

# WV Conservation Photo Contest

**\*Questions about the WV Photo Contest should be directed to your local conservation district.\***

**A picture can be worth a thousand words.** Good photographs can lend a helping hand to numerous projects: they strengthen publicity for a fund-raiser, make a newsletter more appealing, and reveal the beauty of wetlands to elementary students. To recognize individuals who use this tool effectively and creatively, the West Virginia Association of Conservation Districts (WVACD) is sponsoring its annual Conservation Photo Contest.

There will be a cash prize awarded for first, second, and third place entries in the contest:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place - \$75
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$50
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$25

**To be entered into the WVACD Photo Contest all photos must first be entered into the local Conservation District Photo Contest. Contact your local conservation district for their deadline.**

## **CATEGORIES**

Photographs may be entered in the following categories:

### **1) Conservation Practices (examples)**

Contour Buffer Strips  
Contour Farming &  
Stripcropping  
Cover Crop  
Critical Area Planting  
Crop Residue Management  
Crop Rotation  
Diversion  
Field Borders  
Grade Stabilization Structures  
(dam/embankment)  
Grass Waterways  
Livestock Management  
Manure Storage and Runoff  
Control  
Nutrient Management

Pasture Planting  
Pest Management  
Riparian Buffer  
Rotational Grazing  
Stream bank & Shoreline  
Stabilization  
Terrace  
Tree Planting  
Upland Wildlife Habitat  
Water & Sediment Control Basin  
Well Abandonment  
Wetland Restoration  
Wildlife Food Plot  
Windbreaks  
Woodlot Management

## **2) Close Up Conservation (examples)**

Aquatic insects  
Clean water  
Crops and plants and water/rain  
Dirty water/sediment Farm  
implements  
Hands/tools in soil, water, grains,  
on farm animals

Irrigation  
Plants and soil/residue  
Plants/flowers/crops  
Prairie plants  
Recycling  
Water drops/drips/splashes  
Worms/roots/compost

## **3) Conservation in Action (examples)**

Conservation Planning  
District events (community  
meetings, field days, fairs,  
exhibits)  
Farmers/landowners  
(conservation-related events,  
etc.)  
Interaction with landowners  
Irrigation/crops and water/wildflowers  
and water

Office staff at work  
Supervisors/Board (meetings,  
activities, interaction)  
Technical staff at work  
Wildlife, insects, livestock,  
aquatic life, etc.  
Youth (school programs, speech,  
poster contests, Envirothon, on  
farm, conservation-related  
events, etc.)

## **4) Ag/Conservation Across America (examples)**

Barns  
Crops  
Farm Practices  
Farmers/landowners

Livestock  
Pasture  
Ponds  
Ranching

Fence rows  
Grazing  
Implements and tools

Tree Farm  
Youth

## **GUIDELINES**

1. The contest is open to amateur photographers (those who make less than 50 percent of their income from photography) who are residents of the United States, or its territories. Each participant may enter up to, but no more than, five photographs. **Photos will not be returned.**
2. Black-and-white prints, color prints, and prints from digital photos are all acceptable and will be judged together. Do not send photo reproductions from a printed publication.
3. Photos submitted to the WVACD contest must be an 8X10. **Photos shall not be matted.**
4. Images must not have been digitally altered in any way other than necessary burning, dodging and cropping.
5. A completed entry form must accompany each photograph submitted.
6. A 3x5 notecard containing the following information must be attached to the back of each photo. Please include:
  - A. Photographer's name and phone number.**
  - B. Title of photograph.** Please use same title as on entry form.
  - C. Subject.** Names and titles are needed for each person in the photo. (Take care to identify each person and spell names correctly.)
  - D. Location.** If the photograph is of a district technician helping a farmer, identify the farm, county and state. If the photo shows a city park, mention the name of the park and the state.
  - E. Description.** Is the child with the magnifying glass examining a crack in the sidewalk or a line of ants carrying food?
  - F. Date of photo.** Exact dates are not necessary, but at least give the year.
7. Photos submitted must be taken in West Virginia.
8. All entries become the property of WVACD, and WVACD reserves the non-exclusive right to use all photographs in publications or for promotional purposes. Entrants should keep negatives or extra prints of their photographs.
9. Judges will select a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner in the adult (18 years or older on July 1) and youth category. Winning photos will receive a cash prize, which will be awarded by each district. The state contest winners' photos will also be sent to be judged in the National Association of Conservation District's photo contest.
10. **All entries in the WVACD Photo Contest must be submitted by the local Conservation District office to the WVACD by July 1. Check with your local conservation district office for their contest deadline.** Placing a piece of

cardboard in the envelope and writing “*Photographs: Do Not Bend*” on the envelope will help ensure that photographs arrive in good condition.

## **Judging Standards**

Photos will be judged on technical merit and composition. For technical merit, judges may check to see if the photo is well-framed, properly exposed and sharp and clear. For composition, judges determine if the photo features a recognizable center of interest, action and imagination and creativity.