

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 each category of the contest in each age group:

- 1st place - \$100
- 2nd place - \$50
- 3rd 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
Fence rows
Grazing Implements and tools

Livestock
Pasture
Ponds
Ranching
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 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winner in each category 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 WVACD. 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 the first day of the July Quarterly Meetings. 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.