



As an AAS Display Garden, you educate your visitors about AAS and AAS Winners every day. How have you demonstrated The Goodness of Gardening this year?

2026 AAS Display Garden Design Challenge RULES AND REGULATIONS

AAS is sponsoring a Display Garden challenge to recognize creative flower and vegetable gardens featuring AAS Winners, past and present. If you are proud of your garden, and we're sure you are, we strongly encourage you to enter.

WHO CAN ENTER:	To enter the Design Challenge, you must be a current AAS Display Garden, create an attractive design using AAS Winners, and follow the guidelines below.
CHALLENGE RULES:	1. Challenge theme for 2026 is "The Goodness of Gardening" using AAS Winners. 2. A key feature is to showcase AAS Winners. Winners must be labeled with the variety name and AAS Winner designation or labeled with the AAS variety markers we provide. 3. Entry form must include how you promoted AAS Winners. How did you incorporate AAS Winners within your overall garden mission? How did you share your garden, and specifically the AAS Winners, with the public this year? 4. Entry form must include a short story of your garden and garden design and how you incorporated The Goodness of Gardening theme. 5. Six photographs of your garden must be submitted in digital form (1-2MB each). Photography should include at least one photo showing how your AAS Winners are labeled. <i>Photography will be used for promotional purposes.</i> 6. One optional (but encouraged) video of your garden tour may be submitted in digital form. .MOV and .MP4 files only. Please keep videos 1 - 3 min. in length. Square or horizontal format preferred. 7. Final judging will be based on photos and video only—there will be no onsite visits by the judges. 8. Include copies of promotional materials used to promote your garden. 9. Challenge is open to current year's plantings only, not previous year displays. 10. Challenge entry forms, photos and video must be submitted by September 15, 2026. 11. Winners will be announced in October 2026.
CRITERIA FOR JUDGING:	30% Your 2026 garden in photos and video, so make sure you get high-quality images! 30% The story of your garden and how you incorporated The Goodness of Gardening theme (in written format). 40% The promotional and educational efforts put forth to get people to visit your garden.
NUMBER OF WINNERS:	Awards will be presented to three AAS Display Gardens for each category. The categories are based on the estimated number of garden visitors for a regular season. Category I: fewer than 10,000 visitors per year Category II: 10,001 – 100,000 visitors per year Category III: Over 100,000 visitors per year

JURY:	A select committee of industry representatives will determine the winners.
ENTRY DEADLINE:	All material must be submitted by noon on September 15, 2026.
ANNOUNCEMENT:	Winners will be announced during the month of October 2026.
AWARD:	The winners will be awarded an “AAS Design Challenge Award” certificate. AAS will prepare and distribute a press announcement and winners will receive national recognition on the AAS website and via our social media outlets.
SUBMIT FORMS TO:	Jenny Boxell at: jboxell@ngb.org Questions? Contact Jenny Boxell: PH: 630-963-0770