in a Beautification Bucket Challenge!

STAFFORD COUNTY FAIR CONTEST 2019

- Find a 5 gallon bucket
- Decide on a theme - get creative!
- Decorate bucket
- Plant bucket with plants of choice
- Enter bucket at County Fair
- Prize money for winners!

THEME IDEAS:
- FAIRY GARDENS
- DR. SEUSS
- HOLIDAYS
- INSECTS
- ANIMALS
- ROPE WRAP
- SUNFLOWERS
- WIZARD OF OZ
- RUSTIC CHARM
- SPORTS TEAMS
- GLITTER MANIA!
Rules & How To's:

5 gallon planters work great for growing annuals & veggie crops, but there are a few things you will need to do before planting your bucket to make sure it will survive the summer and the decoration:

- Find a 5 gallon bucket that you would like to use.
- Drill several 3/4 inch drainage holes in the bottom of the bucket.
- If painting bucket, scratch the outside of the bucket and inside rim with coarse sandpaper or steel wool so the paint will adhere to the surface. (If this is not done, the paint will scrape right off.)
- Wash and disinfect the bucket with denatured alcohol or bleach water. Rinse and allow to dry completely before continuing with the decoration.
- Paint the planter with primer, using spray paint or brush on paint and let dry.
- Paint the outside of the planter and inside rim with your choice of color. It may take a couple of coats of paint, let dry at least 10 minutes in between coats.

After the bucket is decorated, it's time to plant!

- Fill the bucket part way full of packing peanuts, or plastic plant containers (that normally get thrown away once the plants come out). This will help with drainage and weight of bucket.
- Add potting soil and plants. Majority of plants added need to be live plants. (flowers, crops herbs, succulents or other plants) No noxious weeds will be allowed.
- Decorations may continue from bucket into plant area if applicable.
- Fill out entry form (online or in fair book) with your name and bucket design name. Write a short paragraph that lists the plant names and the steps taken to decorate the bucket.
- Exhibits will be judged on creativity, wit, durability of design & health of plants combined for an overall presentation.
- Buckets will be placed around the fairgrounds during the fair to beautify the fairgrounds.
- Exhibitor will be responsible for watering their bucket the duration of the fair.
- Buckets need to be checked in at fairgrounds on Wednesday, July 17 by 1:00 pm
- Buckets will be released on Saturday, July 20 at 6:00 pm.

Cash Prizes will be awarded as follows:

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<td>Youth (17 &amp; under)</td>
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<td>Adults (18 &amp; up)</td>
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<td>Business or Group</td>
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Entries Due:
5 gallon bucket entries need to be handed in by 1:00 pm on Wednesday, July 17 to the office at the fairgrounds. Judging will take place that afternoon and winners announced Thursday evening during Family Fun Night. Please fill out the entry form below. **Office will laminate and attach entry form to the bucket.**

Entry Form:
Name, Group or Business:

☐ Youth (age 17 & under)  ☐ Adult (age 18 & up)  ☐ Business, Group or Club

Address:________________________

________________________

Phone #:________________________

Theme of Bucket:

________________________

Plants added:

________________________
________________________
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**Story of my bucket:** (how it was decorated, was it easy/hard, share funny story, etc.)

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