GREATER JACKSONVILLE AGRICULTURAL FAIR

Dates:
November 5 -15, 2026

2026 Horticulture Show

Presented by Liberty Landscape Supply

LOCATION:
The Jacksonville Fairgrounds
In DUVAL HALL - EXPO
13601 Normandy Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32221
(See Drop Off Map for details)

CONTACT:
Horticulture Show Superintendent
Jen Burnham
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(904) 733-7549

LIBERTY LANDSCAPE SUPPLY

WHY ENTER?

The residents of Jacksonville are truly lucky to have a long growing season and relatively mild winters. Take this opportunity to showcase what you have grown this season! Anything from scrumptious fruits and vegetables to beautiful hanging baskets or patio plants are welcome. It's time to show off your plants and win some prizes!

ENTRY DROP-OFF

- Plant Entries may be dropped off Sunday 11/1 or Monday 11/2 between 9a-5p.
- Entries will be on display until 5pm on November 15th

ENTRY DIRECTIONS

- Bring your plant(s) to the Horticulture check-in desk inside "DUVAL HALL – B" (See Plant Drop Off Map for details on where to park, etc.)
- Complete an entry card for each plant you enter (keep your tag #'s for plant pick up!)
- Turn in the entry card to the volunteer at the check-in desk to review and input your information.
- Once your plant is reviewed, a volunteer will direct you in placing your plant for judging and display

ENTRY PICK-UP

- Entries and ribbons may be picked up on Monday, November 16th between 9a and noon. (Same place and directions as the drop off)
- Please see a Horticulture Show volunteer inside the Liberty Landscape Booth before picking up your entries (make sure to have your Entry Card Tag #'s with you)
- Your winnings (a check) will be mailed to the address you provided during check-in within 45 days of the last day of the Fair.
- Unclaimed entries will become the property of the Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair

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ELIGIBILITY

Open to amateur gardeners of all ages, adults or youth:

- Juniors: 17 and younger
- Adults: 18 and older

JUDGING

- Judging will take place on November 4th
- No exhibitors may be present during judging.
- Judges will have gardening expertise.
- The Danish, or Dual Merit , System of Judging will be used. All qualifying exhibits will be judged individually against a standard and be eligible for an award.
- Judges will leave written comments on all entries not winning a blue ribbon.
- Decisions of the judges are final.

RULES

- Exhibitors should read all rules and regulations carefully. The Show Committee will disqualify entries that do not conform to schedule specifications and those of inferior quality.
- All horticulture exhibits must be fresh, show-worthy plant material, grown by and in the exhibitor's possession for at least 90 days, unless the variety reaches maturity in less than 90 days (i.e. lettuce, green onions or parsley). Plants used in "Section I: Special Container Plants" must have been in the exhibitor's possession for at least 45 days.
- Exhibitors may enter more than one entry per class, provided each is a different species, variety, cultivar, type or color.
- Common plant names may be listed, but every effort should be made to label specimens with their correct botanical name (genus and species). The Horticulture volunteers can provide assistance in determining the correct name and appropriate class for entry.
- Container grown plants must be in clean containers with no chips or cracks.
- Appropriately sized, saucers or trays are required to catch excess water and prevent a mess
- Hanging Plants must be ready to hang.
- If a plant is being exhibited for blooms, it should be in full bloom.
- Plants with pests will be disqualified.
- Double potting is discouraged. Plant supports for plants, which normally vine or cling, are allowed if the plant is visibly growing on or attached to such support.
- One variety of plant is allowed per container, except dish gardens, terrariums, etc.
- No oiling or dressing of foliage is permitted.

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RULES (CONTINUED)

- All perishable exhibits, such as fruit or vegetables, (with the exception of any large items) must be placed on paper/foam plates provided by the Show Committee.
- The Show Committee may subdivide categories when necessary. Judges will not subdivide.
- No artificial plant material may be used. No live or dead animals may be used.
- No exhibitor may judge or clerk in any section in which they have exhibits.
- The only persons allowed on the floor during judging are the Show Superintendent, Classification Chair, Placement Chair, Judges, Judges Chair, and Clerks.
- Every precaution will be taken to protect your plants, however, the Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair, its officers, and agents, do not insure, and are not responsible for any accident, loss or damage to entries.
- Entries winning BEST OF SHOW may be entered the subsequent year, but will not be eligible for BEST IN SHOW.
- Exhibitor entry cards must be filled out for everyone submitting entries. Entry cards will include contact information, as well as, plant information.
- Appropriate, inconspicuous top dressing or mulch is allowed.

