



**DECK THE HOUSE 2022**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Holiday Light Competition**  
**RULES/GUIDELINES**



Entry Application Period: 12/1 through 12/12

Judging Period: 12/17-18

Winners Announced: 12/21/22

Entry applications are available at the Cheraw Community Center.

Rules/guidelines:

1. Participation is open to all residents with a Cheraw 29520 zip code and entry is free (employees of the Town of Cheraw are not eligible to participate). The category for formal judging is for residential homes with a Cheraw 29520 zip code.
2. Contest application must be received by 5:00pm Monday, December 12.
3. Contestants are responsible for submitting/uploading one (1) picture of their home decked with decorations by 9:00am on Thursday, December 15 (submit/upload picture to [pdixon@cheraw.com](mailto:pdixon@cheraw.com))
4. Contest is for **exterior decorations only**, including decorations in windows that are visible from the exterior. Judging will be done from outside the residence only.
5. Judging will be based on "curb appeal" as viewed from the street only. Therefore, only those decorations located on the street/public side of the property will be judged (corner lots will be judged from both streets). **Judges will NOT enter the home or property to view the back or side yards.**
6. Two (2) prizes will be awarded:
  - One 1st prize of a \$200 home improvement gift certificate/card, custom trophy, and bragging rights for a year
  - One 2nd prize of a \$125 home improvement gift certificate/card
  - The Facebook Fan Favorite will receive a trophy
7. A sign with an entry number will be provided to each participant. This sign must be placed in the front yard of the home where it can be seen by the judges from the street/front at night (i.e., by mailbox, driveway entrance, etc.)
8. Participants should ensure that all lights, animations, and decorations are in place and activated for the judging periods on nights of December 17 & 18 from 6:00pm – 9:00pm.

9. Judging will include a total of 50 possible points based on the following criteria:
  - First Impression/Overall Presentation 10 points
  - Unique design and creative use of lights and decorations 10 points
  - Suitability to site/display and placement of decorations, animated objects 10 points
  - Storyline or theme 10 points
  - That indescribable, extra WOW factor 10 points. ALL recognized holiday representations are welcome and anything you want judges to know may be noted on the entry form (Kwanzaa, Christmas, Hanukkah, special theme, or story, etc.).
10. There will also be a Facebook-driven Fan Favorite (voting on Monday, December 19 from 9:00am – 11:59pm only).
11. Winners will be announced on Wednesday, December 21.
12. Participants agree to have the address of their display posted on the contest web page, as a Town of Cheraw “Deck the House Tour” for the public to enjoy. We highly suggest entries be on easily navigated streets, and your neighbors are notified of the contest and its possible traffic flow.
13. Participants agree to have one or more photos of their decorated residence exterior posted on the Town of Cheraw & Cheraw Recreation & Leisure Services social media sites, contest press releases, internal communications, and newsletters. Participant agrees there will be no compensation of any kind for said posting or publication.
14. Repeat winners will be allowed in subsequent years, with a one-year skip in entry and an overall change in design.