

2016 Monterey County Fair Water-Wise Landscape Design Competition

The Water Awareness Committee of Monterey County, Inc. (WAC) will host its 12th Annual, Water-Wise Landscape Design Competition at the 2016 Monterey County Fair. The competition was developed in conjunction with WAC's *Retire Your Turf* campaign to promote water conservation awareness in the Monterey County. The campaign encourages the replacement of thirsty lawns with attractive, low maintenance, drought-tolerant landscaping that reduces water use and protects water quality from harmful fertilizer and pesticide runoff.

Monterey County Fair garden displays in Divisions 139 – 143 and Divisions 149 - 151 will be judged on: the use of native and drought tolerant plants, water-wise irrigation technology (such as soaker hoses, drip irrigation, weather-based timers, and rain sensors), the use of soil conditioners, ease of garden maintenance, and overall design. Judging and award notifications will be made Tuesday August 30th, one day preceding the Fair's opening.

Display your fine landscape workmanship and skills!

Participate as a Garden Display exhibitor at this year's Monterey County Fair.

Why Participate:

- Garden displays will be seen by thousands of Central Coast Residents and beyond
- Great premiums, worth hundreds of dollars, offered for the top award winners
- Exceptional recognition for all who participate
- Great marketing opportunity generating business for your company

When to Apply:

- Entries are limited. So be sure to enter soon to reserve your Garden Display bed
- Submit online entries or hardcopy entries by **August 10th, 2016**
- Gardens are to be created on **August 29th and 30th**
- Gardens will be displayed for the duration of the Fair **August 31st through September 5th**
- Garden Display beds must be torn down **September 6th and 7th**

Learn more about this great opportunity by following this link to the [Monterey County Fair Entry Guidebook](#) webpage.

In addition to the generous premiums offered by the Monterey County Fair, the Water Awareness Committee of Monterey County, Inc. (WAC) will host its 12th Annual, Water-Wise Landscape Design Competition at the 2016 Monterey County Fair.

The best water-wise Garden Displays in Divisions 139 – 143 and 149 – 151 will receive additional awards from WAC sponsors.

Competition Background:

- Developed in conjunction with WAC's Retire Your Turf campaign to promote water conservation
- The campaign encourages replacement of thirsty lawns with attractive, low maintenance, drought-tolerant landscaping
- Replacement of lawn reduces water use, decreases runoff of harmful fertilizers and pesticides, and protects water quality

Judging Criteria:

- Use of native and drought tolerant plants
- Water-wise irrigation technology (i.e soaker hoses, drip irrigation, weather-based timers, and rain sensors)
- Use of soil conditioners
- Ease of garden maintenance
- Interpretive displays (i.e signage of plants)
- Overall design.

Judging Awards:

- Award notifications will be made on **Tuesday August 30th**, one day preceding the Fair's opening
 - **1st Place** : \$150 gift certificate
 - **2nd Place**: \$100 gift certificate
 - **3rd Place**: \$50 gift certificate



Photo Above:

August 2015 Rainwater Catchment Demonstration by Jon Ramsey, AquaSoleil, Carmel CA