

Avid gardener wins contest

by [Jonathan Miller](#) | May 5, 2012 | Filed under: [News](#)

Patsy Hicks had no expectations last December when she entered the Birds and Blooms Great Backyard Giveaway. At best, she was simply hoping for a six-pack of plants or maybe some binoculars. After all, the chances of winning a contest with more than 33,000 entries were slim. But on Feb. 15 of this year, Hicks received a certified letter from the post office congratulating her on being the grand prize winner.

Hicks was rewarded a garden makeover courtesy of Burpee Home Gardens. The on-site installation at Hicks' home will consist of about 100 flowered plants and vegetables selected based on her personal gardening preferences, including custom-made raised vegetable beds. All together the prize is valued at about \$2,500.

Hicks had been in contact with representatives of Burpee over the course of the last few weeks so that they could customize her new garden in accordance with her gardening style.

"I sent them a bunch of pictures of how my yard looked at the end of February and the dimensions of it," Hicks said.

Then, on Wednesday, May 2, the Burpee installation team of Renee Rinn and Scott Mozingo showed up and began constructing Hicks' new garden.

"They showed up at 8 a.m. and they have been hard at work," Hicks said.

As Hicks is an avid gardener, she had a few tips for fellow gardeners. "Rise early, be water wise and try to grow plants that are good for New Mexico," she said. "Plants that can take the heat and not suck up too much water."