



WELCOMETrillium Volunteer Judges Training



- Welcome everyone! Thank you for taking the time to join this volunteer judges training today. I'd like to welcome any new judges, returning judges, and historical judges joining us today.
- My name is Florence Pirrera, Project Manager of Community Outreach & Programs, and I am the City representative that helps support the delivery of the Trillium Awards program.

COMMITTEE & COACHES TRILLIUM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WARD COACHES Ward 1 – Roxanne Riley Chair Ward 8 - Grace Watts Ann Cochren Ward 2 – Rita Bailey Ward 9 - Melita Vrakela **Vice Chair** Joanne Hofstee Ward 3 – Connie Godyn Ward 10 - Guy McPhee **Committee Members** Pat Gowan Ward 4 – Jake Hofstetter Ward 11 - Joanne Hofstee Guy McPhee Ward 5 – John Kolibash Ward 13 - Michael Pernfuss John Kolibash Florence Pirrera – Project Manager Ward 6 - Sandi Remedios Ward 14 - Pat Gowan Theresa Phair - Community Liaison Ward 7 – Yasmeen Minocher Ward 15 – Susan MacMillan | Hamilton hamilton.ca/trilliumawards

 Joining us today we also have the Chair of the Trillium Executive Committee, Ann Cochren, who will be leading us through a portion of today's training. Also noted on this slide are the names of the 2024 ward coaches. They will be your go-to mentors and available to assist you throughout your judging process, should you have any questions after today's training.

AGENDA

- 30-40 minute training presentation
 - Program Overview
 - Judging Criteria
 - Using online judging tools
- Question/Answer portion



- Today's presentation will last between 30 and 40 minutes during which time we will cover an overview of the program, how gardens are scored using the judging criteria, and how to use the online judging tools to submit your scores.
- Today's session will also be followed by a Q&A portion.
- If you are reviewing this presentation after the fact, kindly contact your ward coach with any questions that you have or email trilliumawards@hamilton.ca.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW



- The Trillium Awards Program has a rich history and is approaching 70 years of celebrating gardens! This would not be possible without the legions of devoted volunteers, such of yourselves, which have played a crucial role in the program's success. By volunteering to be a judge, you are helping to continue the tradition of this long standing program and contributing to the beautification of the City of Hamilton. And for that, I would like to extend my heartfelt thank you!
- This program has evolved over time, most recently transitioning to an online platform. Those of you that have been judging for many years may recall that the program was predominantly paper-based. Embracing an online approach not only promotes environmental responsibility, but has also helped ensure that the program is universally accessible for all participants.
- Another important component contributing to the enduring success of the Trillium Awards Program is the Executive Trillium Committee. This Committee, led by a volunteer chair and comprised of City Staff, a Vice Chair, Directors, and Ward Coahces, makes key decisions about the program and its evolution. Most recently, the committee decided to include biodiversity on the scorecard, which we will discuss later in this training. A vitalized, reinvisioned Trillium Awards Committee will be the next step in securing the Biodiversity shift for

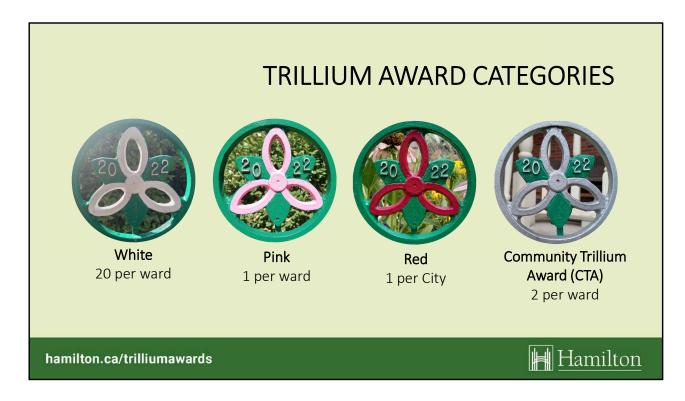
the benefit of the beautification of the City of Hamilton.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- The program is approaching 70 years of celebrating gardens. Legions of volunteers have been devoted to continuing the tradition.
- The City of Hamilton has embraced a responsible online approach. The city website allows for universal access for all participants.
- The volunteer chair, in tandem with the City Liaison Representation, directs and guides the team consisting of a Vice Chair and Directors and Ward Coaches guided by important key dates as the program evolves
- A vitalized, reinvisioned Trillium Awards Committee will be the next step in securing the Biodiversity shift for the benefit of the beautification of the City of Hamilton.



- Each year, nominees have the opportunity to win one of the 4 types of trillium awards.
- White trillium awards, which is the category you will be judging, are issued to 20 residential properties in each ward that participates in the program.
- From there, ward coaches will review the properties that earned white trillium awards and select the best one to receive a pink trillium award.
- Following that, a special panel of judges will review pink winners and award one residential property in the City with a Red Trillium Award.
- Community Trillium Awards (or CTA) are awarded to industrial, commercial, institutional, small
 businesses, churches, schools, community centers, community gardens, apartment buildings
 and multi-residential properties across the City. Up to two CTA's can be awarded in each
 ward.



