



## 2023 SCARECROW CONTEST & SHOWCASE

Presented by



# Registration Packet

The Contest takes place in Downtown Eatonton from October 1, 2023 through October 31, 2023. Winners will be announced on November 1, 2023.

# Downtown Eatonton Scarecrow Contest & Showcase

## Rules and Entry Form

Presented by Smith Communications, Inc. | Hosted by Eatonton Main Street

### Participation

The contest is open to all individuals/families, civic, non-profit organizations, schools, churches, clubs, businesses and governments.

### Registration and Fee

Participants must pre-register. The registration deadline is **September 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Entry forms may be submitted in person at the Eatonton Main Street Office, which is located inside City Hall, or mailed to Eatonton Main Street, PO Box 4384, Eatonton, GA, 31024. **A non-refundable entry fee must accompany the entry form.** Make check or money order payable to Eatonton Main Street. No credit cards or electronic payments, please.

### Entry Fees

\$25.00 per entry

### Deadline for entry September 23rd. No applications will be accepted after this date.

The location of your scarecrow will be based on who registers first.

### Awarded Prizes for Scarecrow in the Non-Business Category

- **1st Place \$500 CASH and 6 passes to Parkside Main 8—Lake Oconee** for the Non-Business (Individuals, Families, Clubs, Civic Groups, Non-Profit Organizations)
- **2nd Place \$250 CASH and 4 passes to Parkside Main 8—Lake Oconee** for the Non-Business (Individuals, Families, Clubs, Civic Groups, Non-Profit Organizations)
- **3rd Place \$100 CASH and 2 passes to Parkside Main 8—Lake Oconee** for the Non-Business (Individuals, Families, Clubs, Civic Groups, Non-Profit Organizations)

*The passes to Parkside Main 8-Lake Oconee are compliments of the Oconee Radio Group. As more scarecrows are entered, the amount of the cash prize may go up. You will be notified if/when the prize amounts increase.*

### Awarded Prizes for Scarecrows in the Business Category:

- **1st Place: \$800 in advertising from Smith Communications, Inc.**
- **2nd Place: \$300 in advertising from Smith Communications, Inc.**
- **3rd Place: \$200 in advertising from Smith Communications, Inc.**

Smith Communications, Inc. is a six-generation publishing company owned by A. Mark Smith Sr. and based in Eatonton, Georgia. Since purchasing *The Eatonton Messenger* newspaper in 1956, SCI has grown to publishing six weekly, award-winning newspapers: *The Eatonton Messenger*, *Lake Oconee News*, *Baldwin Bulletin* and *Jones County News*. SCI's six magazines are *Lakelife*, *Jones Living*, *Georgia Lake Country's Health & Fitness*, *Homefinder*, *Lake Country Outdoors*, and *Lake Country Boating*.

### Set-up and Removal

Set-up dates are September 25th through September 30th. You must **check in with Eatonton Main Street between 10am-4pm** at City Hall before setting up in order to obtain your location and sign with your name and number that is required to be displayed on your Scarecrow. Scarecrows must remain on display during the entire Scarecrow Showcase Event.

Removal dates are November 1st through November 3rd. Scarecrows must be removed before November 4th. If not removed during that time period, Scarecrows become the property of Eatonton Main Street and the City of Eatonton and will be removed. All scarecrows and/or parts of the displays not removed will result in a removal fee of \$100.00.

You are responsible for all trash, trash bags and other items not normally found in downtown. All trash and associated items must be removed in their entirety and downtown shall be left in a clean and orderly state.

The local merchant's trash/dumpster/receptacles and electrical outlets are not permitted for use.

## **Construction**

All Scarecrow entries must be hand-made. Scarecrows will be subject to all weather conditions, therefore, construction materials should be durable and all ornamentation securely attached. The use of living materials is allowed; however, decorations such as cut pumpkins may not last the duration of the exhibition and therefore their use is discouraged. If you decide to use pots of live plants, we ask that you keep them watered through the showcase. You may use additional props such as: cornstalks, straw bales (**only on non-grassy areas**), a bench, bicycle, etc. as long as they remain within your site.

**Absolutely NO loose hay/straw.** Please consider wrapping your hay bales in clear plastic to prevent hay from coming loose.



