

Smokies Through the Lens Photography Contest

Proudly Sponsored by The Old Mill

SUBMISSION DATES

Submissions end midnight, Sunday, January 9th, 2022.

CONTEST IMAGES WILL BE ON DISPLAY

Images will be displayed during Wilderness Wildlife Week, January 25-29, 2022, at The Ramsey Hotel & Convention Center in Pigeon Forge from 10 AM to 6 PM daily.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The goal of this contest is to encourage participants to enjoy the beauty of nature and to share their experiences through photography.

1. Images must be submitted according to the following instructions:
 1. Photographs must be the original work of the exhibitor and cannot feature pets or have people as the main subject. Entries cannot be posed portraits or studio photographs.
 2. Personal identification or text of any type is not allowed in the photo. This includes, but is not limited to, a quote, title, photographer's name, photographer's logo, etc.
 3. No individual may enter more than two images per category, with a limit of seven total entries.
 4. No image may be submitted into multiple categories.
 5. Photographs entered in any past Wilderness Wildlife Week Photography Contests are not eligible for reentry.
2. The photographer must allow the City of Pigeon Forge and Wilderness Wildlife Week usage of submitted images to be displayed and used at the Wilderness Wildlife Week event, promotion for the contest, and/or exhibition on their website. The photographers retain ownership of the images. Winning images potentially will be printed for display during Wilderness Wildlife Week.
3. The images will be judged on color-calibrated monitors and displayed at Wilderness Wildlife Week, potentially on HD TVs.
4. Images specifications (questions on image preparation should be sent to Douglas Hubbard at dfhubb@comcast.net):

1. Image files submitted for judging should be as high a quality as possible and capable of being printed from a minimum of 8"x10" print size up to a maximum of 16" X20".
 1. File size to be as large as possible but not to exceed **a maximum of 15 megabytes. NOTE: Files to be in JPG Format.**
 2. Only digital images will be entered and judged.
2. The digital **file name should be the title of the entry.** For Example: Abrams Falls.jpg, Bear.jpg; Walker Sisters Cabin.jpg
3. The first (1st), second (2nd), and/or third (3rd) place winners may be printed and mounted for viewing. Note: submitted images file should be able to print a suitable 8x10 print or larger.
4. When necessary, adjustments will be made to generate the best print possible.
5. It is up to the photographer to upload appropriate images as well as correctly categorize them by subject criteria per the rules. Poor quality images or miscategorized images may negatively affect the judging of your pictures and/or may preclude winning submission from being printed and displayed. Wilderness Wildlife Week volunteers may or may not contact entrants about any submissions deemed questionable. If you are contacted, you may resubmit.
6. Entry Acceptance and Judging:
 1. The decisions of the panel of judges will be final. Entries will be judged on theme, artistic merit, presentation, and technique. This includes but is not limited to proper categorization, image quality, composition, presentation, sharpness, and white balance, among other aspects.
 2. The City of Pigeon Forge reserves the right to reject any entry for any reason, including those that fail to follow the contest rules and theme, or any entry whose subject matter may be deemed by contest officials to be unsuitable for exhibition in a family environment or is deemed to put Pigeon Forge and/or Great Smoky Mountain National Park in a negative light.
 3. Entries will be judged in the category designated by the entrant, so it is crucial to choose the most appropriate category for your entries.
 4. Acceptance for display does not necessarily imply approval for judging.

CATEGORIES AND CRITERIA

Category

Scenic Views of Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Wildlife of Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Subject

Any broad view image of land within Great Smoky Mountain National Park. The photograph may have people or human-made objects, but they must not be the dominant subject of the picture.

Any wildlife subject within Great Smoky Mountain National Park (no pets, posed subjects, or studio photographs).

**Black & White Images
of Great Smoky
Mountains National
Park**

Any subject or scene related to nature, wilderness, or wildlife within Great Smoky Mountains National Park (no pets, posed subjects, or studio photographs) in black and white.

**Manmade
Landmarks of Great
Smoky Mountains
National Park**

Entry must be of a human-made Great Smoky Mountains National Park landmark (such as the Walker Sisters' Cabin, John Oliver Cabin, John Cable Grist Mill, Tyson McCarter Place, Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery, etc.). The entry can be from any season (fall, winter, spring, or summer). Artistic interpretations are welcome.

**Macros of Great
Smoky Mountains
National Park**

Any image that is photographed close up and must be photographed within Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

AWARDS IN EACH CATEGORY

First Place: \$50 + Ribbon Second Place: \$30 + Ribbon Third Place: \$20 + Ribbon

One **Best of Show Ribbon**, along with **\$50** will be awarded to the image the judges deem to have the best overall image quality and which represents the spirit of wilderness and wildlife found in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. All first-place winners in all categories are eligible for the Best of Show award. The image awarded Best in Show, 1st Place, 2nd Place, or 3rd place winners may be included in Wilderness Wildlife Week promotions. **An image file of sufficient print quality must be given to the City and its representatives once the contest and judging are complete. Failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of this honor.**

All qualified images will be digitally displayed during Wilderness Wildlife Week, along with the winning photos, which will also be printed and displayed.

NOTE: Winners are to pick up their ribbons, checks, and potential printed images, at the informational front desk at the Wilderness Wildlife Event on Saturday, 29th prior to 5:00 pm or contact bbarnes@cityofpigeonforgetn.gov for an earlier pickup.