



HISTORIC WILLIAMSTON ENVISION WILLIAMSTON SCARECROW DECORATING CONTEST

Display Time: Sept 24th through Nov 16th

The Historic Town of Williamston and the Envision Williamston, A SC Main Street Program, would like to invite all area Residents and Businesses to participate in our 4th Annual Scarecrow Decorating Contest. You may erect your display upon design approval. **Registration deadline is Oct 5, 2018** to be eligible for judging. Awards will be given for all categories and there will be a “People’s Choice Award” for the overall best.

Property Owners along the main arteries of town may create a scarecrow for their yard and give special permission to allow other individuals, groups, families, clubs and businesses to use their property to display their creativity at the property owners’ will. Businesses may use lamp posts or areas in front of their storefront to promote their product. Individuals and groups may decorate the remaining lamp posts making the entire town a festive venue. Entry forms are to be completed if your scarecrow is to be judged.

Eligibility: Scarecrow Decorating Contest is open to all area residents, schools, and businesses.

Categories:

- Individual/Family
- Business
- Organization, Church or School

This contest is open to all ages. However, each project entry must be supervised by at least one adult, 21 years of age or older.

Judges and Prizes: A panel of three judges with expertise in planning, decorating, and/or design will judge the displays.

Prizes will include awards for each category (individual/family, business, and organization/church/school). A “People’s Choice” Specialty Plaque will be voted on by the public. In addition, awards will be given for Most Creative and Most Whimsical.

There is **no fee** for entry. Entry forms must be brought to Town Hall on or before **October 5th**. On the form, you will be asked to indicate your display’s intended location. If you do not have a location, you may ask a local church, business or homeowner to host your display. If none of these options apply, there are some public spaces available, and your scarecrow display will be assigned a designated public space around town for everyone to enjoy.

Judging will take place by a panel of judges on or around the first week of November. People’s choice votes will be cast online. Scarecrows may remain up until Friday, November 16th, the week before Thanksgiving, at which time removal should take place.

Theme: Use your imagination to select a theme for your scarecrow. Traditional scarecrows are made of old clothing, burlap, gunny sacks, straw hats, aprons, bonnets, cornstalks, raffia, straw, etc. We request that you use items that aren’t sentimental as the scarecrows may become damaged due to sun, wind, or other conditions resulting from outdoor exposure. We have also found that plastic 2-liter drink bottles make a good body and are recyclable. Whether you choose a traditional, contemporary, or humorous approach is up to you. Your scarecrow can be whimsical, frightening, funny, or sad. Let your imagination run wild but please keep your creation in good taste as they are on public display. Use of bright colors, unique materials, and solar powered lighting is encouraged.

Construction: Scarecrows must be durable and able to stand up to sun, wind, and rain. Use care in choosing your materials. All decorations must be firmly attached to your scarecrow. The scarecrows will be attached to light posts and other objects around town, but if you wish, you may make the scarecrow on a stand using a 2x4 for the body and a broomstick as arms. You are welcome to visit your scarecrow and keep it in good presentable condition. You may add other props after your scarecrow has been placed in its display area. The Envision Williamston Community Engagement and Marketing Committee reserves the right to limit display additions; disqualify displays deemed

inappropriate; or remove displays that are not maintained. All entries must be handmade. A sign may be included so that friends and family can identify your work but keep in mind, they must be no larger than 11x17 and must be protected from the elements so that they are legible. No advertising or political statements are allowed. (Note: A business name isn't seen as an ad.) Vulgar or inappropriate messages as well as scary, gruesome or bloody scarecrows are prohibited. This is intended to be family friendly and fun. Again, Envision Williamston reserves the right to disqualify entries they feel to be distasteful or not family friendly.

Size: The minimum size is 4 ft. tall. The maximum height is 7 ft. Scarecrows and props to be placed on lamp posts or sidewalks must fit in a 5x5 foot area. Those on private property may be larger but must be preapproved to be judged.

Entry Forms may be picked up at Town Hall or printed from the Envision Williamston website at www.williamstonsc.us and should be returned when the form is completely filled out. Again, some public locations are available on a first come first served basis. Since availability is limited, please submit your application as soon as possible. You will be notified after acceptance and review of your application and will then may erect your display on the approved site. Displays must be removed by Nov. 16th, or they will be removed by Town staff.

Summary Timeline

Step	Description	Date
1	Post instructions at Town Hall, Facebook, websites	9/10/18
2	Entry form acceptance period	9/10 – 10/05
3	Review and acceptance determination	1 week of receipt
4	Scarecrow official display time period (Fall begins 9.22.17)	9/24– 11/16
5	People's choice voting	10/15 – 11/16
6	Removal of scarecrow displays	11/16-18
7	Awards notifications	11/30 (tentative)
8	Recognition ceremony at Town Council meeting	12/03/18