



1st Annual Santee Refuge Nature Photography Contest

Sponsored by: Santee National Wildlife Refuge, Santee Birding and Nature Festival, and Carolinas' Nature Photographers Association

Who is eligible?

Non-professional, hobbyist, and amateur photographers. Avid photographers are encouraged to submit entries into the contest, as long as they can attest that they do not make a living from photography. Photographers using all types of cameras are encouraged to enter, from basic point and shoot to advanced SLR cameras, and both digital and film images are acceptable. No video images will be accepted. There is no age limit.

What can be entered?

There are four categories: (1) Landscape (2) Wildlife (3) Flowers and Plants and (4) Santee National Wildlife Refuge. By submitting a photograph, the photographer attests that the photograph represents their original work and not the work of anyone else. All photographs must be taken after April 1, 2011. Photographs can be taken anywhere in South Carolina (Refuge, Forest, Park, etc) except for those being entered in Category 4, which must be taken at the Santee National Wildlife Refuge (Bluff, Dingle Pond, Pine Island, and Cuddo Units). Photos of domestic animals (dogs, cats, etc) or captive animals (zoo and aquarium animals) are not acceptable. This contest does not give photographers permission to access areas closed to the public, or at times the areas are closed to the public (i.e. night access, etc).

When to enter? Entries must be submitted prior to February 22, 2013.

How to enter?

1. All photographs must be submitted in .JPG format, not to exceed 2.0 MB. Photos should be submitted on a CD/DVD which must be identified with the name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the photographer. The sponsors shall not be responsible for images that are not readable or for CDs or DVDs that are not properly labeled. Please be certain your submissions are capable of being accessed by a PC based computer, and that it is properly labeled. **NO CD/DVD WILL BE RETURNED.** Entries should be submitted via mail or in person to the Santee National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center (between 8:00 am – 4:00 pm Tuesday through Saturday). Santee NWR Visitor Center Address: 2125 Fort Watson Road, Summerton, SC 29148.

2. Entry fee is \$25.00 (check ONLY) for up to 4 entries with no more than one entry in any category.

3. Checks made payable to **The Santee Birding and Nature Festival** and mailed along with the CD/DVD, to **Santee Birding and Nature Festival – Wildlife Photography Contest, PO Drawer 40, Santee, SC 29142.**

4. Each entry should be named as follows: Photo Name, by Photographers Name, Category, Location. Examples:

Sunrise on the mountain, by John Smith, Landscape, Santee State Park
Grasshopper by Mary Jones, Wildlife, Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge

www.fws.gov/santee

803-478-2217

Santee.photo.contest@gmail.com

**Lake Marion Sunset by Ron White, Santee NWR, Santee NWR – Cuddo Unit
Live Oak at Sunrise, by Betty Green, Flowers and Plants, Congaree National Park**

Judging

Each category will be judged by an expert photographer and member of Carolinas' Nature Photographers Association. All images will be sent to the respective judge without identification so that all judging will be blind. The judge will select 5 submissions as finalists. **All of the selected finalists must be willing and able to submit a print to the following standards:**

a. The print must be 11 x 14 inches. In the event the photo is a panoramic image, or otherwise not able to be printed at 11 x 14, the image may be submitted such that the longest dimension is at least 14 inches, but no greater than 16 inches and the shortest dimension no longer than 11 inches.

b. The print should be mounted on mat-board or form core, no thicker than 1/4 inch. The print should be mounted in such a way as to prevent it from coming loose during normal handling and hanging. The print will then be matted using standard artist mat-board, either with a single or double mat, in either white or black or a combination of the two. No other colors may be used.

c. The mounted and matted photo shall then be placed in a protective, clear plastic envelope and mailed to the committee or to the assigned judge at an address provided. To continue the blind nature of the judging, all finalists will be given an identification number which will be used by the photographer in place of his or her name.

d. The judge will select, from the 5 selected prints a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place photo as well as 2 for honorable mentions. Those selected will be notified and invited to an awards ceremony during the Santee Birding and Nature Festival (April 26-28, 2013).

e. In addition to the above selections, the festival committee reserves the right to select one or more additional photographs for a special award.

f. Prizes:

1st place award. One in each category: \$100.00

2nd place award. One in each category: \$75.00

3rd place award. One in each category: \$50.00

Honorable mention. Two in each category: \$25.00

Images selected for awards will also be recognized in a future issue of "Camera in the Wild", the official publication of the Carolinas' Nature Photographers Association.

Winners (1st, 2nd, 3rd, and Honorable Mention) will be given free registration to the 2013 Santee Birding and Nature Festival (April 26-28, 2013).

Miscellaneous

It is the intent of the Festival Committee to produce a commemorative poster, featuring the four first place images, which will be offered for sale to the public in a limited edition, with the proceeds to be used to continue this photographic contest in future years. Each photographer whose image is selected for a first place award will receive at least 2 copies of the poster, without charge.

With photo credits given, images entered may be used free of charge by the Santee National Wildlife Refuge, Santee Birding and Nature Festival, and the Carolina Nature Photographers Association for promotional purposes for up to 24 months from the announcement of winners. With photo credits given and copyright notification displayed, The Santee Birding and Nature Festival may sell posters depicting one or more of the winning images at the 2013 event, with all proceeds used to support future photography contests. All other rights to the images submitted will be retained by the photographer.

The committee will use every effort to protect and preserve the photographs submitted for this contest, but the photographer acknowledges that the committee shall not be responsible for any and all damage or loss to the photographs.