



2023/2024

MINNESOTA HABITAT STAMP CONTEST RULES

*****NOTE:** THE DUE DATES, JUDGING DATES FOR THE FIVE (5) CONTESTS HAVE BEEN MERGED INTO THREE (3) CONTESTS FOR EFFICIENCY***

Dear Artist,

Thank you for your interest in this year's Minnesota's Stamp Contest. Please review the criteria and application materials you will need to enter this year's contest, and submit your artwork along with the signed forms.

1. APPLICATION

Each stamp contest is open only to Minnesota residents who have maintained a legal residence in the state for a minimum of 60 days immediately preceding the entry deadline date for the contest. A person may submit only one (1) entry per year for each type of stamp contest. If two or more designs are submitted for a stamp contest in one year, all of the person's entries for that contest will be declared ineligible.

Entries for each stamp contest will be accepted only during the contest entry period. Entries must be received by the department by 12:00 p.m. on the last day of the contest entry period. Late or early entries of entries will be disqualified.

Please ensure your entry is dry prior to wrapping for submission to prevent damaging your artwork. A contest entry should be securely wrapped and enclosed in a container or envelope with the name of the stamp contest clearly marked on the outside. All completed and signed contest entry forms must accompany the contest entry. These contest entry forms shall include:

- A. **Entry form**, affixed to the back of your design.
- B. **Reproduction Rights Agreement**, the enclosed *Reproduction Rights Agreement*, granting the Department of Natural Resources the right to use the design for **stamp image and other purposes must be signed** and submitted with the design to be considered for the contest.
- C. Any other forms specified in the contest application package.

Submission of all the contest entry forms are required for eligibility. Failure to include all completed contest entry forms will render the contest entry ineligible and will be returned to the artist.

All artwork must be mailed to the Department of Natural Resources, c/o Stamp Contest, DNR Building – 500 Lafayette Road, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-4020.

The Department will handle all entries with utmost care; however, contestants are advised that it is their responsibility to obtain adequate property insurance for their entry. **The Department of Natural Resources assumes no liability for damage, loss, or theft of a contest entry.**

A person who wins a contest is ineligible to enter a contest for the same type of stamp for the year of competition following the contestant's first win. A person who wins a contest for one type of stamp is eligible for the other fish and wildlife stamp contests. If the artist should win the same stamp contest two or more times, ineligibility is extended to two years following each win. For example, if an artist wins the Pheasant Stamp Contest for the first time in 2016, they may not enter the Pheasant Stamp Contest until 2018. If that same artist wins the Pheasant Stamp Contest in 2018, they may not enter again until 2021.

The winning artist will receive no financial remuneration from the state. The winning design will be returned to the artist after processing and display.

2. DESIGN STANDARDS

A contest entry may be created in one or a combination of media. Entry shall be an original work of art created by the person submitting the contest entry and shall be one of a kind design. Printing processes, screen printing, intaglio, lithography, and relief are acceptable. A contest entry is allowed to be created using non-photographic digital media. A person submitting a contest entry is required to list all media used in the creation of the entry.

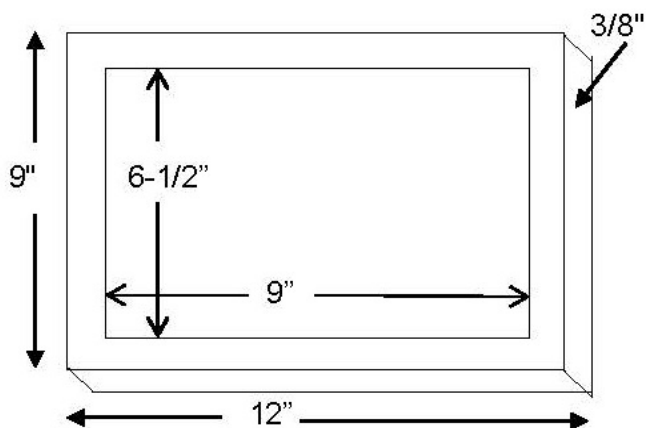
The background or setting of a contest entry shall only represent environments found in Minnesota. Design elements in a contest entry should be accurately portrayed as to ecology and anatomy, although they need not be literal renditions.

The design must be of the artist's own creation, neither copied nor duplicated from another person's art, including paintings or drawings in any medium or published photographs.

Any **winning** design from another stamp contest (federal, state, or private) is ineligible.

The design must not be framed or under glass. An acetate or similar clear plastic covering is acceptable. However, it does make judging the design more difficult.

The design size of a contest entry shall be two-dimensional on a horizontal format: 9 inches wide and 6-1/2 inches in height. A contest entry shall be firmly attached to solid white matting with dimensions of 12 inches wide and 9 inches in height. A contest entry shall not exceed 3/8 inch in thickness, including matting. No other color shall be used for matting. Winning contest entries must produce a quality stamp image.



