

BSGS Pre-Show Bonsai Suggestion

Basics

Water very well before show.

Cure any pests & disease problems your tree may have before bringing to show.

Basic grooming and weeding of your tree should be done prior to display.

Clear overgrown moss from trunk and root base.

If your moss doesn't look good or gets black slime, which happens here in the summer replace it with fresh moss or decorative stone ground cover (aquarium supply stores have a great selection of this keep, it natural looking no Die-d pink rocks, unless that's your thing)

Clean you pots

Rust eraser works fairly good for removing mineral deposits

Oil your pots with Lemon oil or other vegetable based oils if that is the look your looking for, or not,

Check wire screen holds to make sure they are not going to scratch stands.

If your tree is the type that looks best with brushed and oiled bark, some junipers and yews, and this is the look you like, do this a few days ahead for best effect.

Wire

Don't worry about showing trees with training wire, our shows are member friendly, inclusive not exclusive.

Remove wire if branches have set, if not and wiring looks sloppy remove and rewire sloppy areas of wire, hide wiring if at all possible. (Unless for in training area)

Pick your combinations, Bonsai, Stand and accent, try them out before the show, especially useful if setting up a shohin display.

Thinking Ahead:

Trees with dead wood, Jin and Shari, should be retreated three - four weeks prior to the show if possible to best effect.

Bonsai that you want to be in flower for the show if started early keep cool and protect from rain. Slow opening ones give heat and sun and it may hasten bloom opening, use caution with this, the health of the tree come first.

Trees in training:

If you have a tree that is in training and is an good example of a particular technique please, bring the tree and a 3x5 card with a short description of the technique being used. IE thread graft or sacrificial branch....

Display Tree labels

Come prepared to fill out labels for your tree

Common Name

Botanical Name

Year started Bonsai Training

Other information: i.e Pot maker, tree origin's, artist credit...

Please bring any extra stands or other display essentials for members to use that don't have their own.

Special tree care instructions, need to be given to Show coordinator, i.e don't mist foliage.