

*Athens Soil and Water Conservation District*  
*presents the 2025*  
*Annual All Athens County Photo Contest*



*2024 Grand Prize Winner*

*“All’s Quiet on the Home Front” by Elizabeth Boyd*

*The Athens Soil and Water Conservation District is looking for the ‘best’ images of Athens County! The District will again host the “All Athens County Photo Contest” in 2025. We hope you will pull out your cameras and join in the fun! We welcome and encourage photos in all seasons.*

*Categories in 2025:*

- Athens Agriculture: Farm Animals, Farm Life, and Buildings*
- Wild Athens: Natural Landscapes, Wildlife and Plants*
- Urban Athens: Architecture, City Landscapes, and People/Festivals*

*See inside for a set of contest rules and judging information or go to our website at [www.athensswcd.org](http://www.athensswcd.org). NOTE: Photos do not need to be taken in calendar year 2025.*

**Deadline for Entry is July 11, 2025**

# Photo Contest Guidelines: for 2025... Please read carefully!

## Who can enter?

The contest is open to all photographers of any age who are residents of Athens County, Ohio. Each participant may enter as many as three photographs. With a signed official entry form, a photographer gives Athens SWCD non-exclusive permission to use any entered photographic images in District publications, Facebook, and website, or for other District promotional purposes. Photograph ownership remains the property of the image photographer. Entrant should keep some digital record, negatives or extra prints of their photographs as photos entered can not be returned.



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## In what form must my photos be entered?

Photos must be entered in a digital format, such as a jpeg or tiff file only. Do not send photo reproductions from printed publications. If not emailed, they should be burned to a CD or jump-drive and mailed with the entry and release forms\* to: Athens SWCD Photo Contest, 69 South Plains Road, The Plains, Ohio 45780. A completed and signed entry and photo release forms must be received to be eligible for the contest. (Originals preferred however, signed forms sent electronically will be recognized as an original document.) Photos must have been taken at an Athens County, Ohio location and/or event. Images must not have been digitally altered in any way other than necessary cropping and burning. This includes the use of photo enhancing filters. Please note that photos taken with wide-angle or landscape lens will still be printed in a 5 x 7 format thus losing part of the image.

\*Carry a copy of the 'human photograph' release form with you as you take pictures. This is an important document so that the photos containing recognizable people can be used by the Athens SWCD for outreach program materials etc. It must be received by this office to make your photo eligible for judging.

## When are my entries due?

All entries and forms sent by mail must be postmarked by **July 11, 2025**. Those pictures sent by email must be sent no later than midnight, July 11, 2025.

**Note: Photos are not limited to images taken in 2025.** Photos can be taken at any time of the year as long as they are taken in an Athens Co. location and/or event. Indicate the category that you wish each photo to be considered and the location it was taken in the photo description section of the entry form. See our website for photo examples by category.



F. Reid Caldwell

## When will winners be announced?

The 1st Place and honorable mention selections will be announced during the 1st full week of August.

## Judging Standards:

Photos will be judged on technical merit and composition. Semi-finalists in each season will be selected by a panel of judges through the Athens SWCD office. For technical merit, judges may check if the photo is well-framed, properly exposed, sharp and clear. For composition, judges determine if the photo features a recognizable center of interest, action, imagination and creativity. A Grand Prize Winner, will be selected with a popular public vote using the District's website. To vote join us on our website at [www.athensswcd.org](http://www.athensswcd.org). The Winning Photo and the finalists will be on display at the 2025 Athens County Fair Agricultural/Natural Resources Building during the county fair in August. Note: Athens SWCD reserves the right to disqualify photos for questionable content or infringement of rules.

## What if I have questions or need more information?

Please contact... Teresa Caldwell, Ed. Coordinator, Athens SWCD at (740)797-9686 ext.6282 or by email at [teresacaldwell@athensswcd.org](mailto:teresacaldwell@athensswcd.org)



Jeff Koehler



Richard Gams



Steve Grimes



# ATHENS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

*serving this area since 1946*

69 S Plains Road  
The Plains, Ohio 45780

Phone: (740) 797-9686 or (800) 582-8890  
Fax: (740) 797-9079

### Athens SWCD 2025 All Athens County Photo Contest

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## Photo Entry and Release Form: Photographer and subjects in photo Entry Deadline is July 11, 2025

**Photographer's Name:** (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ **Age:** \_\_\_\_\_ (If under 18yrs)  
(Note: Photographer's must be an amateur of any age.)

