The Second Annual
St. Patrick's Festival Birdhouse Contest

DUBLIN MALL
Submit entries: Thursday, March 11, 3:00-9:00 p.m.
Awards: Friday, March 12, 5:30 p.m.

CONTEST RULES

Please retain this sheet for competition guidelines. For more information, email birdhouse.contest@gmail.com or call 478-272-0543.

1. **Who can enter?** The contest is open to all members of the community. All ages can enter, as individuals or as groups. The Event Coordinator, judges, sponsors, and members of their immediate family and/or household may not enter.

2. **Cost.** This is a FREE event, both for the participants and for the attendees.

3. **Entry forms.** To allow sufficient time for planning the staging of the competition, the completed entry form ***must be received*** no later than Wednesday, March 10. Limit one birdhouse per person/group per category. One entry form per birdhouse. A legal parent or guardian's signature must accompany the signature of any individual under 18.

   Entry form may be found at www.saintpatricksfestival.com, at sponsors of the event, by emailing birdhouse.contest@gmail.com or by calling 478-272-0543. Forms must be faxed, emailed, or mailed to

   Birdhouse Contest
   305 Oak Pointe Drive
   Dublin, Georgia 31021
   birdhouse.contest@gmail.com
   FAX: 478-272-0543

4. **Divisions.** There are three major divisions of the contest:
   a. Youth 15 and under
   b. Adults over 15
   c. Professionals (those who make and sell birdhouses as a hobby or for a living)

5. **Categories.** For each of the three divisions, the birdhouse must be entered in only one of four categories (descriptions follow):
   a. Functional
   b. Decorative/Whimsical
   c. St. Patrick's Day Theme
   d. "Green"

   Functional birdhouses must meet specific requirements of the particular bird for which it was built and constructed of non-toxic materials that can withstand elements outdoors. (dimensions for houses of specific birds can be found at the library, on the Internet, or at www.saintpatricksfestival.com.

   Decorative or whimsical birdhouses can be used indoors or outdoors and are not necessarily functional, although they can be if they meet all the requirements (see above under "Functional birdhouses"). To make these birdhouses, you are limited only by your imagination! They can have a folk art flavor, have fun shapes, or even look silly. These houses can show off your painting skills or be made of unusual materials.

   St. Patrick's Day themed birdhouses must have an obvious St. Patrick's Day "look", incorporating symbols of the season, such as the color green, shamrocks, or a pot of gold, or any other St. Patrick's Day idea you can think of. Your imagination is the limit, as long as it adheres to the St. Patrick's Day theme.

   "Green" birdhouses will be judged on how well they address such terms as "environmentally friendly", the concept of "reduce, reuse and recycle", "sustainability", "renewable resources", "non-toxic", or "energy conservation". "Green" birdhouses can be functional or decorative.

   In the case where a birdhouse meets the criteria of two or more categories, you must choose one category in which to enter it.

6. **Design.** Your birdhouse can be a traditional design or an original design. You may purchase an unfinished birdhouse from a crafts store and decorate it. Your birdhouse must be able to be displayed upright on its own or on a stand.

7. **Dimensions.** The birdhouse cannot exceed the following dimensions: 24" x 24" x 24". This should accommodate most local cavity-nesting backyard birds, owls, and waterfowl. You may mount your birdhouse on a stand if you wish; the stand will NOT be included in the overall dimensions.

8. **Materials.** You can make or decorate your birdhouse out of practically anything: wood, metal, plastic, cardboard, flea market finds, craft store items, or unlikely things found in grocery or hardware stores. Once again, you are limited only by your imagination. There is only one important rule: if you are building a functional birdhouse that will be used outside, you must use materials, adhesives, and finishes that are non-toxic to birds and that are durable to withstand the elements outdoors.

