

2026 Clinton County Master Gardener Container Contest Rules

July 22, 2026

Pavilion near Outdoor Living Classroom



Classes

1. Fairy/Gnome - Kids (12 years and under)
2. Fairy/Gnome - Adults
3. Most Colorful
4. Outstanding Use of Foliage
5. Best Design (Thriller, Filler and Spiller)
6. America the Beautiful (Red, White and Blue flowers must be used)
7. Most Unusual Container (50% container, 25% plants, 25% design)
8. Kids (12 years and under)

Rules

1. Ribbons awarded for First, Second and Third place in each class.
2. \$25.00 prize to Best of Show container chosen by judges.
3. The contest is open to **all** who wish to enter, including any Master Gardeners. Two entries are allowed per person in each class.
4. All entries should be easily moved by one person. Consider packing peanuts or similar materials in the bottom of containers to lighten weight.
5. Name plant varieties on the label if possible. This adds to the educational aspect of the entry to the fairgoers.
6. Fairy/Gnome entries must contain a Fairy and/or Gnome.
7. Contestants must label entries for a class before being placed on display. Contestants may assist staff with placement of properly labeled entries.
8. Entries must be entered in the Outdoor Learning Classroom between 9:00 AM and 12:00 PM on Wednesday, July 22, 2026. No entries will be accepted after 12:00 PM.
9. Only staff and judges are allowed in the display area after 12:00 PM, until the announcing of winners at 2:00 PM.
10. Judging will be at 1:00 PM in the Pavilion. Announcement of winners and judge's critiques is open to the public and will be at 2:00 PM in the display area.
11. After the judge's critiques, contestants are strongly urged to leave entries for the exhibit in the covered pavilion. Containers should be removed by 12:00 PM on Saturday, July 25, 2026.

All reasonable caution is used to protect entries. Neither the Clinton County Master Gardeners nor the Clinton County Fair Board is responsible for theft or damages. After judging, Fairy/Gnome entries will be displayed in the auditorium building. Any valuable items may be removed prior to display.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. For the full non-discrimination statement or accommodation inquiries, go to www.extension.iastate.edu/legal.