PREPARATION

- Repot plants well ahead of show date
- Do no over-pot or under-pot your plant. Pot should be appropriate for size.
- Exhibitors should prepare and groom entries before bringing them to the fair.
- Remove trash, debris, dead leaves, stems, and seeds.
- Plants should be full, mature, and centered in the pot.
- Water plants well before bringing to the fairgrounds. Plants will be watered sparingly during the Fair.
- Special watering instructions for individual plants may be provided at the time of entry.
- If your plant requires distilled water only, you must provide the water.
- Entry cards will be available at plant check-in. If you would like to complete your entry cards ahead of time, email Christine@jacksonvillefair.com and she will have them ready for you to pick up at the Jacksonville Fairgrounds main office by 10/15.
- The exhibitor should make every effort to determine the botanical name, or at least, the common name of each plant. Here are a few apps that may help: PictureThis; Pl@ntNet; Google Lens.
- If you need assistance filling out your entry cards, the Show Committee volunteers will assist you when you arrive to check your plants into the show.

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AWARDS

- **Best In Show**: **$50** (only one winner)
- **Best In Class: $25** (one winner per category)
- **Sweepstakes Award: $25** (most Blue Ribbons; one winner per division)
- **Sweepstakes Award Runner-Up**: **$15** (second most Blue Ribbons; one winner per division)
- Red Ribbon count – and if necessary, White Ribbon count- will be used in case of a Sweepstakes tie.
- **Blue Ribbon**: **$3** (Score: 90-100; excellent, most nearly meets standard, does not necessarily indicate perfection)
- **Red Ribbon**: **$2** (Score: 80-89; good, a few specific shortcomings identified)
- **White Ribbon**: **$1** (Score: 70-79; fair, many improvements are needed to meet standard)
- No Ribbon (Score: 69 and below; far below expected standard)
- **People's Choice**: **$50** (voted by attendees of the Fair- only one winner)
- Ribbons will be awarded to both Junior and Adult Categories
- **Special Awards: $200** (local businesses will select their favorite plants)
    - Liberty Landscape Special Award
    - Standard Feed & Seed Special Award
    - Peter Bragan Better Baseball Special Award

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CATEGORIES

Section A:
Gesneriads
(African Violet Family)

1. Standard African Violets
   - Plain Foliage
2. Standard African Violets
   - Variegated Foliage
3. Miniature and Semi-Miniature African Violets
4. Trailing African Violets
5. Other Gesneriads
   - Blooming
6. Other Gesneriads
   - Non-Blooming
   - For Ornamental Foliage
7. Hanging
8. Any other worthy entry

Section B:
Begonias

1. Hanging
2. Potted
3. Any other worthy entry

Section C:
Ferns

1. Hanging
2. Potted
3. Any other worthy entry

Section D:
Succulents

1. Cacti
   A. Hanging
   B. Potted
2. Euphorbias
   A. Hanging
   B. Potted
3. Other Succulents
   A. Hanging
   B. Potted

Section E:
Bromeliads

1. Hanging
2. Potted
3. Any other worthy entry

Section F:
Orchids

1. Hanging
2. Potted
3. Any other worthy entry

Section G:
Bonsai

1. Hanging
2. Potted
3. Any other worthy entry

Section H:
Plants Growing on Wood

1. Hanging
2. Potted
3. Any other worthy entry

Section I:
Special Container Plants
(must be planted directly in the container and be less than 18" in diameter)

1. Planters
2. Terrariums
3. Dish Gardens
4. Unusual Containers
5. Any other worthy entry

Section J:
Patio Plants
(more than 36" tall)

1. Blooming (must be blooming)
2. Bearing (must be bearing)
3. Foliage
4. Any other worthy entry

Section K:
Fruit, Vegetable or Herbs

1. Harvested (at least 3 examples required with stem and leaf attached)
   A. Fruit (do not cut)
   B. Vegetables (do not cut)
   C. Herbs (dried or fresh)
   D. Nuts
   E. Any other worthy entry
2. Living
   A. Fruit
   B. Vegetable
   C. Herbs
   D. Nuts
   E. Any other worthy entry

