

# NATURE'S BEST BACKYARDS PHOTO CONTEST



## ENTRY GUIDELINES

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**EXTENDED DEADLINE: MAIL OR UPLOAD BY 11:59PM EASTERN OCT. 3, 2017**

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The editors of NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY invite all photographers to celebrate nature close to home by entering the 2017 BEST BACKYARDS PHOTO CONTEST. Submit images made in your own backyard, in a public or private garden, or nearby park. The winning images will be featured in NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY magazine and online galleries, and shared on social media. The entries are judged on their technical quality, composition, originality, and artistic merit. Open to Professionals, Amateurs, and Youth.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$30 US for Adults / Free Entry for Youth (age 18 and under as of Oct. 3, 2017)

**IMAGES PER ENTRY:** For each paid contest entry you may submit up to 25 images.

You may start as many paid entries as you like. If one or more of your images is selected as a finalist, we will require high resolution digital files for final round judging and reproduction in the magazine. **You have until 11:59 pm Eastern Standard Time, Sept. 26, 2017, but don't wait until the last minute to start your submission, as entries are judged in the order they are received.**

If you need help or have questions, email: [Backyards@NaturesBestPhotography.com](mailto:Backyards@NaturesBestPhotography.com)

**THIS CONTEST IS NOT JUDGED IN CATEGORIES. SUGGESTED BACKYARD TOPICS:**

**WILDLIFE:** Wild animals from your backyard habitat (no captive animals are accepted)—birds, mammals, etc.

**WATER LIFE:** Ponds, streams, and wetlands in a backyard environment; also frogs, fish, and aquatic plant life.

**PLANT LIFE:** Flowers, trees, and other flora in their natural habitat (identify exotic or hybrid species) around your home.

**PRIVATE BACKYARD GARDENS:** Beautiful backyard (or frontyard) habitats that have been created to invite wildlife.

**PUBLIC PARKS and GARDENS:** Community parks and gardens close to home (please identify location).

**SMALL WORLD:** Close-up or macro shots of flowers or butterflies, caterpillars, insects, etc., in a backyard setting.

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## TO SUBMIT PHOTOS ONLINE

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- 1. PREPARE YOUR PHOTOS:** Save **COPIES** of your original images as low-resolution JPEGs (72 ppi) no larger than 500K for each of your images and label each file with your first and last name, image title, separated by underscores. **Example: JohnDoe\_fox.jpg**
- 2. CREATE A CONTEST ACCOUNT** on the NBP website to enter photos and manage your entries, check or replace images, edit/update captions:  
**<http://www.naturesbestphotography.com/acct-new.php>**
- 3. USE THE "MANAGE MY ENTRY" BUTTON** at the bottom right of your account home page to get to the entry form for the current contest.

4. **UPLOAD PHOTOS** on the Entry Form. You will get a confirmation receipt by email with payment status and with a link to return to your entry.

After you start an account, you will see the “My Account Dashboard” account management tool found at the top right of the NBP website homepage. There you will be able to log in or out, update your contest account information, and go to lists of the contest entries associated with your account.

Photographers who have images that pass into the semifinal round of judging will be required to supply high-resolution files and RAW files if available, complete caption, and your camera specifications before the final judging. Information on how to send high-resolution files will be provided.

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## TO SUBMIT PHOTOS BY MAIL

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**USING POSTAL SERVICE OR COURIER:** Be sure to include BOTH low and high resolution files or your slides or transparencies along with the \$30 entry fee (US dollars only—*NO foreign checks or foreign money orders*) and an Entry Form (on the next page) with ALL the required information clearly filled out. Mail your submission (details below) to: NATURE’S BEST BACKYARDS, 1930 Isaac Newton Square, 200C, Reston, VA 20190, Ph: 703-467-9783