It is important to keep a watchful eye on your Scarecrow during the month of October. It may need occasional repairs due to wind and rain. We want the showcase to look nice throughout the entire month. If left unattended with subsequent damage, your Scarecrow becomes property of Eatonton Main Street and will be removed, and you will become ineligible to win any prizes.

NO stakes, spikes or poles are to be driven into concrete. All structures shall employ surface anchors such as sand buckets, bricks, etc. If your Scarecrow display uses stakes, spikes, poles or has anything driven into concrete, your Scarecrow will be disqualified and will become property of Eatonton Main Street.

**You will not be allowed to use any electrical outlets around Downtown Eatonton.** If you would like to include lights of any kind with your Scarecrow, please use battery operated or solar powered lights. If event organizers see a Scarecrow plugged up to an electrical outlet, your Scarecrow will be disqualified and will become property of Eatonton Main Street.

***Do NOT secure your Scarecrow to benches, trashcans, planter boxes, business awnings, or lampposts.***

## **Limitations**

Scarecrows must not obstruct or impede pedestrian or vehicle traffic. ***Please make sure that pedestrians can easily walk past your display.***

Scarecrows must be in good taste. They cannot be gruesome, bloody, or scary, and cannot reflect controversial social or political situations. We reserve the right to deny entry privileges of displays to be considered offensive or not “family-friendly”. Business entries may contain advertising but only one business per entry.

Each Scarecrow display will be placed along the sidewalks in front of businesses around Downtown Eatonton. There will be NO Scarecrow displays on the lawn of the Putnam County Courthouse. Since all Scarecrows will be on the sidewalks, the Scarecrow displays must meet a certain size limit.

### **Scarecrow Display size: 3 feet wide by 8 feet long ***(maximum)*****

*The width of the Scarecrow display is measured from the wall of the building out to the center of the sidewalk. The length of the Scarecrow display is measured parallel with the side of the building.*

Please note: There is no height limit. The Scarecrows can be tall as long as they are secure and can withstand the elements.

## **Entry/Display Signage**

A numbered sign with the exhibitor’s name will be provided to each exhibitor and it must accompany each exhibit. This will help friends and family find entries when visiting downtown. Political statements are not permitted; however, business entries may contain advertising.

## **Damage**

Eatonton Main Street, the City of Eatonton, or their agents, will not be held responsible for any damage to Scarecrow entries.

## **Voting**

Make sure your entry is completely setup no later than September 30th to be included in judging by the general public. Please consider that your Scarecrow will be judged on complexity, detail, use of props, overall appearance, and originality. Voting will be conducted online via QR code and at City Hall during normal business hours. Winners will be announced via Facebook Live on November 1st. Prizes may be claimed at City Hall during business hours the following week.

## **Disclaimers**

Neither Eatonton Main Street, the City of Eatonton, nor their agents will be held responsible for any injury or damage associated with the 2023 Scarecrow Showcase.

It is also understood that use of photos, stories about the Scarecrow entries, and prize winners may be used for publicity and promotion of the event.

## **More Information**

For additional information about the contest, or to obtain an entry form, please go to the Eatonton Main Street website ([www.downtowneatonton.com](http://www.downtowneatonton.com)) or email [director@downtowneatonton.com](mailto:director@downtowneatonton.com).

**Downtown Eatonton Scarecrow Showcase  
Entry Form**

Name of Individual/Family/ Business/School/Church/Non-profit Organization/ Government:

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Is your business located in Downtown Eatonton?  Yes  No  N/A

If yes, would you like to set up your scarecrow in front of your business?  Yes  No

**Please check the appropriate competition category:**

Business  Family/Individual  School  Church

Government Entity  Civic Organization  Non-Profit Organization

Will you have battery operated or solar powered lights?  Yes  No

Briefly describe your Scarecrow design: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

A **non-refundable entry fee** must accompany the entry form.

Make check payable to Eatonton Main Street.

**Entry fee of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.**

***I have read and agree to abide to all terms and conditions pertaining to the 2023 Scarecrow Showcase and Contest.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Please submit your entry form to Eatonton Main Street, PO Box 4384, Eatonton, GA 31024 by September 23, 2023.**

\_\_\_\_\_

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Date Application Received:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Entry Fee Received:** \_\_\_\_\_