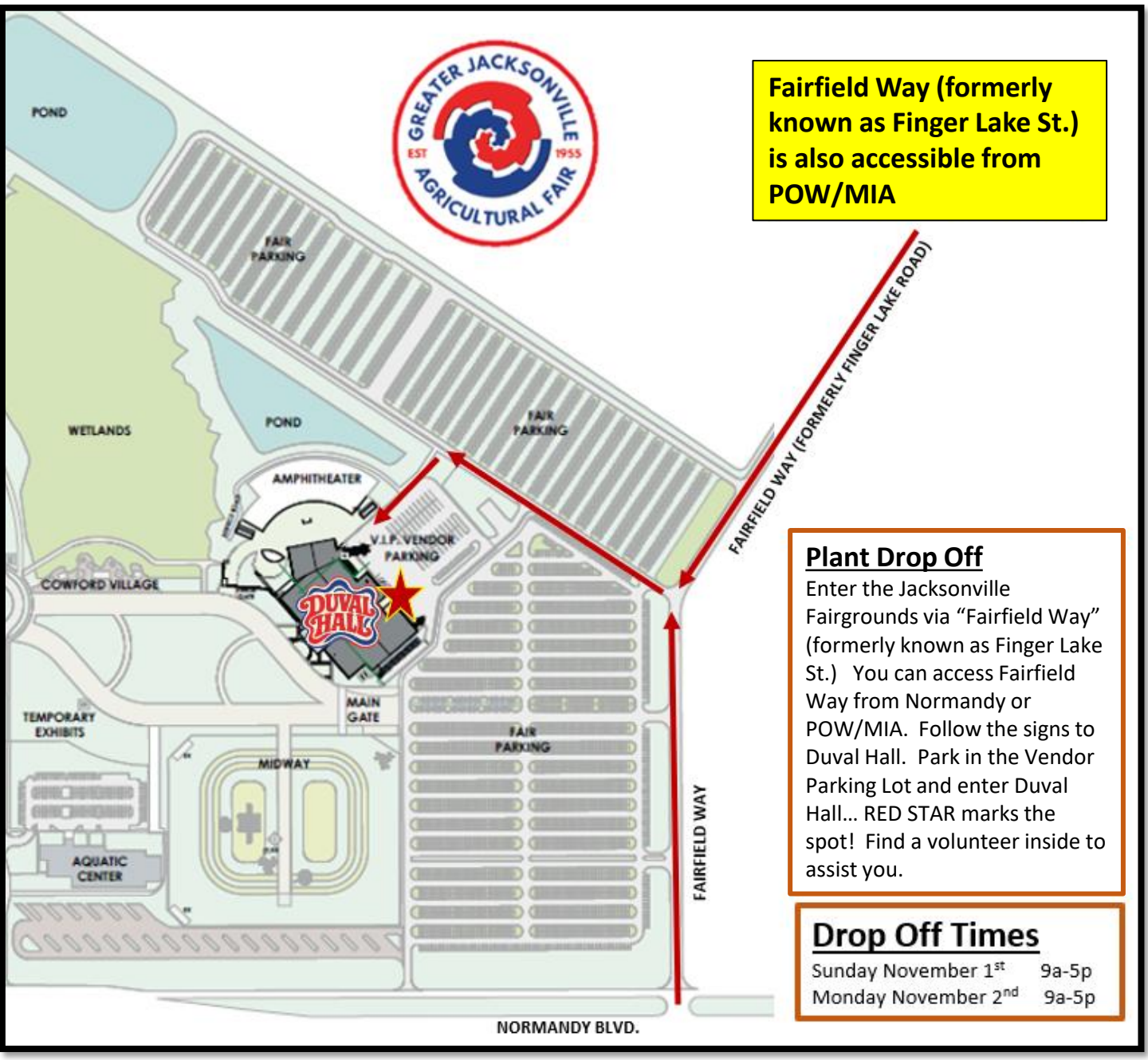
Section L:
Hydroponically Grown

1. Any worthy entry

Section M:
All Other Blooming Plants
(must be blooming)

1. Hanging
2. Potted
3. Any other worthy entry

Section N:
All Other Foliage Plants

1. Hanging
2. Potted
3. Any other worthy entry

PLANT DROP-OFF MAP