

*Please read carefully.
There are some
changes this year!*

2009 Winter Lights 4-H Cottage Decoration Contest at WVU Jackson's Mill

Official Rules

Contest is open to 4-H Clubs in Lewis, Harrison and Upshur Counties.

Sign up directly with WVU Jackson's Mill. (e-mail jmill@wvu.edu with club name, leader name & contact information, or call 269-5100 during regular business hours). Cottages will be assigned by drawing on November 16, 2009, and results will be posted on the Jackson's Mill website. Clubs that miss the November 16 drawing may still sign up and be assigned a cottage.

The 2009 theme is: "A Cartoon Christmas". Decorations must stay within this theme.

- White or clear lights only; traditional decorations are encouraged.
- NO open flames.
- Do not block cottage doorways – our staff must be able to enter each building to check furnaces, etc.
- Leave the cottage in the same condition in which you found it – or better! (No paint, no non-removable items, no holes in walls or woodwork, etc.).
- No fake snow is to be used inside the buildings.
- On the evening of December 4, youth/adults may be used as 'still subjects' if desired.
- WVU Jackson's Mill staff will NOT be responsible for turning lights on/off, or for otherwise maintaining your decorations in any way.
- Remember that the decorations will be up for the entire month of December. Plan a display that will hold up to the weather. (Wind has been an issue in past years!) Please have someone check on your decorations weekly.

Decorating may begin on Friday, Nov. 27th, and should be completed by Wednesday, Dec. 3rd at dusk. Signage with cottage name, club name & leader name will be provided.

All voting will take place from 5pm Friday, December 4th through 6pm Saturday, December 5th during Winter Lights weekend. Containers for voting will be provided in Mt. Vernon Dining Hall and the General Store. Get your supporters out to vote!

One cent will equal one vote towards the People's Choice Award. Each club will be allowed to keep the money it raises. (We hope you'll use it for camp next summer!) A Judges' Choice Award will also be given, with judging based on the criteria listed above.

All participating clubs will be provided with a snack for a future club meeting. In addition, the People's Choice and Judges' Choice Award winners will receive a pizza party.

Winners will be announced at the Tree Lighting on Saturday, December 5 at 7:30pm in the Historic Area. They'll also be posted on the Jackson's Mill website on Monday, December 7th.

Decorations are to be removed between Thursday, December 31st and Saturday, January 2nd at dusk. They may not be removed prior to December 31st. *Please be good stewards of Jackson's Mill, follow the timelines for removing your display, and don't leave extra cleaning for our staff!*

We need help to light the luminaries on December 4 or 5. If your club is interested, contact Dean Hardman at dean.hardman@mail.wvu.edu or 269-5100 x121.

