hands-on community dig-fest has been held annually by the City of Ryde Council for more than thirty years and offers local garden gurus of all ages the chance to showcase their gardening skills.

There are twelve diverse categories to choose from:

Large Garden: large private residential garden - may be the whole garden or just a section

Small Garden: small private residential garden - may be the whole garden or just a section

Courtyard or Balcony Garden: private residential garden using pots, planter boxes, ornaments, walled gardens

Edible Garden: vegetable, fruit, permaculture

Native and Habitat-friendly Garden: gardens which feature Australia native plants and include habitat elements to encourage native birds, lizards, possums and insects

Children's Garden: private residential gardens inspired and created by a child, group of children or a family with young children

School Garden: gardens within local primary or high schools where students and teachers or the community have worked together

Pre-School Garden: gardens within local pre-schools where students and teachers or the community have worked together

Community Garden: garden projects where the local community, groups or community organisations have worked together

Commercial Garden: gardens within local business and commercial organisations, eg hotels, retirement villages, commercial premises, small businesses, universities

Bushcare Site: for an outstanding contribution made by volunteers to a Bushcare site

Children's Seed Growing Competition: Categories for 3 - 7 years, 8 - 11 years and 12 - 16 years. The seeds to be grown are Tiny Tim Tomatoes. Entries in this category should be made by 31 July to allow for maximum seed growing time. Free seeds, pot and growing instructions provided.

City of Ryde Mayor, Bill Pickering said: "Our Spring Garden Competition is a very hands-on, inclusive community event, showcasing not only what makes our neighbourhoods so attractive but also the skills of the people who work so hard to make it happen."

Entries are encouraged from all sections of the including young and aspiring green thumbs at school or at home, seasoned seniors, individual gardeners, families, community and cultural groups, gardeners with different abilities, as well as commercial organisations and small businesses.

- Entry is free for residents, organisations and businesses in the City of Ryde local government area
- Full details, including entry form and judging criteria www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/gardencomp
- Entries close Thursday 31 August 2017

- All entries will be personally judged by a panel of appointed garden judges and horticulture professionals during September/October
- Winners and place getters announced at a special Gala Event on Thursday 2 November at Eden Gardens
- Judging of entries in the Children's Seed Growing Competition and announcement of winners in this category will take place on Saturday 28 October at Eden Gardens.

Gold Sponsors Eden Gardens, SUEZ, Tumbleweed
Bronze Sponsor Sam The Paving Man

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