### PREPARING DIGITAL FILES TO MAIL

Digital images should be taken with the camera set for the highest possible resolution. Each electronic image must be saved and named with your first and last name, underscore, brief image subject, and .jpg. (Example: **JohnDoe\_fox.jpg**). Each flash drive, CD, or DVD must be labeled with your full name and phone number. KEEP A COPY of your submission, as the flash drives, CDs, or DVDs will not be returned after the contest. When mailing digital images as your submission, send discs of BOTH low and high resolution images using the following specifications:

- Low Resolution (72 ppi) JPEG COPIES of your images, about 1000 pixels on the longest side, must be copied onto a flash drive or burned onto a single CD or DVD and labeled ‘LOW RES’ and your name for the preliminary judging.
- High Resolution (300 ppi) uncompressed and unsharpened Tiff files, measuring 4800 pixels on the longest side, or largest file available, may be copied onto a flash drive or burned to as many CDs or DVDs as necessary for the final rounds of judging, each labeled ‘HIGH RES’ with your name on the discs. Tiff files, or the original RAW files, will be used for publication if selected as a winner. (Include original RAW files, if available.)

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## RULES

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All photos must accurately reflect the subject matter as it appeared in the scene. Nothing should be added to an image, and aside from dust spots, nothing should be taken away. Normal processing of RAW image files and minor adjustments to color and contrast are acceptable, as is cropping. HDR and focus stacking are permitted as long as all manipulation is disclosed. No watermarks or text on photos. Entrants must not infringe on the rights of any other photographer or person, or submit images that involve the willful harassment of wildlife or damage to the environment by the photographer.

*\* Images should be of non-captive species in natural situations. If lured or baited, please explain.\**

### ENTRY FEE AND ENTRY FORM:

If mailed, a check or money order for \$30 (US dollars only—*NO foreign checks or foreign money orders*) must be included with your entry, made out to: NATURE’S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY. Or you may use a Visa, MasterCard, or American Express charge card on your entry form, or phone in your information to 703-467-9783. Each submission must be accompanied by an entry form with all information clearly filled out.

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**QUESTIONS? Call 703-467-9783 or e-mail: [Backyards@NaturesBestPhotography.com](mailto:Backyards@NaturesBestPhotography.com)**

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IF YOU ARE ENTERING BY MAIL, PLEASE USE THIS FORM



# ENTRY FORM

FIRST NAME / MIDDLE INITIAL / LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS NAME \_\_\_\_\_  PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER  AMATEUR  YOUTH (UNDER 18) / BIRTH DATE \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ APARTMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE / PROVINCE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP / POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICE PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL ADDRESS / WEB SITE \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY FEE \$30 (US)  
METHOD OF PAYMENT

CHECK NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ (NO FOREIGN CHECKS)  CALL OUR OFFICE TO CHARGE OVER THE PHONE 703-467-9783

DO NOT STAPLE OR TAPE CHECKS TO ENTRY FORM.

CREDIT CARD NUMBER  VISA  MASTERCARD  AMEX \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_ SECURITY CODE (3 OR 4 DIGITS ON BACK OF CARD) \_\_\_\_\_

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON YOUR CARD \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF IMAGES (EACH PAID ENTRY IS LIMITED TO 25 IMAGES) PLEASE INCLUDE A SHEET WITH YOUR PHOTO CAPTIONS

\_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL NUMBER OF DIGITAL IMAGES

ON FLASH DRIVE/CD/DVD (SEND US COPIES OF YOUR IMAGES NAMES OR LABELED WITH YOUR FIRST AND LAST NAME)

I UNDERSTAND THAT CONTENT IN MY FLASH DRIVES, CDS, OR DVDS WILL NOT BE RETURNED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE COMPETITION.

\* NOTE: WE CANNOT RETURN SUBMISSIONS. IF YOU NEED TO SEND SLIDES, EMAIL FOR INSTRUCTIONS. NO PRINTS!

**EXTENDED DEADLINE: UPLOAD OR POSTMARK BY 11:59PM EST OCT. 3, 2017**

SEND THIS FORM WITH YOUR ENTRY FEE AND IMAGES TO:

Nature's Best Backyards 2017  
1930 Isaac Newton Square, Suite 200C  
Reston, Virginia 20190 USA

QUESTIONS?