Any entry signed, lettered, or otherwise identified by the artist on the face of the design will be disqualified.

The entry form, which affirms originality, must be signed and attached to the back of the design.

3. JUDGING

The contest will be held **on the dates as listed for each contest. The judging will take place via a virtual/remote platform; there will be no in person judging or viewing.**

The judging panel will consist of members chosen from areas of expertise including: art, ichthyology, Fish and Wildlife background, conservation, and printing. The names of the artists will remain unknown to the judging panel until the winners are selected.

Each entry is given an identifying number prior to judging to keep the artist's identity unknown. Two rounds of judging are used to select the winner. To accommodate virtual/remote judging - exact virtual/remote judging details are still being developed.

Usually, in the first round, all of the entries are shown to the judges, one at a time, identified by a number. The judges assign a range of numbers to the each entry, and the selections with the highest numbers move on to round two. In round 2, judges are shown the top entries and asked to rank them 1, 2, 3.

Votes are tallied and the winner and runners-up are announced. In the case of a tie for first place, judges will repeat the process for the second round, but only on the tied entries. Ties for runners-up will not be re-judged.

4. DISPLAY OF ARTWORK

Winning entries will be displayed for viewing on the DNR website within a month following judging.

5. RETURN OF ARTWORK

Shortly after the contest, entries will be returned to the address furnished by the artist. If artwork is returned to the DNR (this may happen if an artist changes address) or is otherwise unclaimed, the DNR will not be obligated to trace the location of the artist to return the artwork. Any artist who changes his or her address is responsible for notifying the DNR of the change. All unclaimed entries may be destroyed after one year from the date of the contest.

6. QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife at 651-259-5221.

Wishing you the best of luck with your design!



2023/2024 MINNESOTA HABITAT STAMP CONTEST ENTRY FORM

By signing below I represent and certify that the information I have provided below is true, and that I have abided by the criteria set forth in this application, and that my entry is an original of my own creation, neither copied nor duplicated from another person's artwork.

Circle **2023 / 2024** Contest Entered 1. Trout/Salmon 2. Walleye 3. Waterfowl 4. Pheasant 5. Turkey

PRINTED NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ COUNTY: _____

DAY-TIME PHONE: _____ OTHER PHONE: _____

SPECIES SUBMITTED: _____ MUST LIST ALL MEDIA USED: _____

SIGNATURE and DATE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Registration Number: _____

Assigned by the DNR

Date received at the DNR

NOTE: Firmly affix this application to the back of your entry, package carefully, and submit with the Reproduction Rights Agreement.

All entries will be returned to the artist. Please obtain adequate supplemental insurance, if desired.

2023/2024

MINNESOTA HABITAT STAMP CONTEST REPRODUCTION RIGHTS AGREEMENT



WHEREAS, the state of Minnesota, by and through the Department of Natural Resources, hereinafter referred to as the 'DEPARTMENT', conducts an annual contest to select the design for the MINNESOTA STAMP, hereinafter referred to as the 'STAMP'; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned artist, hereinafter referred to as the 'ARTIST', created and submitted an original work of art as an entry for consideration in the 2023 annual contest for the 2023/2024 STAMP, hereinafter referred to as the 'DESIGN'; and

WHEREAS, if the ARTIST'S DESIGN is the winning entry for use on the 2023/2024 STAMP, the ARTIST agrees to the conditions concerning reproduction rights contained in this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual benefits to be derived from use of the DESIGN for the 2023/2024 STAMP, the parties here to understand and agree that:

