



# TIPS FOR SHOWING DAHLIAS

September 16 – 17, 2023 • Chicago Botanic Garden



## 1. READ THE RULES

CSDS prints a booklet of official show rules with info on eligibility, sections for entries and awards.

## 2. GROW GREAT BLOOMS

Top, disbud, disbranch and time your dahlias for peak bloom at show time. Pick strong, healthy, pest free blooms true to form, color and size.



## 3. CUT AND PREP

Cut evening before or early morning on day of show. Keep at least 1 set of leaves. Keep cool and secure in transport buckets.

## 4. PACK A TOOLKIT

Cutting tools, cutting board, shallow tray, tweezers, paper towels, canola oil, spray bottle, pens, show tags, ADS Classification book



## 5. STAGE YOUR BLOOMS

Secure bloom in vase. Check foliage and use canola oil to clean leaves. Mist if needed. Tag and place on section exhibition table by 10am.

*for more show-winning tips check out*

**CENTRAL STATES DAHLIA SOCIETY NEWS-LINE**  
**"ASK THE EXPERTS"**

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