9. **YOU must build/decorate the birdhouse.** All birdhouse construction and/or decoration must be done by the individual(s) entering the competition. Assistance with power tools is acceptable. For safety, young competitors may be supervised by parents or guardians; however, as much as possible, children should make their own entries. You may not enter a birdhouse made by someone else or purchased from a store.

10. **Disqualifications.** Whether decorative or functional, your entry must be a real birdhouse, not a structure, such as a box or block of wood, painted to look like a birdhouse. Your entry must look like a house made for birds, with round hole(s), not like a small house with a rectangular door. Used birdhouses are not acceptable. You may not enter a birdhouse made by someone else or purchased from a store. You may not enter a bird house that was entered in a previous contest.

    This is a family event. All entries must be in good taste. Any entry considered offensive or inappropriate will not be allowed.

11. **Judging criteria.** Birdhouses in each category will be judged on
    a. Overall appearance
    b. Creativity, originality, imaginative concept and its execution
    c. Exceptional use of form, texture, color, composition
    d. Precision and craftsmanship
    e. Specific requirements for each category (see #5, "Categories", above)

12. **Personal Identification.** Please attach a small card with your name, address, phone number, and email on the underside of your birdhouse where it cannot be seen. DO NOT put your name or any identifying information on the birdhouse where it can be seen.

13. **Submitting your entry.** You must deliver your completed birdhouse to the Dublin Mall between the hours of 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. Thursday, March 11. When you submit your birdhouse, please include a description of your birdhouse on the front of a 4x6 index card (limit 100 words or less). Feel free to include any unique features about your birdhouse or to describe the construction process and/or materials. DO NOT put your name or any other identifying information on the front of this card. If yours is a functional birdhouse, you will want to indicate the bird(s) for which it was built.

14. **Judging.** Judging will take place on Friday afternoon, March 12, beginning at 1 p.m. and will take one to three hours to complete. Judges are local community members.

15. **Awards.** Ribbons will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners and Honorable Mentions. In addition, judges will award "Best in Show". Green ribbons will be awarded to all participants.

16. **Announcement of Winners.** Winners will be announced and ribbons awarded at an awards ceremony held at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, March 12 at the Dublin Mall. You do not have to present to win but pictures for the newspaper will be taken at that time and it would be nice to get a picture of your standing by your winning entry.

17. **Exhibit.** The birdhouses will be on display until Monday, March 15. Please pick up your birdhouse anytime between 10 a.m. and 9 p.m. on Monday, March 15. Birdhouses not picked up on Monday will be donated or discarded unless prior arrangements have been made. Event Coordinator, event staff, nor mall employees will be responsible for lost or stolen property.

18. This year a silent auction may be held after the contest for a local charity. If you would be willing to sell your birdhouse in the auction, please indicate that on the entry form. Details about the silent auction will be given in another publication and on the website.

19. **Questions?** Email birdhouse.contest@gmail.com or call 478-272-0543 or go to the website www.stpatricksbirdhousecontest.org.

Revised 01-18-2010

The Second Annual
St. Patrick's Festival Birdhouse Contest

DUBLIN MALL
Submit entries: Thursday, March 11, 3:00-9:00 p.m.
Awards: Friday, March 12, 5:30 p.m.

ENTRY FORM

Read the entire list of contest rules before completing this form. Then please print or type the following information:

Contestant's name: _____ Division: Youth Adult Professional
(circle one)

Street Address: _____

_____

Phone where you can be reached if there is a question: _____

Email address: _____

Category: (circle one) Functional Decorative/Whimsical St. Patrick's Theme Green

I would be willing to enter my birdhouse in the silent auction: (circle one) YES NO

I have read the contest rules and agree to abide by them.

Signature: _____

Parent or Legal Guardian Signature: _____
(required for any contestant under 18)

Mail, fax, or email form to:

Birdhouse Contest
305 Oak Pointe Drive
Dublin, Georgia 31021
birdhouse.contest@gmail.com
FAX: 478-272-0543

Questions? Go to www.stpatricksbirdhousecontest.org or call 478-272-0543