

BEAUTIFUL BORDERS

Welcome to the Beautiful Borders Exhibitors documentation. Here you can find specific information covering your exhibit.

Build Up:

Dates	Access Times
Saturday 13 – Sunday 14 June	0900-1900
Monday 15 – Tuesday 16 June	0800-2000
Wednesday 17 June	0800-1000

Beautiful Borders

The Borders are built using large timber members. The size of each border will have been agreed as part of your confirmation. The border beds will be built and filled with recycled compost supplied by Birmingham City Council for when you arrive onsite.

Beautiful Borders Rules And Regulations

These regulations should be read in conjunction with the General Regulations section.

ALTERATION TO EXHIBIT CONTENT

Any changes to your exhibit from your application form must be notified to the Imogen Grundy in writing. Only items that are mentioned in the exhibit description on the application form may be exhibited.

BOUNDARIES

Beautiful Borders must be designed to be viewed from all sides with no public access.

CANCELLATIONS

We understand that there may be unforeseen circumstances leading to exhibitors having to withdraw from the show. If this occurs, please contact Imogen Grundy at the earliest convenience.

Please refer to the terms and conditions of your booking for specifics on cancellation fees.

CLEARANCE OF SITE

Exhibitors are responsible for the complete clearance of their exhibit/site including litter, mulch, nails, stones, sand, etc.

Exhibitors are encouraged to clear their stands as quickly and thoroughly as possible. Sites must be left in the same condition as they were found (see below for clarification on excavations).

Excavations should be left clear and unfilled (the Organisers will reinstate the grounds) and all holes should be fenced off by the exhibitor to ensure they are not a hazard.

All costs incurred by the Organisers in clearing and restoring sites left in an unsatisfactory condition will be charged in full to the exhibitor responsible.

Please contact the site office when your site has been cleared and is ready for inspection.

Every effort should be made not to allow any debris from the breakdown of the garden or exhibit to mix with the site soil. Any soil that is deemed by the Organisers to be unusable, or excessive soil that is discarded, must be replaced at the exhibitor's cost.

Marquee exhibitors may deposit light refuse, etc. into the refuse bins provided. Garden and feature exhibits are responsible for own waste. Skips must be organised by garden exhibitors at their own cost.

CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS

Full construction drawings must be supplied of all buildings, walls and of any load-bearing construction, including conservatories, glasshouses, prefabricated garden buildings and walkways. All construction drawings must be submitted to Imogen Grundy at least two months prior to the show.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Excavation

Where not removed by the Organisers, the existing turf on sites should be removed with as little soil as possible. Excavated soil must be incorporated within the construction of the exhibit where possible or removed to designated spoil heaps; it must not be removed from the site. Topsoil and subsoil must be separated and deposited in the appropriate heap.

There is a substantial infrastructure under the NEC site, consisting of drains, water mains, tanks, telephone lines and electric cables. All exhibitors should be aware of these services, and those exhibits which involve excavation or construction of any sort must have prior approval for their plans from Imogen Grundy. Caution must be exercised to avoid damage to underground infrastructure. Any damage to services will not only cause inconvenience but will incur serious costs, which will be charged to the exhibitor.

Any discovered items of archaeological or historical interest, such as pottery, coins, bricks etc., are the property of the site owners and must be reported immediately to Imogen Grundy.

The depths of excavations must be clearly marked on your garden plans.

Protection of ground

Exhibitors must use appropriate protection to avoid damage to the site surface and property.

Fibreglass may only be used under strict supervision and only if pre-agreed with Imogen Grundy.

Materials such as gravel, shingle, chippings (eg. polystyrene, granite, glass, concrete etc.) or any material likely to pollute or damage the ground or harm wildlife must not be placed directly on the ground. Any such material must be placed on a thick, strong membrane to protect the ground.

In order to prevent contaminants mixing with the site's soil, any concrete footings must be placed on or contained within a strong, non-permeable membrane. This will also facilitate the removal of any footings during breakdown.

Plant will be onsite meaning there should be limited or no need for additional construction vehicles.

Damage to Site

Exhibitors who cause damage to the show site will be required to pay for any such damage caused. Exhibitors are required to respect the site infrastructure including trees, shrubs, turf, railings, underground services, etc.

Restricted Materials

Surface-stripped limestone pavement must not be used.

Peat must not be used for staging or mulching purposes.

Exhibitors are encouraged to minimise or even exclude **peat** from plant production by seeking to use alternative composts. It is accepted however, that alternatives are not successful or available in every case.

Any timber treated with **creosote** should not be used where it may come into contact with show visitors. The European commission places restrictions on the use of creosote-treated products. For more information see <http://www.hse.gov.uk/biocides/coppr/creosote.htm>

Restricted Plants & Plant Regulations

Please follow this link - [Plant Risks and Regulations](#) to find out about current restrictions on plants and plant regulations.

Recycling and Reuse

Exhibitors are responsible for their own and are encouraged to recycle or reuse products.

Consider whether materials can be re-used or recycled to ensure that as little as possible goes to landfill. Take care not to over order materials for your exhibit. Where surplus materials are unavoidable consider whether they are suitable for reuse.

