



YORK SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

2017-18 Conservation District Photo Contest

The Conservation District Photo Contest is open to amateur photographers who are students in York County. Participants can enter as many as five photos. Each photo must fit in one of the conservation photo categories listed below. Please follow these instructions and guidelines carefully to ensure eligibility in the contest.

Entry Deadline

The deadline to enter the Photo Contest is **April 13, 2018**. Participants can enter as many as five photos **total** each year. Only student amateur photographers are eligible to compete. All photos must be in a jpg format and be entered in digital form as an attachment to email.

Photo Categories

Before taking your photos or submitting them for the contest, please review the following explanation of the photo categories. Judges reserve the right to determine if a photograph is appropriately categorized and change a photograph's category accordingly.

1. Water and Land (WAL): examples: landscapes, lakes, rivers, forests, waterfalls, fields, wetlands, barns, fences
2. Habitats and Wildlife (HAW): examples: animals, insects, worms, plants, trees, flowers, birds, butterflies, livestock, crops

Age Categories

Photographs will be judged according to these age or grade categories:

1. Elementary – grades K-5
2. Middle school – grades 6-8
3. High school – grades 9-12

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.

Awards

One winner will be selected for each category and age division. Each first place winner will receive a \$25 cash prize and certificate. Second Place and Honorable mention award winners may also be selected for each category and will receive a certificate.

Entry Instructions: In order to be eligible for the contest, entries must follow these guidelines:

1) Complete and Submit Entry and Photo Release Form(s): Each photo entered must have an **Entry Form/Photographer Release Form**. If people are featured in a photo, a **Model/Subject Release Form** is also required for each person pictured. Forms can be submitted one of three ways:

- *Electronic Form Submissions:* Complete the Entry/Photo Release Form and email to Barbara.oconnell@sc.nacdnet.net These can be in a separate email from the photo you are entering or an attachment in the same email as the photo.
- *Or Mail* Completed Entry and Release Forms to: York Conservation District, 1460 E. Alexander Love Hwy, York, SC 29745 (*Please note, photos MUST be submitted electronically, even if you submit Form(s) by mail.*)
- Or FAX the forms to (855) 805-8976
- Use the same email to request forms or get answers to questions about the contest, or call 803-684-3137 x3018.

2) Submit electronic photo files via email to barbara.oconnell@sc.nacdnet.net . Put 'Photo Entry' in the subject line. Photos must be submitted in electronic format (jpeg files *only*). No printed photos will be accepted. Each photo must be named and emailed according to the photo file name guidelines below.

3) Multiple Submissions

If you enter more than one photo (maximum of five photos per participant), you must complete an entry form/photo release form for **each** photo. Any photo without its own entry form/release form will not be considered for the contest.

4) Photo File Names

Photo files must be named by category, age division, last name, and photo number. If you are submitting only one photo in a category, your photo number is 1. Additional photos in the same category should be numbered consecutively.

Example: A 5th grader named Smith entering one photo in the “Water and Land” category would give it this name:

WAL-5-Smith-1.

Abbreviations for the categories are:

Water and Land (WAL)

Habitats and Wildlife (HAW)

TIP: To rename or label a photo, right-click the photo and choose rename.

5) Digital Enhancement

Minor digital enhancements for red-eye removal, filters and corrective functions are permitted, but images that have been judged to be severely cropped or altered in any significant manner will be disqualified. Contestants are not permitted to place borders, frames or backgrounds around their images or to place watermarks, dates, signatures or copyright images onto photos.

6) Previously Published Photos

Do not send photo reproductions from a printed publication. Previously published photos are not eligible.

7) Photo Rights

All entries become the property of YSWCD and YSWCD reserves the non-exclusive right to use all photographs in publications or for promotional purposes. The photographer retains rights to their photo.