

Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation District

Annual Photo Contest

Photo Contest

The Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation District is looking for your best Conservation photo to grace the cover of the 2022 Annual Report.

Photo Category

The photo must fall under the category of Conservation, but may be any one of the following:

Soil & Water | Agriculture | Forestry | Wildlife

Awards

One Grand Prize Winner will be selected. The prize will be a selection of great items from local businesses in Oxford County, including a custom home town or coordinates sign from a local Maine artisan, bird feeder and 20 lb bag of bird seed from Oxford Tractor Supply, and wildflower seed mixes from OCSWCD. Three Honorable Mention winners will also be selected but will not receive prizes. All winners and their photos will be recognized in media publicity, and the overall winning photo will grace the cover of our 2022 Annual Report!

Entry Instructions

1. **Photos must be submitted in electronic format** (jpeg) to oxfordcountyswcd@gmail.com . No printed photos will be accepted. Each photo must be named and e-mailed according to photo file name guidelines below.
2. **Photo File Names**
Photo files names must be your first initial and last name plus the name you wish to *title your photo*: ie:
J_Smith_Grazing Cows
Tip: to rename or label your photo, right click the photo and choose Re-name.
3. **Photo e-mail guidelines**
For each photo submission **(you may submit up to 3 photos)**, the subject line of the e-mail must be the same as the photo file name, ie: Smith-Grazing Cows. Please do not add anything else in the subject line.
4. **Submit the Photo Release Form (and model release form, if needed)**. The Photo Release Form can be found on the "Photo Contest" tab on our website.
 - a. **To submit your Photo Release Form electronically:**
 - i. Download the photo release form from our website (found on the "Photo Contest" tab, under "Events")
 - ii. Fill out the form by typing responses into the grey fillable fields.
 - iii. Once you have completed the form, save it to your computer with your responses. Please save it in the same format as your pictures (*first intital_last name_photo name*)
 - iv. Attach the completed Photo Release Form to the email you send your photo in.
 - b. **To submit your Photo Release Form through the mail or in person:**
Print, sign, and either drop-off or mail to us at the following address:
Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation District
17 Olson Road, Suite 3
South Paris ME 04281
c/o Chantelle Hay
5. **Send your photo(s) and Photo Release Form(s) (and model release if necessary) by the deadline.**
6. **All entries must be received by 11:59pm EST on October 31st, 2022.**

Required Forms

- 1. Photo Release Form:** You may enter up to 3 photos. You must complete a Photo Release Form for each entry. The Photo Release will act as your entry form. Any photo without a signed release will not be considered for the contest.
- 2. Model/Portrait Release**
Photographs that include recognizable people must include a signed Model Release Form before the photograph will be accepted into the photo contest and displayed. A parent or guardian must consent for people under 18 years old. The Model Release form must be attached to the Photo Entry form that you send through the mail. The Model/Portrait release form is included in the Entry Form information.

Photo Guidelines

- 1. Digital Enhancement**
Minor digital enhancements for cropping, red-eye removal, filters and corrective functions are permitted, but images that have been judged to be 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.
- 2. Previously published photos**
Do not send reproductions from a printed publication. Previously published photos are not eligible for the OCSWCD contest.
- 3. Photo Rights**
All entries become the property of OCSWCD and OCSWCD reserves the non-exclusive right to use all photographs in publications for promotional purposes.

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.

All ages are encouraged to submit photos.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity employer and provider.