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JUDGES RESPONSIBILITIES



Receive your judging assignment via email.



Score each assigned property using the judging criteria you learn today.



Submit scores for all of your assigned properties by the category deadline.



- As a judge, you will receive your judging assignment via email. After receiving your assignment you are free to begin.
- You will visit and score each of your assigned properties using the judging criteria that you learn today.
- You are responsible for ensuring that scores for your assigned properties are submitted by the category deadline using the online platform.



JUDGING CRITERIA



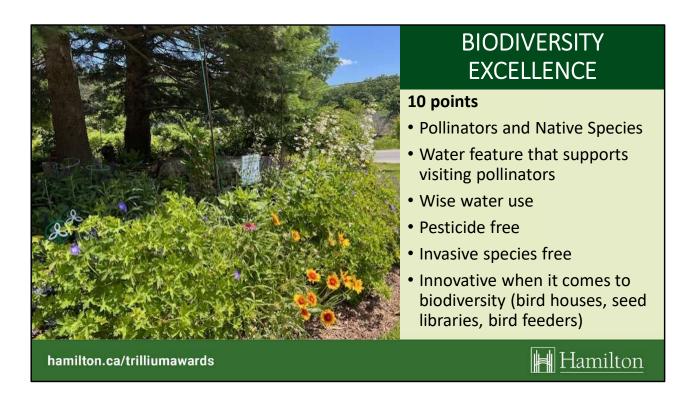
JUDGING CRITERIA

- Volunteer judges will score their assigned gardens using the following criteria.
- Each category is allotted 10 points.
- Each property nominated is given a score out of 100.
- Biodiversity Excellence
- Curb appeal and focal area
- Softscape/ hardscape
- Flowers: Annual & Perennials
- Property Maintenance
- Trees, Evergreens and Shrubs
- Unity/Harmony
- Balance
- Scale/Proportion
- Rhythm & Sequence

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• You will score your assigned gardens using the following judging criteria. Each category is allotted 10 points and each property is given a score out of 100.



Biodiversity Excellence – when judging on biodiversity excellence look for
pollinators and native species. See if there is a water feature that supports the
visiting pollinators. Ask yourself if there is evidence of wise water use? Does it
appear pesticide and invasive species free? You'll also want to look for
biodiversity innovation which may include items such as bird houses, seed
libraries, and bird feeders.



• Curb Appeal & Focal Area – you'll be judging the attractiveness of the property for this criteria. Ask yourself – does it grab your attention? Does it stand out as an exceptional landscape? Does the exterior look inviting and welcoming? Again ask yourself there is innovation or new design, healthy ecology, wise water use, exterior décor, a colour scheme, extensive attention to landscaping, and potential year round interest. When judging for focal area, look for plants or structural elements that compliment the garden – is there an entry way, pond, water feature, arbour, bird bath, pots, stairways, murals, and colours?



 Landscape Maintenance – when judging landscape maintenance you'll want to consider the softscape and hardscape elements. For softscape are there any live horticultural elements, ornamental grasses, naturalize or butterfly gardens, pollinators or native species, groundcover such as moss/ivy, is the sod edged and maintained? For hardscape, are there any stones/rocks/pavers? Note that artificial enhancements such as turf may be present. Are there mulches or water elements?



As part of landscape maintenance you'll also want to consider the flowers. They should be annuals and perennials, pollinators and native species. Check if they are well maintained and have healthy colours and foliage. Observe if there is a colour scheme and if the flowers are a proper size and proportion for the garden and any containers or planters used.



LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

TREES, EVERGREENS & SHRUBS Trees, Evergreens & shrubs:

- Well maintained no deadwood or damaged branches
- Pruned/shaped

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You should also consider trees, evergreens, and shrubs when judging landscape maintenance. Trees should be well maintained, with no deadwood or damaged branches, and also pruned and shaped.



LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE Property is maintained:

- Walkways, driveway, porch and fences all in good order.
- Landscape compliments structure
- Overall good appearance

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• Finally, you'll want to consider property maintenance when judging landscape maintenance. Does the property appear to be maintained? Are all walkways, driveway, porch and fences all in good order? Does the landscape compliment the structure? And is there an overall good appearance?



 Landscape Design – when judging landscape design, you'll want to consider unity and harmony. Is there a repetition of shrubs, plants, colours, and other elements? Do any of the added items such as benches, water features, and fences fit?



• Is there balance? Properties can be symmetrical or asymmetrical but is your eye attracted to both sides of the property?



Consider scale and proportion. Consider the size of an object in relation to the house or property. Consider size of parts of the design in relation to each other.

