

This commemorative award is to honor Natalie Belmonte, a longtime resident of the City of Pembroke Pines and an active member of our real estate community. Natalie lost her life much too soon. This award will help capture the beauty of the butterflies and in the same spirit, remind us all of the true essence of Natalie, who had a love of gardening and butterflies.

To promote quality landscaping within Pembroke Pines, the City is sponsoring the Natalie Belmonte Great Yards Award contest. Interested homeowners/multi-family owners may enter their properties for award consideration. Landscaping can be defined as the physical improvement of a piece of property. Well-Landscaped properties increase values and provide pleasant surroundings. These are important factors to consider in today's society.

Landscaping adds attractiveness and a sense of aesthetics to a home, and improves both its appearance in, and the look of the community. When the neighborhood as a whole begins to think of landscaping, a certain pride emerges, as each creates and plans for individuality. Homes architecturally similar to each other can be highly individualized by the way they are landscaped.

The contest will consist of five components, each listed below. Each component will be worth 20 points. These areas will be added together to reach the final score for the property. The highest score per district will fetch the award. All entries must attain a minimum score of 70 to be eligible for an award. There will be one award for each district (\*Contingent upon participation in every district).

Judging will be performed by the landscape advisory board, and their decision shall be final. Awards will be presented at a City Commission Meeting by the Mayor and City Commission in the month of May, in the spirit of Mother's Day and to honor Natalie Belmonte on her birthday month.

The five scoring components for each property are:

- Butterfly component: This area judges the preservation of all stages of a butterfly's life. It should supply food and shelter with the proper selection of plants which should include: host plants, caterpillar food plants, butterfly nectar plants and an area that provides about half a day's worth of sunlight. (sage, lavender, milkweed, goldenrod, firebush, penta... are some suggested plants).
- Design and function: This area judges the overall design, use of texture, compatibility of materials, continuity, balance, and the overall function of the landscape in correlation to the use of the property.
- Maintenance: The focus on this section will be the overall view of the property's landscape maintenance. The judges will be looking to see that the turf areas are mowed. They will also see that the planter beds are kept weed free, edged, and that mulching and fertilization is kept up.
- Florida Friendly Value: This section judges the selection and use of plants that have similar water demands. Mulching techniques will also be observed, checking to see if the mulch is deep enough to retain moisture in the soils. <http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/>
- Use of Hardscapes: This section judges the use of non-living additions to finish a landscape, such as fountains, ponds, statues, boulders, decks, mulch, stones, etc. The judging will be determined by implementation of these items into the landscape and how they fit into the overall property.

**City of Pembroke Pines**

**Natalie Belmonte Great Yards Award Contest Application**

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Entry Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Community/Development: \_\_\_\_\_

Category/Property Location:

District 1

District 2

District 3

District 4

District-At large

Contact Person

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

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

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Please provide a brief description of your property; it's landscaping, and how it meets the goals of the *Natalie Belmonte Great Yards Award Contest.*)

Please attached up to 10 photographs (or submit a cd) that represent your property's landscaping. Photos may not be returned. Digital photos may also be uploaded to the city's website. Additional photos/video may be taken by the Landscape Advisory Board to display and promote the contest.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, give the judges of the Natalie Belmonte Great Yards Award Contest permission to enter my property to look at the landscaping. This includes passing through fence gates to see landscaping in the back and side yards.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date