Call 703-467-9783 or E-mail [Backyards@NaturesBestPhotography.com](mailto:Backyards@NaturesBestPhotography.com)

FOR NBP OFFICE USE

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# NATURE'S BEST BACKYARDS PHOTO COMPETITION

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## PHOTO USE & RIGHTS

The winning photographs will be published in the 2018 Spring/Summer issue of NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY magazine and may be shown in online galleries and other NATURE'S BEST BACKYARDS (NBB) photography competition promotion opportunities, including, but not limited to, a compilation book or calendar, electronic collection of winners and web pages providing NBB information, updates, rules and ongoing photography tips.

The NBB competition is open to ALL photographers except employees of NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY magazine. Your entry to this contest constitutes your agreement to allow your photographs, your name, occupation, city and state of residence to be published as selected award winners in NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY magazines, print and digital exhibitions, events, and other public venues, published on websites owned by or in alliance with NBB as award winners; and used for promotions of the NBB. **Entrants retain ownership and all other rights to future use of their photographs.** NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY shall have the right to verify, in their sole judgment, winner eligibility.

**LEGAL CONDITIONS:** By entering this awards competition, you agree to certain legal conditions. By entering, participants release and hold harmless Nature's Best Publishing LLC (the Company), its respective subsidiaries, affiliates, directors, officers, employees, attorneys, agents and representatives from any and all liability for any injuries, loss, claim, action, demand or damage of any kind arising from or in connection with the NBB, or any prize won, any misuse or malfunction of any prize awarded, participation in any NBB-related activity, or participation in the NBB.

Participant agrees that any and all disputes that cannot be resolved with the Company, and causes of action arising out of or connected with the NBB, shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action, before a court of competent jurisdiction located in Virginia, which court shall apply the laws of the commonwealth of Virginia without regard for rules of conflicts of law. In any such dispute, participant shall, under no circumstances, be entitled to claim punitive, incidental or consequential damages, or any other damages, including attorneys' fees, other than participant's actual out-of-pocket expenses (if any) associated with participating in the NBB. Participant hereby waives all rights to have damages multiplied or increased.

Any attempt by an entrant or other individual to deliberately damage any website or undermine the legitimate operation of the NBB is a violation of criminal and civil laws, and should such an attempt be made, the Company reserves the right to seek damages to the fullest extent permitted by law.

The Company is not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate information, whether caused by website users or by any equipment or programming associated with or utilized in the NBB, or by any technical or human error that may occur in the processing of submissions to the NBB, including but not limited to any misprints or typographical errors. The Company assumes no responsibility for any error, omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operation or transmission, communications line failure, theft or destruction or unauthorized access to, or alteration of, entries. The Company is not responsible for any problems or technical malfunction of any telephone network or lines, computer equipment, servers, providers, computer on-line systems, software, or failure of email on account of technical problems or traffic congestion on the Internet, including injury or damage to participant's or to any other person's computer related to or resulting from participating or uploading images or information in the NBB.

If, for any reason, the NBB is not capable of completion as planned, including by reason of infection by computer virus, bugs, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures or any other causes beyond the control of the Company that corrupts or affects the administration, security, fairness, integrity or proper conduct of the Awards, the Company reserves the right at their sole discretion to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the NBB.

In no event will the Company, its subsidiaries, affiliates and related companies, their advertising and promotional agencies, or their directors, officers, employees, attorneys, agents and representatives be responsible or liable for any damages or losses of any kind, including direct indirect, incidental, consequential or punitive damages arising out of participant's access to and use of the Company website or the downloading or uploading and/or printing of material from said sites. Without limiting the foregoing, everything on the Company site is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either express or implied. Some jurisdictions may not allow the limitation or exclusion of liability for incidental or consequential damages, so some of the foregoing limitations or exclusions may not apply to you. Check your local laws for any restrictions or limitations regarding these limitations or exclusions.

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**VOID WHERE PROHIBITED**