



California Garden Clubs, Inc.
2025-2026 Application for Membership
 Valid through June 30, 2026

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Date rec'd: _____	Check #: _____
Amount: \$ _____	Email: _____
Welcome/Cards/Yearbook: _____	
Other _____	Date ratified: _____

Date _____

Select Membership Class (see Page 2 for definitions)

_____ **CLUB** _____ ***ASSOCIATE PLANT SOCIETY (APS)**

(Clubs and APS dues are \$2.75 per member annually. NEW clubs or APS joining January 1-June 30 pay one half of the annual dues for the initial period through June 30.)

_____ Total Members as of this application \$ _____ Amount enclosed (# members x \$2.75)

NOTE: If applying as an AFFILIATE – Go to: www.californiagardenclubs.com/Membership & Dues. Under Forms & Publication tab select: **Request for Affiliate Membership Application Form**

Name of organization: _____

*For **APS** list the state or national plant society you are a member of:

Date founded: (mo/yr) _____ Website _____

Official email address: _____

Meeting Location: _____
 (Street address, city & zip code +4)

Regular meeting day & time: (1st Thursday, 9 a.m. etc.) _____

Official Mailing address: _____
 (If different than the president - Street address or P.O. Box, city & zip code +4)

We have joined a District: ____ Yes ____ No (Note: Clubs MUST belong to a district; APS is optional)

If "yes" date district dues paid: _____ District: _____

We will apply for CGCI's Liability Insurance: ____ Yes ____ No

We will apply for Group Tax Exemption: ____ Yes ____ No

President: Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Treasurer: Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Summarize the organization's objectives:

The organization (listed above) is responsible for filing all of its applicable state and federal returns annually which may include but are not limited to (a) IRS Form 990, 990-EZ or 990N electronic postcard and FTB 199 or 199N if we become members of the CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program OR are separately exempt, or (b) other applicable returns if we are not exempt.

President's signature: _____

District Name (if applicable): _____

District Director's signature: _____



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CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

Note: A plant society may join as a club, associate plant society, or affiliate.

All member organizations are automatically members of National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC) and the Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. of NGC. (eight western states)

- **CLUB: A club shall:**
 - pay annual dues of \$2.75 per capita (NEW clubs joining January 1-June 30 pay one half annual dues for the initial period through June 30.)
 - belong to a **district***
 - be eligible to apply for CGCI liability insurance and the CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program, and
 - be eligible to participate in the CGCI awards program.
- **ASSOCIATE PLANT SOCIETY: An associate plant society shall:**
 - be a member of a permanent statewide or national plant society,
 - pay annual dues of \$2.75 per capita, (NEW APS joining January 1-June 30 pay one half annual dues for the initial period through June 30.)
 - be entitled to representation at the CGCI annual meeting by its president or alternate, and delegates,
 - be eligible to apply for CGCI liability insurance and
 - **NOT** be eligible to apply for the CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program.
 - (may) also belong to a **district*** (optional – please note separate district dues may apply)
- **AFFILIATE: An affiliate shall:**
 - be an organization with one or more of the objectives of CGCI,
 - have a membership of at least ten members,
 - pay annual dues of \$50 regardless of size,
 - be approved by the CGCI Board of Directors, and
 - **NOT** be eligible for CGCI's liability insurance (including Directors' & Officers), awards program or Group Tax Exemption Program.
 - (**may**) belong to a **district*** (optional – please note separate district dues may apply)

NOTE: If you are applying as an affiliate, please use the online form.

 - Go to [www.californiagardenclubs.com/Membership & Dues](http://www.californiagardenclubs.com/Membership&Dues)
 - Under Forms & Publications select: **Request for Affiliate Membership Application Form**

*DISTRICTS

- CGCI is organized into 28 geographic districts
- Each has its own district director, officers, committees, bylaws, meetings and dues.
 - District directors attend state board meetings and are the liaison between CGCI and local organizations
- Districts may set dues that are separate from CGCI membership dues
 - District dues may be per capita or per club/plant society
 - These dues help defray the expenses of the district
- Clubs are required to belong to a district
- Plant Societies and affiliates have the option of belonging to a district

LIABILITY INSURANCE

- The CGCI liability insurance plan is available to clubs and plant societies.
- Coverage is for investigation, legal defense, bodily injury and property damage due to the negligence of the club or any of its members during any meeting or event (flower show, garden tour) controlled by the club,
- Coverage is limited to \$1,000,000 per accident, with an aggregate of \$2,000,000 for all groups.
- A new club or plant society may be added to the policy at the time they join CGCI. A full year's premium will be charged. Subsequent premiums are due on January 15 for the insurance year, which begins on February 15.

ENEWSLETTERS: (the following is distributed electronically and posted to the eNewsletter archive online)

- **Golden Gardens** - CGCI's official publication; published 6 times a year
 - It provides information on CGCI programs, projects and activities, special events and activities of member organizations and NGC and Pacific Region
- To subscribe go to: californiagardenclubs.com/cgcieNewsletters



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PROCEDURE FOR MEMBERSHIP

- Review the Classes of Membership and select the option applicable to your organization
 - Send completed application
 - with check for dues, payable to **CGCI**
 - To
CGCI Membership Chairman (New Club/APS)
Nina Blonski
5050 Traverse Creek Road, Garden Valley 95633
- Upon receipt of application, a welcome letter, *CGCI Directory* and free promotional materials will be forwarded to the president.
 - Clubs will receive annual membership cards for their individual members.
 - Associate plant societies may receive individual membership cards upon request
 - Affiliates receive one membership card for their records.
- The club, associate plant society, or affiliate will be presented for ratification at the CGCI board meeting or convention following the application date. These meetings are usually held in September, February and June.
- Eligibility:
 - Any garden club, plant society or other organization having one or more of the objectives of CGCI shall be eligible for membership providing no sectarian, racial, or political test for membership is required.
 - Bylaws of each membership class shall not conflict with the bylaws of CGCI.
 - No commercial enterprise or agency shall be eligible for membership.

California Garden Clubs, Inc. (CGCI) is a non-profit association of garden organizations devoted to the development of all phases of gardening, beautification of the community, and conservation of natural resources. The objectives are set forth in the bylaws, printed annually in the *CGCI Directory*.