

# Scarecrow Tips

Scarecrows will be subject to the weather for a month so they need to be constructed sturdily and with weather-resistant materials. Clothing that doesn't fade easily such as polyester holds up better than cotton. Do not use latex gloves as they quickly disintegrate outdoors. Cloth or leather ones work well.

Scarecrows may be either freestanding or built around a PVC form provided by the Gardens. Be sure to secure all joints with PVC cement as they will come apart if you don't.

Stuffing can be almost anything as long as it is placed inside plastic bags. Pool "noodles" or plastic soda bottles make great arms and legs. Duct tape is best for securing stuffed bags to the form.

Use an old milk or bleach jug, gourd, ball, or burlap bag with painted face for the head and a wig, yarn, shredded cloth, or an old mop for the hair. Or just cover the head with a hat or cap.

Check out your own closets or thrift stores for colorful and cheap clothing and accessories to complement your theme.

Remember the details—a glittering pair of high-heeled shoes or oversized jewelry, for example, will make all the difference. Make sure everything is securely fastened. Adhesive caulk is great for securing accessories.

Most of all, have fun with your project. If you have questions, call the DABG office between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.