
August 14-21, 2011

The Fifth Annual Nature Photo Contest

Presented by Goose Lake Prairie Partners and Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area

(Contest is open to amateur photographers of all ages (those deriving less than 25% of their income from photography.)

PHOTOGRAPH CONTEST CATEGORIES:

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| 1) Color Plant | 5.) Color Landscape | 9.) Black and White Insects |
| 2) Color Animal | 6) Black and White Plant | 10.) Black and White Landscape |
| 3) Color Birds | 7.) Black and White Animal | 11.) Color Goose Lake Prairie SNA |
| 4.) Color Insects | 8.) Black and White Birds | 12.) B/W Goose Lake Prairie SNA |

ELIGIBILITY: Photos in categories 1 through 10 must depict natural objects and features only, and show no signs of human interference. Examples of human interference include, but are not limited to, utility poles, mowed grass, pavements, buildings, etc.

Photos in categories 1 through 10 must be taken in Illinois, and must depict native or naturalized flora and fauna (i.e. -- no domesticated gardens or landscaping plants, exotic plants from public gardens, pets, livestock, exotic zoo animals, etc.)

Category 11 & 12 must be taken in Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area, with humans and/or human constructs (such as groomed pathways, shelters, boats, fishing gear, etc) being acceptable but not required. More than just "record shots," in this category, we wish to capture the essence of how visitors enjoy nature while visiting Goose Lake Prairie. Do not pick or move plants and do not handle the animals in State Parks. Stay on designated park trails.

Digitalized prints will be accepted and judged, but must be the exclusive work of the maker **without computer enhancement; i.e. there should be no removal (cloning out) of any part of the image, and no superimposing or adding of elements not in original image. Images that are overly processed will be disqualified.**

The Prairie Partners Photo Committee will review the eligibility of entries. Decisions of the committee regarding eligibility will be final.

PREPARATION: All photos must be mounted with a single mount. (Photos may be matted or flush mounted on mat or foam core board) **Mats or foam core board no larger than 11 inches X 14 inches. Smaller or larger entries will not be accepted.**

The window/photo may range in size from 5" X 7" to 11" x 14" - one print per mount. Frames or glass of any kind will not be accepted. On the back of the mat, securely tape the completed ENTRY FORM only.

Entries with writing on the front will not be accepted. All entries must be titled.

Plastics or other protective covering may be used for transporting photographs, but will be removed when the photo is displayed and may not be restored upon return.

SUBMISSIONS: Entrants may submit up to three prints per category; and up to twelve total entries. Feel free to make as many photocopies of the entry form as needed. There is no entry fee. The entrant must have taken the photographs.

Photos entered in previous years contest should not be resubmitted. Photos should have been taken within the last two years.

SELECTION: A committee of qualified photography judges will select First, Second and Third place in each of the twelve categories, and Best of Show. Goose Lake Prairie Partners will select the Partners' Pick. People's Choice will be selected by a ballot of visitors to the Exhibit.

DATES: Bring entries to the Visitor's Center at Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area (5010 N. Jugtown Road, Morris, IL) on Sunday, August 14, 2011 from Noon until 3:00 p.m. The first 100 entries are guaranteed acceptance.

****Entry into the photo contest implies permission to use entered photo(s) in IDNR and affiliated publications, as well as in general circulation publications. Photos may be utilized in non-profit fund-raising activities without compensation to the photographer.****

EXHIBIT: Photos will be exhibited August 20 and 21 in the Visitor's Center during regular hours. Photos may be picked up on Sunday, August 21 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. If pickup cannot be accomplished on this date, call (815) 942-2899 to arrange pickup.

****After September 1, photos remaining will become the property of GLPSNA.***

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area Staff and Goose Lake Prairie Partners will exercise all reasonable precautions in handling the entries. However, none of the forgoing names, or those associated with said organizations, will assume any responsibility for damages to or loss of any entry

Instructions & entry forms are on our website
<http://gooselakeprairie.org>

(Revised 3/5/2011)