



15th ANNUAL SCARECROW CONTEST

ELIGIBILITY: Our Annual Scarecrow Contest is open to all ages, families, clubs, groups & businesses. Each family or group may only enter **ONE** time. (Sorry, no politics!)

CATEGORIES:

1. **Family Entries** – Traditional, Whimsical, Fairytale, Humorous, Fantasy, Celebrity, etc. Design a scarecrow depicting your favorite fairytale, storybook, animal or fantasy figure and let your imagination run wild. Use of bright colors or unique materials is encouraged. Note: If you use papier-mâché, be sure it is sealed to protect it from the elements.
2. **Adult Groups** – This division is open to adult groups – organized or a group of friends.
3. **Youth Groups** – This division is open to children under age 14. An adult may assist younger children, but the majority of the work must be completed by the children.
4. **Business** – Businesses may display an advertisement sign with their name and logo not to exceed 11 x 17 inches. A special post on West Street will be assigned for a prime advertising spot. A suggested donation of \$50 is requested. This entitles the business to a small plaque placed on a rail on Peterson road. (NOTE: There is a limited amount of space between post and sidewalk. Please do not go on the sidewalk. Police take note.)
5. **Traditional** (any age, individual or group, or business) – “Most Likely to Scare a Crow” Typical Farm & Garden Scarecrows made from cast-off clothing, burlap, gunny sacks, jeans, overalls, straw hats, aprons, bonnets, corn shocks, raffia, straw, etc.

An entry can qualify in two categories!

Blue Ribbons will be given to the winner of each category on Oct. 19th at the Harvest Festival and Craft Fair. This is a fun day for all ages!

ENTRY FEE: FREE! There is **NO** cost to enter the contest. A suggested \$50 tax deductible donation towards a rail purchase is requested for business entries.

ENTRY DUE DATE: Sign up early! Sign-ups will take place until all fence posts are assigned. (PLEASE - no nails in the FENCE!) To be judged, all entries must be in place by dark on Sunday, Sept. 28th.

Mail entry forms to:
Scarecrow Contest
Strong Family Farm
274 West Street
Vernon, CT 06066

.....OR.....

(next page)

Email a picture of the filled out form or just email us all the information - your name and all information – category(s), address, phone number. If you do not get a confirmation email within three days, email programs@strongfamilyfarm.org to make sure we received it.

CONSTRUCTION: (PLEASE respect our fence posts and rails – no nails or damaging attachments.)

Scarecrows must be durable and able to stand up to sun, wind and very likely rain showers. Use care in choosing your materials. All decorations must be firmly attached to your scarecrow and then to the post. We recommend a 2 x 4 piece of lumber for the central body. A broomstick or 2 x 4 is recommended for the arms. You will need to bring rope, zip ties or wire to attach your scarecrow to the post. **NO SHARP EDGES or OBJECTS, PLEASE.** The use of real pumpkins is discouraged, as they might not last the month of October. You are welcome to visit your scarecrow and keep it in good presentable condition. West Street is **limited in the width** to the sidewalk. Please don't go into the sidewalk – police take notice. If you need more room, let us know and we will re-assign you to a Peterson Rd. post.

We reserve the right to remove any entries that do not maintain their ability to be displayed. All entries must be hand-made. This is an old-fashioned scarecrow contest.

As part of your display, be sure to make a sign with the name of your entry, and your name, group, or service club name. (This will help your friends and family find your entry.) **No advertising or political statements are allowed on regular entries. The business category may contain advertising.**

The scarecrow contest exhibit area is family friendly. Scarecrows should be whimsical, humorous, mischievous or lovable - **NOT frightening monsters, gruesome, bloody or especially scary entries will be disqualified and will be taken down if a complaint is filed.**

Strong Family Farm reserves the right to disqualify and take down entries they feel to be distasteful or not family friendly.

SIZE: The minimum size is 4 feet tall. The maximum height is 7 feet. Scarecrows and props must fit in a 6 x 6 foot area on Peterson Rd. and 3 x 6 feet on West St. **DO NOT PUT ANYTHING ON THE SIDEWALK ON WEST ST. (Police take notice.) This is a narrow area but you can expand to the side or behind the fence.**

SET UP: You may bring and set up your scarecrow entry any time during the daylight on Saturday, September the 19th to Saturday, September 26th. All entries must be in place by dark on Saturday to be judged. A special Sunday public voting will take place on September 27th from 10-2! We welcome other scarecrows after that, but they will not qualify for judging.

DURATION: All entries will be on display to the public through the month of October. (In case of inclement weather, entries may be removed early or taken down and brought back.)

JUDGING: The judging will be done by a diverse group of community members.

WINNERS: Winning entries will be announced at the Harvest Festival on Oct. 18th. Ribbons will be placed on the winning scarecrows and will remain on display allowing the public a chance to view the contest results.

PICK-UP: PLEASE pick up entries from Saturday, October 25th through Sunday, Nov. 5th during daylight hours. After this time, we will bug you and any entries remaining will become property of the Strong Family Farm and disposed of accordingly, **but help us out by taking them home!**



STRONG FAMILY FARM

15th Annual October Scarecrow Contest

Entry Form

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail: (best) _____

Entrant:

☐ Family Entry (Family Name): _____)

☐ Youth Group (Group Name): _____)

☐ Adult Group (Group Name): _____)

☐ Business (Business Name): _____)

☐ Traditional (Entry Name): _____)

Submit to: Mail to: Scarecrow Contest, Strong Family Farm, 274 West St., Vernon, CT 06066
OR take a photo or scan of this form and email to programs@strongfamilyfarm.org. If you don't hear from us within three days about your post number, please reach out to us! Thank you and good luck!!!