



Find out what is happening with Strathcona in Bloom.

SPRING
2016

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Strathcona County Showcased in the Grand Champion Category

Last year's (2015) national judges tour included the Heritage Mile, Ardrossan Recreation Complex, Strathcona Athletic Park, the Museum & Archives, Bike Park, Heritage Wetlands and Strathcona Wilderness Centre. Information sessions with various County representatives were presented, along with many other stops and highlights. It was a busy few days for the judges who were tasked with evaluating our diverse County, topped off with the Volunteer & Sponsor Appreciation Dinner.

The results are in! We scored 89.1% earning 5 Blooms for Silver!

Tidiness, environmental action, heritage conservation, urban forestry, landscape & floral displays were all evaluated, but not just those areas belonging to the County. Local businesses, schools, churches, hospitals, government buildings, farms, residential properties and community involvement were all evaluated. Yes, they looked at everything and we delivered! Congratulations to everyone on continuing to make Strathcona County Shine!

Being winners in the Grand Champion Category in 2015, we cannot compete in 2016. We are entered in the Non-Competitive, Evaluated Category. We will let you know when the judges are coming.

Beauty Aids from the Garden -

Enhance your beauty using ingredients from your garden ([more](#))

10 tips to attract wildlife to your garden. Invite your wild neighbours to stay awhile with these [helpful hints](#).

Reuse your old pantyhose in the garden.

10 uses for your pantyhose in the garden. ([More](#))

Volunteer Fair - Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Strathcona County Community Centre, in conjunction with the Sherwood Park Farmer's Market. Stop by and say "Hi". Encourage friends and family to volunteer with Strathcona in Bloom!

Weeds Growing in Concrete Cracks?

1 Gallon of Vinegar (pickling vinegar has more acid)

1 cup of Salt (2 cups Epsom Salts)

1 Tbsp. dish soap (Blue Dawn original is best surfactant).

Use on weeds growing in cracks, on concrete or gravel. Kills top portions of plants. Spray on a dry, hot day.

Peter Stavely Memorial Tree

Peter Stavely was instrumental in the start up and establishment of Strathcona in Bloom 19 years ago. To honour this valued member of our community who passed away in 2015, plans are underway to plant a memorial tree. Details are currently being worked out for the memorial tree to be placed on the grounds at Smeltzer House. We will keep you informed as plans are finalized.

In Memoriam—Pat Brehaut Pat was passionate about gardening and shared her skills willingly. She was a long time volunteer with Strathcona in Bloom, serving on the board, heading the Front Yard Competition for many years and designing and maintaining the planters at Brentwood and the Broadmoor and Baseline bed. Pat and her husband Jon volunteered for the Edmonton Horticultural Society and had their garden featured in the Alberta Gardener Magazine last year.



Black Knot Infectious fungus. Easiest seen and removed during the fall thru spring. The most distinguishing symptom of Black Knot is the characteristic black, tar-like swellings that develop on branches. (click for [more](#))

Planting Week

1st Week of June



Repairing winter's damage:

11 fix ups for winter damage to your garden and yard. ([More](#))

Executive Contacts:

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