

## 2019 C.O.A.L.S. Festival of Wreaths

Once again, strolls through the TAMU Leach Teaching Gardens will delight the residents of the Bryan/College Station area with colorful holiday displays throughout the gardens during the end of November and through December.

The C.O.A.L.S. Festival of Wreaths represents a special opportunity for student organizations at Texas A&M University and youth groups in the Bryan/College Station area to come together and contribute to the enhancement of the festive holiday setting in the gardens by decorating designated wreaths and competing in a friendly competition.

### **General Rules for Decorating**

1. There are two divisions: collegiate and youth
  - a. The collegiate division will consist of any student organizations at Texas A&M University (i.e. student councils, fraternities and sororities, student government, ResLife, Fish Camp, Corps, etc).
  - b. The youth division will consist of any youth group in the Bryan/College Station area (i.e. 4-H, FFA, FCA, FCCLA, student councils, homeschool groups, church youth groups, schools, etc.)
2. The Event is limited to one entry per group. There is no entry fee. The submission of a completed Official Entry Form is required. Incomplete or illegible forms will not be accepted.
3. The theme of the wreath contest is “Holiday Songs.” Groups are encouraged to select one song to base the wreath decorations on. Groups should specify which song they are representing when the wreath is turned in prior to judging.
4. Decorations should be created using recycled materials wherever possible. This is not required but strongly suggested.
5. Decorations must be designed for outdoor display and constructed to withstand all weather conditions. Paper, tinsel, and glass are strictly prohibited. Any prohibited materials will be removed prior to setup.
6. C.O.A.L.S. Council will provide a live wreath that is approximately 22 to 24 inches in diameter and a stand for the wreath. All other components must be provided by the groups.
7. Decorations must be securely attached to the wreath, not sit or be placed alongside the wreath. Decorations may hang from the wreath, be tied to the wreath, or be securely glued to the wreath. If a decoration falls off, it will not be replaced on the wreath.
8. When considering your decorations, please remember this is an event for people of all ages. Decorations may be funny, quirky, etc., but must be in good taste. The use of unusual recycled decorations is encouraged, but these items should also be in good taste and be able to withstand the weather. C.O.A.L.S. Council reserves the right to reject or remove any entry that fails to meet these standards or that is otherwise unacceptable or inappropriate.

Participant's Initials \_\_\_\_\_

9. Each participant may provide a sign not larger than 18” x 18” next to the wreath in order to identify the name of the organization that decorated the wreath and the theme of the wreath. With the exception of the identity of the group participating in the event and the theme of the wreath, no other information or messaging may appear on the participant’s identification sign.
10. Participants should maintain their respective Christmas tree from the time of installation through the end of the Holiday Light Fight, a period of about two to three weeks. Any individuals from the participant entry group may be permitted to enter the TAMU Leach Teaching Gardens during posted hours of operation to inspect and/or maintain the participant’s Christmas tree and ensure that it remains in good condition
11. College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Staff or associates may, from time to time, make repairs, replacements and/or adjustments on a wreath if the nature of the adjustment is apparent and the scope is limited, as they determine in their discretion; provided, however, participants remain ultimately responsible for ensuring that their respective Christmas tree remains intact, in presentable condition and in the position/placement as originally installed. Any entry deemed to be in poor condition may be removed.
12. C.O.A.L.S. Council and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences are not responsible for any damage or loss to any decorations at any time before, during or after the event.
13. The names, likenesses and images of participants and/or images of decorated wreaths, decorations and related aspects of the C.O.A.L.S. Holiday Light Fight event may be posted on C.O.A.L.S. Council website, Facebook page or other forms of media, and such images may be used in publicity or promotional communications or materials concerning the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the Leach Teaching Gardens.
14. Wreaths will be available for pickup in front of the Leach Teaching Gardens from 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM on **Wednesday, November 20th, 2019**. Finished wreaths will be dropped off in front of the Leach Teaching Gardens on **Wednesday, December 4th, 2019** from 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM. If a group is unable to pick up or drop off the wreath in this time frame, they should contact [coalscouncil@gmail.com](mailto:coalscouncil@gmail.com) to receive further instructions.
15. In order to obtain approval for participation, participants must complete and submit an Official Entry Form by email that is received by C.O.A.L.S. Council no later than **Wednesday, November 13th, 2019**.
16. All Christmas wreaths will be located in the Leach Teaching Gardens. Participants shall receive a randomly-selected location for their wreath prior to set up dates.
17. Participants agree to display and maintain their wreath displays through **Friday, December 13th, 2019**.
18. Wreaths, ornaments, and all other decor will be removed and disposed of by C.O.A.L.S. Council and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences later in December. Please DO NOT use ornaments and decor that your organization wishes to have returned.

Participant’s Initials \_\_\_\_\_

19. Entries will be judged by a panel of judges and through a people choice poll. Official judging for the panel will occur on Saturday, December 7th (6:00 PM – 8:00 PM) at the Maroon and White Merry and Bright event taking place in the Leach Teaching Gardens and the AgriLife Center. At least one member from each group will be required to attend this event. All organizations, community members, visitors, students, faculty, and staff are invited to attend. People’s choice will be determined through an online voting system. Awards will be given for outstanding wreaths from each contest.

**Please initial the bottom of each page of the General Rules for Decorating to indicate you have read the rules, understand the rules and agree to abide by the rules as set forth above.**

Participant's Initials \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM**  
**2018 C.O.A.L.S. Holiday Light Fight**

*PLEASE NOTE: All Entry Forms Must Be Received by C.O.A.L.S. Council before*  
**Wednesday, November 13th, 2019, at Noon.**

Name of Individual or Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Designated Representative for Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this Official Entry Form, I, the undersigned, request that the Texas A&M Leach Teaching Gardens accept the C.O.A.L.S. Festival of Wreaths event entry submitted by me. I acknowledge and agree that I am the owner of the decorations for the entry for the event and/or the designated representative of the participant group named above, with the authority to act as its agent and bind the named participant in all matters pertaining to the participant's event entry.

I have read, understood and agree that I and any organization represented by me will abide by all of the rules of the event as separately outlined and attached. I understand and agree that the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and C.O.A.L.S. Council may use photographs, video, film or other images of or relating to the named participant's wreath entry, including entry information, for publicity, promotional, educational, and documentary or other purposes related to the event. I waive all rights to compensation for such images.

**I release and discharge the Leach Teaching Gardens, its employees and representatives, C.O.A.L.S. Council, and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, its officers, directors, employees and agents from any and all liability for loss or damages that may be sustained due to participation in the event, and I agree to indemnify and defend released parties from and against any and all claims or losses arising from or resulting to any and all persons in connection with the participation by me or my group in the event and from any and all claims for losses, damages or injuries incurred by any person, group or organization as a result of the participation by me or my group in the event.**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Individual/Representative's Signature

Email completed Official Entry Form and initialed General Rules for Decorating\* pages to:

**C.O.A.L.S. Council, Attn: Programs Committee,**  
**Subject: Holiday Light Fight Entry Forms - \*Insert Name of Organization\***  
**coalscouncil@gmail.com**

Phone: (254) 718-1321 (Erin Steglich, Vice President of Programs)

\*Signed and/or initialed Entry/Rules Forms, faxed or emailed, will be deemed originals by  
C.O.A.L.S. Council.

**Participant's Initials** \_\_\_\_\_