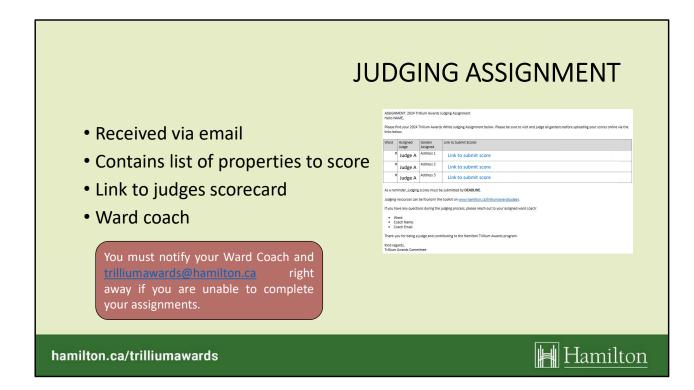


And finally, consider rhythm and sequence. Is there a blending of different elements while having one unified scheme? Does it have year round appeal?



JUDGING ASSIGNMENT



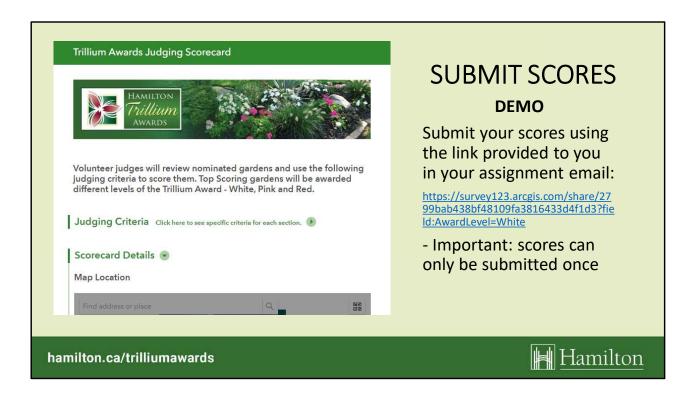


- Judging Assignments are being issued via email this week. Your email will contain a list of properties to score, and links to the judges scorecard.
- Your judging assignment notification will also include contact information for your assigned ward coach that you can reach out to if you have any questions.
- Please note that you must notify your ward coach and <u>trilliumawards@hamilton.ca</u> right away if you are unable to complete your assignments.
- When you are ready to submit your scores, you will click on the links for each property in the email.



SUBMIT SCORES





- When you click on the link from your email, it will take you to the online trillium awards judging scorecard which looks like this.
- If you click on the link from the email, it will already have your name and the property information populated. Verify this information is correct and begin entering your scores. Click on each category and select a number from the dropdown. Once you have entered values for each category, the scorecard will tally a final score at the end. If this is the final score you want to issue the property, click submit.
- It is important to note that scores may only be submitted once. There is a paper copy of the trillium awards scorecard available in the judges toolkit which we will show you in a moment. If you'd like, you can print and use the paper copy to take rough notes on the property before submitting your score.



RESOURCES & IMPORTANT DATES



RESOURCES

- Judges Toolkit www.hamilton.ca/trilliumawardsjudges
- Route Planning
 - GPS
 - Phone apps
 - Route Planning Software (Map Quest) at www.mapquest.com

Ward coaches

WARD COACHES	
Ward 1 – Roxanne Riley	Ward 8 – Grace Watts
Ward 2 – Rita Bailey	Ward 9 – Melita Vrakela
Ward 3 – Connie Godyn	Ward 10 – Guy McPhee
Ward 4 – Jake Hofstetter	Ward 11 – Joanne Hofstee
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Ward 6 – Sandi Remedios	Ward 14 – Pat Gowan
Ward 7 – Yasmeen Minocher	Ward 15 – Susan MacMillan



- We recommend using a GPS, phone app, or route mapping software to plan an efficient judging route. Please use the method that you are most comfortable with.
- We also recommend using the Judges Toolkit on the Trillium Awards Judges
 Webpage. When you land on the judges webpage, click on "Judges Toolkit".
 You can click on each of the resources to open them. A few key resources that
 I want to highlight for you today include the Training Presentation which is
 the presentation you are receiving today.
- The Trillium Awards Judges Scorecard is the PDF version of the scorecard that you can print and use to take rough notes if you choose.
- The Trillium Awards Judging Criteria goes into more detail about the judging criteria if you'd like additional information.
- We also have the Trillium Awards Judges Route Planner, which give you directions on how to use map quest if you don't already have another preferred method of mapping out your route.
- And finally, the judge on duty dashboard sign. You can print this out and place
 it in your window of your car to identify yourself as a Trillium Awards Judge
 when you are judging properties.

IMPORTANT DATES

IMPORTANT DATES	
June 19 - 21	Receive assignments via email
June 19 to July 13	Visit and score assigned gardens
July 14	Deadline for white trillium scorecard submissions
July 19 to August 4	Pink Trillium Judging
August 9 to August 21	Red Trillium Judging



- And finally, we have all important dates for the program.
- So this week you will receive your assignments via email.
- Once you receive your assignment you are free to being judging.
- Please ensure that you submit your scores on or before July 14th.
- For your awareness, if you get any questions the Pink Trillium Judging process will take place from July 19 to August 4th, and Red Trillium Judging will take place from August 9th to August 21st.



That concludes the presentation portion of today's training. If you have any questions, please email your ward coach or trilliumawards@hamilton.ca.



THANK YOU!

