



HOMER GLEN

Scarecrow Walk

Guidelines & Entry Rules

- ✦ Any individual, family, organization, school, or business is welcome to participate. (Limit one per family/organization/business).
- ✦ Three prizes will be awarded: One “Homer Glen Junior Woman’s Club Award” will be determined by judges from the club, and two “People’s Choice Awards” will be determined by an online vote.
- ✦ Scarecrows must be original and made by the registrant.
- ✦ The Village of Homer Glen reserves the right to remove any scarecrow that deteriorates to an unacceptable level during the month. Please make your scarecrow as weather-proof and indestructible as possible.
- ✦ The Village of Homer Glen is not responsible for loss or damage to scarecrows while on display or in the drop-off/pick-up areas. Please do not use valuable materials or objects as the scarecrows will not be monitored.
- ✦ The Village of Homer Glen will provide signage for your scarecrow and install all scarecrows.
- ✦ No handouts, promotional material or free giveaways can be associated with your entry.
- ✦ No phone numbers, website addresses or advertising may be placed on the display. The name of a business or organization is permitted.
- ✦ All display items must be attached to the scarecrow or cross stick. No items are to be placed around the display.
- ✦ Entries must be suited for viewing by small children. Entries that are controversial, religious, political, or graphic (sexual/gory) in nature will not be accepted. The Village of Homer Glen reserves the right to remove any scarecrow it deems offensive or inappropriate.
- ✦ The Village of Homer Glen reserves the right to use photographs, organization names, contact names and scarecrow names for publicity purposes.
- ✦ Registrants may check on their scarecrow throughout the month and touch up if needed.

Tips for Making Scarecrows

- ✦ Scarecrows will be subject to the weather for one month, so they need to be constructed with weather-resistant materials. Clothing that does not fade easily, such as nylon and polyester hold up better than cotton. Applying Scotchgard will help protect the fabric.
- ✦ Stuffing can be anything, but newspaper or water-soluble peanuts will not work or hold up to weather. Plastic bags hold up for months. Newspaper can be placed inside plastic bags for stuffing.
- ✦ There should be no loose items on the scarecrow. Secure all items by sewing, nailing, or using waterproof adhesive. Sewing is best, but large safety pins or staples will work well. Clear tape will not hold up to weather, but colored electrical tape or duct tape will work well. The wind will blow anything not secured well and can rip things pinned at corners.
- ✦ There should be no loose accessories placed near or around your scarecrow. Everything must be attached to your scarecrow or cross.
- ✦ Avoid using food or other substances that may attract wildlife.
- ✦ Facial expression is the first thing a viewer will notice. For the head, options could be an old milk jug, gourd, pot, wood, ball, pillowcase, or burlap bag (with painted or sewn on face).
- ✦ Ideas for hair: yarn, broom, corn, shredded plastic, moss, raffia, or old mop head.
- ✦ Clothes: check out thrift stores for colorful, cheap clothing and accessories.
- ✦ Remember the details: a glittering pair of high-heeled shoes, for example, will help your scarecrow stand out.
- ✦ Do not use latex gloves, as they quickly disintegrate outdoors. Hands made from stuffed gloves covered with electrical tape are better for withstanding weather.
- ✦ Spray Scotchgard fabric protector inside and out of clothes and other items to prevent mildew. Papier-mâché, even with Scotchgard will not last the whole month.

Scarecrow Removal: Scarecrow crosses can be removed by registrants on Saturday, October 30. Village staff will remove and discard the remaining scarecrows on Tuesday, November 2. The Village is not responsible for loss or damages to scarecrows.

For more information please contact Sue Steilen, Community Relations Coordinator at ssteilen@homerglenil.org or 708-301-0632.