

News Release

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge

P.O. Box 62

Chincoteague Island, VA 23336

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Susan Fair, Administrative Assistant

Date: September 12, 2016

Phone: 757-336-6122

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge Annual Pass Photo Contest

Calling all amateur photographers! We would like to see the refuge through your eyes. Send us your amazing photos of Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge; images that highlight the best of the scenic landscapes, precious wildlife and small wonders that we all cherish. Your picture may become the next winner of the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge Annual Pass Photo Contest! Starting September 19, 2016 you can submit a photo that you have taken on the refuge over the past two years. Entries will be accepted until the close of business on October 7th, 2016. Please do not submit images of the lighthouse, ponies or eagles because they were previous winners.

This year, voting will be done in two stages. Refuge staff will select the top five photos that capture the essence of our island. The winning photo will be selected at the community leaders meeting held at the refuge in October. The winner will be announced on October 20th and the image will be featured on the front of the 2017 Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge Annual Pass!

Are you ready to get started? Grab your cameras, visit the refuge and start capturing memories! You can also head to our website for more information: www.fws.gov/refuge/Chincoteague. We are excited to share your experience!

Entries will be accepted: September 19, 2016 - October 7, 2016

Winner will be announced: October 20, 2016

Photo Guidelines

- Photos must feature one of the following:
 - ✓ Wildlife
 - ✓ Small Wonders: (flowers, insects, butterflies, spiders and other small plants and animals)
 - ✓ Landscape (Beautiful scenery and stunning vistas)
- Each photo submitted must have been taken on Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge between, September 2014 and September 2016 by the person entering the contest.
- Cropping is allowed but any color modifications or addition of elements not existing in the original image will not be accepted.
- Photo must be in landscape format.
- Photo must be in JPEG format. Try to ensure that the photo is 3 mb or larger with high resolution (300 dpi) as the winning photos must work in print.
- Only 1 entry per photographer.
- Photographers must be the sole owner of the copyright of photograph submitted.
- Photo must not infringe any other person's or entity's rights.
- **Photos with people in it will not be accepted.**
- All rules and regulations of Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge must be followed when taking photographs.
- Photographs depicting anything that does not adhere to the rules and regulations of Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, contain unsafe acts, present resource or public use management concerns or photographs that are inappropriate, indecent or obscene, as determined by the Refuge Manager in their sole discretion, shall be disqualified.

How to enter

- Entries must be submitted by the original creator.
- A high resolution digital copy of your entry can be emailed to susan_fair@fws.gov or submitted on a disk to:
Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
PO Box 62
Chincoteague, VA 23336
Attn: Annual Pass Photo Contest
- **Entries hand delivered to the refuge must be given to Susan Fair, in the administrative office. Please do not leave them at the Visitor Center Desk, as they may not be received by the coordinator before the deadline.**
Administrative office hours are 8am-4:30pm, Monday-Friday.

- An entry form (below) must be submitted with your photo. All fields on the entry form must be completed. Incomplete entries will not be accepted and will be automatically disqualified.

Who is eligible

- Legal residents of the United States, DC and US Territories.
- Amateur Photographers (less than 20% of your total income is from photography).

Who is ineligible

- Employees of the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, Assateague National Seashore, Chincoteague Natural History Association and representatives of the participating agencies and sponsors and their immediate family members are not eligible to win.
- Individuals who derive 20% or more of their income from photography.

Note: All submitted photos will become the property of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The photographer grants unlimited use of submitted photographs by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Chincoteague Natural History Association for publications, displays, web pages, presentations and promotional products. Credit will always be given to the photographer. The photographer retains the copyright to their photo. The winning photo will be featured on the 2017 Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge Annual Pass. Disks will not be returned after the contest.

**Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
Annual Pass Photo Contest
Entry Form**

Photographer's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Name of Photo: _____

Date taken: _____

Are you under 18: Y / N (if yes see below)

IF YOU ARE UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN MUST FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING:

I am the parent/legal guardian of (name of entrant):

I have read and agree to the contestant rules, and his/her entry is with my permission

Name of parent/legal guardian (Please Print)

Telephone (Day): _____ (Evening): _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian: _____ Date: _____

AUTHENTICITY AND LIABILITY STATEMENT

DO NOT SIGN ENTRY FORM WITHOUT READING THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT

I hereby certify that this is my original photograph that has not been altered other than what is stipulated in the photo guidelines listed above and is **not copied from published photos or other materials copied by copyright laws**. I grant exclusive rights to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and its designees to use, alter, copy, publish, and display my photograph for reproduction and promotional purposes as they see fit without compensation to me. I further understand that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has the exclusive right to disqualify any entry whose authenticity is questionable.

Signature of Photographer _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian (if under 18) _____ Date _____

ALL INFORMATION ON THIS FORM MUST BE PROVIDED