

PROTECTING AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS

NGC Special Project 2011 – 2013

NGC President, Shirley Nicolai, has selected *Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems* as one of NGC's Special Projects for 2011 - 2013. This project recognizes that it is of utmost importance and urgency that members of National Garden Clubs, Inc., identify and address critical water issues at local, state, regional and national levels.

Aquatic Ecosystems include: rivers, lakes and ponds, streams and creeks, marshes and bogs, wetlands, coastal estuaries, aquifers, floodplains and springs.

National Garden Clubs, Inc. will present monetary awards and certificates of recognition to garden clubs in each NGC Region for projects promoting the protection of an aquatic ecosystem (upon submission of an award application.)

AWARD APPLICATION FOR PROTECTING AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS

Award Application: Preferably sent by email. Snail mail acceptable. To be received no later than March 15, 2013. Send to Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems Chairman:

**Mary Sue Colvin jhcolvin2@bellsouth.net
10473 Hwy. 562, Fort Necessity, LA 71243-5122**

- Application form is limited to three printed pages, – front of pages only. (**No** report cover or binders allowed. **No** plastic sheets allowed).
- Application form will not be returned. (Make a copy of application for your files.)
- Should include photos.
- **Top of first page MUST include: Name of Garden Club (exactly as it should appear on any award/certificate received), Club Category (Large, Medium, Small), State Garden Club, Region, Title of Project, Contact Person (Email address or telephone number.)**
- Brief summary of project, involvement of club members and other organizations, project expenses and means of funding, continuing involvement, follow-up, maintenance, photos, landscape plans, etc. may be included in the application.

Categories:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| A. Large club | 100 members and over |
| B. Medium club | 30 – 99 members |
| C. Small club | 29 members and under |

First place winners in each of the club categories (large, medium, small) will be selected for each NGC Region for a possible total of 24 regional first place winners. Monetary awards of \$50 will be given to each of the first place winners in the three club categories in each region.

Overall national winners will be selected from the applications submitted with the monetary awards to be determined by the committee.

Scale of Points:

Presentation – 5 pts. Neat, concise, includes all required information on first page of application.

Achievement – 65 pts. Scope of project; need and fulfillment; benefit; accomplishment; comprehensiveness of work; activities to attain goals; evaluation of goals reached; educational; prior planning; very brief history if continuing project; other.

Participation – 15 pts. Size of club; involvement of: members, community, government agencies, professionals, youth, residents in facilities, others. (Not all have to be involved.)

Documentation – 15 pts. Supporting data (as applicable), clear, well-labeled and neatly attached before and after photos (if applicable), landscape plan (does not have to be professionally drawn), financial report, letters of appreciation, community awards, newspaper and/or magazine articles (if possible), radio or TV script (if possible), etc. **Photocopies are permitted.**

Note: *Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems* may include projects that promote conservation, education, community awareness/activities, maintenance, management, or preservation of an aquatic ecosystem.