



# Beckley's Scarecrow Decorating Contest



Businesses, organizations, and schools are invited to use their creativity to build a scarecrow to display downtown between October 22 and 31. Scarecrows will be displayed on the light poles along Main, Neville, Prince, and Kanawha Streets, and in Word Park and Shoemaker Square, or in storefront windows downtown. The contest is being organized by the City of Beckley along with Raleigh County 4-H/WVU Extension.

Recommendations for scarecrows: Height should be around 4 to 5 feet. Constructed to withstand weather conditions. Suggestions of lasting materials: chicken wire, straw, corn husks, stalks, rubber foam; stuffing from plastic bags, bubble wrap; nylon or polyester fabrics, and consider spraying Scotchguard to prevent mildew. *If using a scarecrow kit or commercial scarecrow as your base, make sure that you add embellishments and apparel to make them unique.* Entries should be appropriate for family viewing and should not be excessively violent, gruesome, profane or political. The goal is to create a festive atmosphere and build community spirit. If you plan to hang your scarecrow on a light pole, please place it as high on the pole as possible to deter theft of any parts of your display. Let us know if you prefer to place your entry in an indoor location (we can try to seek an indoor spot for non-downtown entries).

**Awards:** 1<sup>st</sup> place = \$100; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place = \$50, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place = \$25, judged by Facebook "likes" on photos in a scarecrow album that will be on the "Beckley Events" Facebook page

**Scarecrows can be installed between Friday, October 20-Sunday, October 22 (by 4 pm).**

Photos of scarecrows will be placed in an album on Beckley Events Facebook page on Monday morning (Oct. 23) with judging by the most "likes" to begin around noon and run through October 31 at noon. Scarecrows can remain on display until November 1.

If interested in entering a scarecrow, please complete the **registration form** below and send it in **by October 20, 2023**, by either emailing to [jmoorefield@beckley.org](mailto:jmoorefield@beckley.org) or mailing to P O Box 5015, Beckley, WV 25801, or faxing to 304-256-1816.

Name of Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

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

Business, Organization or School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Entry \_\_\_\_\_

Check, circle, or highlight your preferred location for your scarecrow display:

- Neville Street                      - Main Street                      - Prince Street                      - Kanawha Street
- Word Park                              - Shoemaker Square              - Storefront / Indoors

*Disclaimer: The City of Beckley and its agents may use photographs of and stories about the scarecrows. Please do not put anything of value or importance on the scarecrow. All parts must be securely fastened. The city assumes no responsibility for the scarecrow or its pieces.*