Reuse Scheme

In partnership with local community regeneration charities, River Street Events and the NEC runs a Reuse Scheme for unwanted materials from the Show for reuse in community landscaping and garden projects. Surplus or unwanted materials in good condition can be collected from exhibitors both during build-up and breakdown. Suitable materials include paving materials, timber, bricks, stone, aggregates, plants, pots, etc. Please consider building your exhibit in such a way that materials can be easily reclaimed for reuse or recycling after the show. Our reuse partner will be in contact with gardens and large exhibits before going on site. They will also be on site during build-up and breakdown to discuss any materials you may have available. Alternatively, you can contact the team directly. Please support this scheme where you can.

Using and Selling Timber

Timber products brought to the show for sale or display must be proven to be from a sustainable source and, if for sale, the full product range or line must be covered by certification.

Garden exhibitors must ensure any timber items on display are certified, including garden buildings, gazebos, sculpture etc.

All exhibitors are encouraged to use sustainably sourced timber in the construction and staging of exhibits.

FSC certification currently represents the best means of fulfilling the timber policy objectives.

HEIGHT OF STRUCTURES, WALLS & FENCES

Back and side walls or fences: walls or fences should be a maximum height of 1.2m

Buildings: Within reason, the height of buildings on exhibits in the open is not limited. However, exhibitors must ensure that:

1. the height of buildings and structures over 2m high are clearly indicated on plans which must be submitted to Imogen Grundy for approval at least two months prior to the show.
2. buildings and structures exceeding a height of 2m must be positioned at least 1m away from perimeter walls or fences which form a common boundary with neighbouring exhibits. As a general guideline, the higher the building or structure, the further away it should be from a common boundary. This does not apply to conservatories or glasshouses.

LITERATURE

Beautiful Borders exhibitors may produce one leaflet relevant to their exhibit. Other information such as credits to sponsors may be included, providing that one third of the leaflet is devoted to details of the bed, including planting plan or list. A copy of the leaflet should be submitted to Imogen Grundy for approval before printing.

MANNING OF EXHIBITS

Exhibitors must ensure that their stands are manned throughout the open hours of the show, and all staff and personnel on the stand must wear an exhibitor badge bearing the name of the company or organisation. Please complete the Pass Request form to receive your exhibitor passes. Alternatively, these can be collected when you get onsite at the show.

MASONRY CUTTING, DUST & SMALL AIRBORNE PARTICLES

Only masonry-cutting equipment with water-spray dust suppression kit may be used on site. No masonry cutting equipment may be used in the floral marquee at any time or anywhere on the show site less than five days before judging, except with permission from Imogen Grundy. No exhibitor may undertake any operation which is likely to create dust causing detriment to exhibit which have already been staged. Materials causing airborne particles (including cement and spray paint) may not be brought into the marquees after midday three days before judging. Dust causing operations such as stone cutting, etc. may not be carried out inside the marquees at any time except with the prior permission of Imogen Grundy.

PLANTING

Plants may be planted directly into the soil with or without their pots.

When planted, there should be continuous cover of plants and foliage, reducing any view of the compost to a minimum.

Cut flower material or artificial plant material is not permitted. The use of colorant or paint to enhance natural plant material is not permitted.

SELLING

No plants or other items may be sold from the border during the show.

Exhibitors may take orders for plants, products or services during the show. On the last day of the show (Sunday), exhibitors are permitted to sell the plants and other items from their Beautiful Border from 1630 if they wish. At 1800 the show closes and no further selling is permitted.

SHOWGUIDE AND WEBSITE ENTRY

All Beautiful Borders must complete a showguide entry and description for the website in the timeframe requested by River Street Events.

SIGNAGE

The Organisers will commission a sign for Beautiful Borders, and we will discuss these details with you closer to the show.

STRUCTURES

Hard landscaping, if used, must not account for more than 20% of the gross area of the border.

Any hard landscaping should occur within the boundary of the timbers.

Beautiful Borders may not include any structure/feature that is higher than 2m (excluding trees). The datum for this height should be taken from the top level of the timbers. Approx. 0.25m above ground level.

Props should be tasteful and in harmony with the border.

Timbers must not be wrapped or decorated in any way.

WATER FEATURES

Pools, ponds and water features must be drained at the end of the show – if you are exhibiting inside this must be done through pre ordered water and waste. Under no circumstances should pools, ponds or water features be drained onto the surrounding ground or roadways. Please contact the Horticultural Show Manager for more information.

Exhibitors who have water features as part of their display are required to leave contact details in case of leakages and are responsible for any leakages that may occur and repairs that may be necessary. Please also see [Legionnaires Disease](#)

WATERING

Watering is the responsibility of the exhibitor and restricted to outside of visitor show hours. A watering point will be provided.

Beautiful Borders Awards

- The BBC Gardeners' World Live Best Beautiful Border
o for the best overall Beautiful Border at the show
- The BBC Gardeners' World Live Best Interpretation of Theme
o for the most imaginative theme for a border
- BBC Gardeners' World Magazine Subscriber's Best Beautiful Border
o for the best Beautiful Border where the designer is also a Magazine Subscriber
- The BBC Gardeners' World Live People's Choice
o visitors favourite border

- The best WFGA Beautiful Border
o for exhibitors who are part of the Work and Retrain As a Gardener Scheme