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Street, City and Zip Code (Note: You must be a resident of Athens County, Ohio to be eligible)

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed Photo/Media and Information Release of photos and subjects in photo:**

(Immediately recognizable minors (under the age of 18) who appear in photographs must have a parent/legal guardian sign their release; immediately recognizable subjects 18 yrs. and older can sign their own release form.)

I hereby agree and grant that with this official entry form, the Athens Soil and Water Conservation District (Athens SWCD) has my non-exclusive permission to use any of my entered likenesses, name, and photographic images in any/all District publications or District promotional purposes including use on the District's website. There will be no expectation of payment by the District for use of these images. I understand and agree that I must keep any image originals, as contest entries cannot be returned. The ownership of these images remains that of the image photographer.

I hereby irrevocably authorize Athens SWCD to edit, alter, copy, exhibit, publish or distribute this photo for purposes of publicizing SWCD programs or for any other lawful District purpose. In addition, I waive the right to inspect or approve the finished product, including written or electronic copy, wherein my image appears. Additionally, I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising or related to the use of the photograph by the District.

I hereby hold harmless and release and forever discharge Athens SWCD from all claims, demands and causes of action which I, my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, or any other person acting on my behalf or on the behalf of my estate have or may have reason of this authorization.

I am 18 years of age or older and am competent to contract in my own name. I have read this release before signing below and I fully understand the contents, meaning, and impact of this release. If under the age of 18, I will have consent signed by a parent or guardian.

**Below, briefly describe each photo, where it was taken, and select a category for judging (Limit of three photo entries)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of photographer**  
or signature of parent/legal guardian if a minor under age of 18

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Category of Entry:	Office Use
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\_\_\_\_\_  
**Printed Name of parent/legal guardian if a minor under age of 18**

Category of Entry:	Office Use
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**Questions?**  
**Contact: Teresa Caldwell, Education Coordinator**  
(740)797-9686x6282 or [teresacaldwell@athensswcd.org](mailto:teresacaldwell@athensswcd.org)

**NOTE:**  
**All photo entries must be taken in Athens County, Ohio**

Category of Entry:	Office Use
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**Please follow entry requirements for submission of photo for the Athens SWCD photo contest. A submission includes:**  
**Photos:** jpeg or tiff file (300 dpi min ) emailed to [teresacaldwell@athensswcd.org](mailto:teresacaldwell@athensswcd.org) or burned onto a CD and mailed or delivered to:  
**Athens SWCD Photo Contest, 69 South Plains Road, The Plains, OH 45780**  
**Forms:** Completed original (s) of the Entry/Release Form (s) with information on each entry, mailed or delivered to our office.  
**Note: All forms and photos must be emailed or post marked, whichever applies, by midnight July 11, 2025**

# All Athens County Photo Contest 'Human Photograph' Release Form:

**Subjects in photo release:** By signing this release, I have read and understand the Photo/Media and Information Release on page 3 of this document, (The 2025 Athens SWCD All Athens County Photo Contest Photo Entry and Release Form).

**Subject 1:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of person in photo (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Age (if subject is a minor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State and Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of person in photo or signature of parent/legal guardian if subject is a minor under age of 18

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of parent/legal guardian if subject is a minor under age of 18

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**Subject 2:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of person in photo (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Age (if subject is a minor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State and Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of person in photo or signature of parent/legal guardian if subject is a minor under age of 18

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of parent/legal guardian if subject is a minor under age of 18

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**Subject 3:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of person in photo (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Age (if subject is a minor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State and Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of person in photo or signature of parent/legal guardian if subject is a minor under age of 18

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of parent/legal guardian if subject is a minor under age of 18

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**Subject 4:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of person in photo (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Age (if subject is a minor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State and Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of person in photo or signature of parent/legal guardian if subject is a minor under age of 18

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of parent/legal guardian if subject is a minor under age of 18

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