



2873 Saber Drive • Clearwater, FL 33759-1122 (727) 724-0020 • FAX: (727) 724-0021

## NEWS RELEASE

For more information, please contact:

Jeff Morey, GCA Co-Director

(888) 376-4784, e-mail: [Jeff@GardenCentersofAmerica.com](mailto:Jeff@GardenCentersofAmerica.com)

[www.GardenCentersofAmerica.com](http://www.GardenCentersofAmerica.com)

August 25, 2015

## **GCA Best Bathroom Awards Recognize Independent Garden Centers for Standout Facilities**

CLEARWATER, FL – Garden Centers of America (GCA) is recognizing these independent garden centers for their store restroom designs with the 2015 GCA Best Garden Center Bathroom Awards. A panel judged the entries on the bathroom's creativity and comfort to the customer's overall shopping experience.

The fifth-annual honors were announced at IGC Chicago on the IGC Grand Ballroom Stage at Navy Pier. Altum's Horticultural Center & Landscape, the winner of the Gold Award, was presented with a plaque and will receive a comp registration for the 2016 GCA Summer Tour in Portland, OR. Other recognitions include the three Silver Awards and three Merit Awards detailed here:

### **GOLD AWARD**

#### **Altum's Horticultural Center & Landscape Zionsville, IN**

Altum's 20-year-old bathrooms needed updating. With the help of a local carpenter, the garden center repurposed wood from pallets to cover the metal stalls. Now, vintage mirrors decoratively accent the granite-topped rain barrel sinks. In the men's room, handpainted antiques tools, along with implements sold in the store, help carry the theme, "It's all about the right tool!" An antiqued copper hummingbird hovers from the ceiling, and miniature tabletop gardens provide reading material in the form of brochures and business cards. In the women's room, SuperMoss-covered tank lids, shadow box miniature air plant gardens and shabby chic floral garden stakes tie in the theme, "Bring the outside in!" Vintage Altum family photos take customers back to the garden center's roots.

### **SILVER AWARDS**

#### **Clay Garden and Gift Santa Rosa Beach, FL**

Signage from the property's two previous garden center operations brings a sense of nostalgia to Clay Garden and Gift's restroom. An original potting table offers a sampling of bath and body products sold in the store so customers can freshen up from the Florida heat. The sink creatively combines two stacked Holland bulb crates with a copper-sheet countertop and an oil-rubbed bronze faucet for a mix of repurposed past and modern sophistication.

(continued)

## **Ebert's Greenhouse Village – Featured Stop, GCA Summer Tour 2015**

### **Ixonia, WI**

Nestled in the beautiful countryside of Southern Wisconsin, Ebert's designed its bathroom with a rustic look that surprises with elements of modern chic. Special touches make it welcoming for everyone, like the charming floral mobile that keeps little ones calm and content on the changing table. While they're freshening up, visitors can check out information about upcoming events, too.

## **Larson's Garden Center**

### **Burlington, CT**

Two of Larson's bathrooms caught our judges' eyes. In the first, classic dark chocolate-painted walls, white crown moulding and a mosaic floor call out the whimsy of mischievous garden gnomes, one perched on a cabinet, pants down, mooning washroom patrons. In the other bathroom, a terra-cotta warrior stands tall, guarding the elegantly simple space. A stunning white bowl sink contrasts beautifully against rich red fixtures. Charcoal tiles inlaid with Asian-themed flower mosaics complete the look underfoot.

## **MERIT AWARDS**

### **Cedar Brook Garden Center**

#### **New Prague, MN**

When Cedar Brook opened for the first time this spring, the store's bathrooms did as much to impress its new customers as the rest of the pristine property. The facility's earth-toned tile and walls complement the white and red antique barn wood in the ceiling, cabinet and trim. Fresh-cut flowers from the garden center's wildflower field and decorative accents also found for sale in the store add the perfect touches.

### **Fairfield Farms Nurseries**

#### **Oxford, FL**

Birds and butterflies are all a flutter in Fairfield Farms' bathroom design. Decorative birdhouses help carry the theme of the walls' hand-drawn detail. Customers are encouraged to bring more "flights of fancy" to their own backyards with these sales messages incorporated into the artwork: "Landscaping Is for the Birds" and "See Our Artistic Designers."

## **Lammscapes / Lamm Gardens - Featured Stop, GCA Summer Tour 2015**

### **Jackson, WI**

During outdoor special events and weddings at Lammscapes, portable toilets get an image overhaul with upscale amenities nearby, including a washing tent with a table of toiletries and a mirrored dresser with vases of fresh flowers.

For more information about the many benefits of GCA Membership and to become a member, visit [GardenCentersofAmerica.com](http://GardenCentersofAmerica.com).

####