

RCMG Outstanding Gardens Scheme

Procedure

1. An application for recognition may be initiated by an RCMG Committee or Plant Committee member, or by the garden concerned, and involves building a dossier that describes in sufficient detail how the garden addresses the criteria for the scheme. The dossier should be built from the Application Template using the Guide for Applicants for guidance. The dossier should be sent to the Outstanding Gardens Coordinator who will log it, forward it to the Plant Committee Chairman for assessment and notify the RCMG Chairman for information.
2. The Plant Committee will select a team of three people to assess the application. They will be chosen from the most respected and qualified individuals in the Group, and will evaluate the application dossier, and then, providing everything is in order, make a site visit and produce a report on their findings and recommendation. A group of moderators will review the report, to help ensure equal treatment for all applicants, and make the final recommendation to the Management Committee for ratification.
3. The RCMG Chairman will present a motion to the Committee to approve the Plant Committee's recommendation.
4. The Group will maintain a register of gardens which have received the award. The Outstanding Garden Coordinator will also work with the Webmaster to ensure each awarded garden is represented on the appropriate section of the website.
5. All gardens that apply but are not awarded Outstanding Garden status will be provided with constructive feedback about what steps they need to take in order to meet the criteria in future. Gardens that are successful will also be given constructive feedback on shortcomings found during the process.
6. Each garden is to be reviewed every tenth year by the same procedure as in 1) and 4) above.
7. The designation may be revoked by the Management Committee if the maintenance and operation of the garden are perceived to have fallen below criteria standards. A Committee Member who feels that a certificated garden may have fallen below criteria standards may ask the Management Committee to consider having the garden reviewed at any time before the ten year review.