



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

Fish and Wildlife Service

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1992-1993 FEDERAL DUCK STAMP GOES ON SALE; COLEMAN COMPANY GIVES JUNIOR DUCK STAMP PROGRAM A BIG BOOST

The 1992-1993 Federal Duck Stamp, the nation's oldest conservation stamp, will debut for sale during special celebrations in Washington, D.C., and in Jackson, New Jersey, on June 30 and July 1.

In making the announcement, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director John Turner said, "Buying a Federal Duck Stamp is one of the easiest ways people can help wildlife. The money you pay for a Duck Stamp goes directly to add important wildlife habitat to the Nation's wildlife refuge system. The great thing is that refuges provide recreation for people, as well as a home for wildlife."

The 1992-93 Federal Duck Stamp features spectacled eiders in flight with snow-capped Alaskan mountains in the background. Joe Hautman, the designer, will attend the celebrations in Washington and his hometown of Jackson, New Jersey. He will sign stamps and souvenir cards created from his winning painting.

On June 30, in Washington, Hautman will join officials from the Interior Department, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the Smithsonian Institution to celebrate the sale of the first 1992/93 Duck Stamp in a ceremony open to the public. The free event will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Interior Department auditorium at 18th and C Streets, N.W.

On July 1, the community of Jackson, New Jersey, is going all out to kick off the national sale of Federal Duck Stamps and honor Hautman by celebrating "The Great Duck Adventure" at nearby Six Flags Great Adventure. "The Great Duck Adventure," a day-long event beginning with a 10:00 a.m. ceremony, will mark the official start of the 1992-93 Duck Stamp season. It will also offer a number of public events, including exhibits and seminars. A special fund-raising dinner hosted by Ducks Unlimited will cap the day, and all funds received during the day will benefit New Jersey wetland projects. For additional information concerning these events contact Tom DeLuca at (609) 584-8100.

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Following the "First Day of Sale" events, the stamp will be available for purchase nationwide. All waterfowl hunters 16 years of age or older are required to carry a current, signed Federal Duck Stamp. The stamp is also popular with non-hunters simply wanting to make a contribution to conservation. In addition, an increasing number of stamp collectors are adding Duck Stamps to their collections. The stamp can be purchased at most U.S. Post Offices, some sporting goods outlets, as well as many national wildlife refuges across the country.

Coleman Company Gives Junior Duck Stamp Program a Big Boost

The Coleman Company of Wichita, Kansas, has become the first corporate state sponsor of the Department of the Interior's Junior Duck Stamp Contest, an environmental and art education program.

Coleman purchased a Federal Duck Stamp for each of the 420 Kansas students who entered the 1992 competition. At \$15 per stamp, the total Coleman contribution amounted to \$6,300 with a match from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation making for a grand total of \$12,600. The matching funds will be used to produce additional program curriculum guides and contest information packets for kindergarten through twelfth-grade teachers. This joint effort among the Coleman Company, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the Federal Duck Stamp Program will serve as a model for private-public partnerships in other states holding Junior Duck Stamp Contests.

Mike Hayden, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, said, "The Coleman Company has always been a corporate conservation leader. Their support will help teach young people about the environment and at the same time give them a sense of achievement. I also want to thank our other national partners, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, and Field and Stream, Jr., for their strong support for the Junior Duck Stamp Program."

Junior Duck Stamp Contests have been held in Kansas, California, Arkansas, Illinois, Florida, and Vermont, and are patterned after the Federal Duck Stamp Contest. Under the Federal program a new Federal Duck Stamp design is selected each year through a government-sponsored art competition. In states with a Junior Duck Stamp Program, students in grades kindergarten through twelve enter their renditions of North American ducks, geese, or swans in the junior contest hoping to win the grand prize trip to Washington, D.C.

To find out more about becoming a Corporate State Sponsor of the Junior Duck Stamp Program and states where new programs will be coming soon, contact the Federal Duck Stamp Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1849 C Street, NW, Room 2058, Washington, D.C. 20240, (202) 208-4354.