1. The ARTIST represents and certifies that the DESIGN is the ARTIST's own creation, is neither copied nor duplicated from previously published or unpublished art (including paintings, drawings, or images in any medium) or published photographs, and has not been a winning entry in any other stamp contest of any previous Minnesota contests; and
2. From and after the time the DESIGN is submitted to the DEPARTMENT, the DESIGN shall be retained by the DEPARTMENT under its exclusive possession until such time as the printing of the 2023/2024 STAMP has been completed. Completion of the printing the STAMP shall mean that time, as determined by the DEPARTMENT, when all of the STAMPS have been printed and delivered to the DEPARTMENT and found acceptable. The DEPARTMENT may copy and reproduce the DESIGN and may publish or otherwise distribute such copies or reproductions for educational, promotional, or informational purposes at any time.
3. The DEPARTMENT agrees to take all reasonable precautions to protect the DESIGN from damage or loss while in its possession. However, the ARTIST expressly waives any claim for damages to the DESIGN, however caused, against the state of Minnesota, its employees or agents, or parties authorized to display the DESIGN.
4. The ARTIST hereby grants to the DEPARTMENT the following exclusive and irrevocable rights:
 - (A) To publish or otherwise reproduce and distribute the DESIGN as a STAMP image on the 2023/2024 MINNESOTA STAMP; and
 - (B) To publish, reproduce, or make derivative works, display and distribute the STAMP image in media other than MINNESOTA for commercial and other purposes.
5. Ownership of the original work of art incorporating the DESIGN may be retained by the ARTIST and it shall be copyrighted with the copyright registered, and it may also be copied, reproduced, published, or otherwise distributed by the ARTIST, but any copyright of the DESIGN or any agreement made by the ARTIST with any other person or company covering the use of the DESIGN shall be expressly made subject to the rights of the DEPARTMENT under this agreement.
6. If the ARTIST decides to reproduce the original work of art incorporating the DESIGN in the form of prints, the ARTIST agrees to provide, at no cost, two (2) prints to the DEPARTMENT. If the print is made available in a numbered limited edition, the two (2) prints must include numbers 2 and 3, be signed by the ARTIST and provided to the DEPARTMENT from the numbered limited edition.
7. Any and all reproductions of the STAMP image made or authorized by the DEPARTMENT under the terms of this Agreement, except the engraving and printing of the MINNESOTA STAMP, and reproductions thereof authorized pursuant to the provisions of this Agreement, shall whenever practical indicate that the original has been designed by the ARTIST.
8. The ARTIST understands and agrees that the DEPARTMENT, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to make minor changes in the DESIGN for preparation of the STAMP image and its derivative works without obtaining approval from the ARTIST. Upon the ARTIST's written request, the DEPARTMENT shall provide the ARTIST with a written list of all changes made.
9. All rights granted in this agreement to the DEPARTMENT or its licensees of the DESIGN, STAMP image, and derivative works shall be without compensation to the ARTIST.
10. The DEPARTMENT reserves the right not to hold or complete a contest or to publish the winning DESIGN in any manner.
11. The ARTIST and the DEPARTMENT are bound by the application of Minnesota Rules 6290.0100 through 6290.0800.

***** DO NOT CUT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE OFF *****

I HAVE READ AND AGREE TO THE ABOVE CONDITIONS:

PRINTED NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____ **COUNTY:** _____

DAY-TIME PHONE: _____ **OTHER PHONE:** _____

SPECIFY CONTEST: _____ **MUST LIST ALL MEDIA USED:** _____

SIGNATURE and DATE: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

Registration Number: _____

Assigned by the DNR Date received at the DNR

2023/2024 MINNESOTA HABITAT STAMP CONTEST DATES AND GUIDELINES

All contest judging will be take place via a virtual/remote platform.

2023 Trout and Salmon Stamp AND 2023 Walleye Stamp

- Entries Accepted for BOTH:** Monday, July 18, 2022, and continuing until 12:00 noon Friday, July 29, 2022
- Entries Judged:** Thursday, August 4, 2022. Judging, again this year, will take place virtually.
- Trout/Salmon Eligible Species:** Brook, splake, rainbow, and lake trout; Coho, chinook, and Atlantic salmon
- Trout/Salmon NOT Eligible:** Pink Salmon
- Walleye Eligible Species:** The walleye (*Sander vitreus vitreus*), must be the primary focus of the design; however, other species may be included in the design if they are used to depict a common interaction between species or are common inhabitants of Minnesota's lakes.

2023 Migratory Waterfowl Stamp

- Entries Accepted:** Monday, August 15, 2022, and continuing until 12:00 noon Friday, August 26, 2022
- Entries Judged:** Thursday, September 1, 2022. Judging, again this year, will take place virtually.
- Eligible Species:** Blue-winged Teal

2023 Pheasant Stamp AND 2024 Wild Turkey Stamp

- Entries Accepted for BOTH:** Monday, September 12, 2022, and continuing until 12:00 noon, Friday, September 23, 2022
- Entries Judged:** Thursday, September 29, 2022. Judging, again this year, will take place virtually.
- Pheasant Eligible Species:** The ring-necked pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*), must be the primary focus of the design; however, other species may be included in the design if they are used to depict a common interaction between species or are common inhabitants of Minnesota's pheasant range.
- Wild Turkey Eligible Species:** The eastern wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo silvestris*), must be the primary focus of the wild turkey stamp design; however other wildlife species may be included in the design if they are used to depict a common interaction between species or are common inhabitants of Minnesota's wild turkey range.

IMPORTANT: All artwork must be mailed to the Department of Natural Resources, c/o Stamp Contest, DNR Building – 500 Lafayette Road, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-4020.