The Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp

Annually, through the Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation [Duck] Stamp, about $24 million is collected and spent on securing wetland and grassland habitats.

The story of the stamp is a great one. Since 1934, the sales of Federal Duck Stamps have generated more than $900 million, which has been used to purchase or lease over 5.5 million acres of waterfowl and wetland habitats in the National Wildlife Refuge System. Ninety-eight cents of every dollar goes to land acquisition and immediately related costs.

The National Wildlife Refuge System is America’s best kept secret, under-appreciated and under-funded. This system of protected lands covers over 560 National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs) and over 200 Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs). Of these, 252 NWRs have been created, in part or in whole, through Stamp dollars, and close to 99% of all WPAs have been secured through Stamp dollars. These include refuges from East to West: Monomoy (MA), Okfzonkee (GA), Ottawa (OH), Horicon (WI), Santa Ana (TX), Quivira (KS), Bosque del Apache (NM), Sacramento (CA), and Nisqually (WA).

What You Can Do

- Purchase your Stamp for this year
- Purchase one for someone else and tell them about the Stamp
- Join and support the Friends
- Encourage your organization to support the Stamp and Stamp sales
- Use the resources on our website www.friendsofthestamp.org to learn more about the stamp and promote sales.
- Download posters, flyers, access Stamp news…
- Show your Stamp on your binoculars in a plastic holder, or stuck to your field guide or binoculars
- Join the mailing list for Wingtips, our newsletter, and forward it to fellow supporters of wildlife and habitat conservation
- Visit the Federal Duck Stamp Office website www.fws.gov/duckstamps/
- For updates on the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, (they decide how to spend Stamp dollars), visit www.fws.gov/refuges/realty/mbcc.html
- Encourage your local schools to engage in the Junior Duck Stamp Program and annual art contest – by visiting www.fws.gov/juniorduck/
- Join us on Facebook

Help us spread the word and increase sales!

Join and take our pledge!
Pledge to buy TWO stamps per year, as we join with other organizations across the country in the effort to increase stamp sales that benefit habitat conservation!
Our website, www.friendsofthestamp.org, features Stamp news and links, provides resources for promoting sales, a calendar of upcoming events and more.

**Benefits of the Stamp**

For everyone who enjoys nature, a migratory bird stamp is a free pass for an entire year to all refuges that charge for admission.

Waterfowl hunters must buy a Stamp in order to hunt waterfowl anywhere in the U.S.

Many refuges across the Lower 48 have been acquired with Stamp funds. Visit our website for a map of these refuges. You can look up what percentage of any refuge was acquired with the help of Stamp funds.

Your purchase supports a tradition of wildlife art. Since 1949, the design of each year’s Duck Stamp has been chosen in an open art contest.

The Junior Duck Stamp art contest and education programs reach thousands of children annually.

The purchase of a Stamp is something that benefits scores of species: ducks, shorebirds, long-legged waders, wetland and grassland songbirds and other birds which are dependent on habitat derived from Stamp purchases.

The Stamp also benefits reptiles, amphibians, fish, butterflies, and entire ecosystems; all flourish through stamp investments. Water quality is also improved.

Increasingly, the Stamp is purchased by wildlife and outdoor enthusiasts.

JOIN US IN SECURING A FUTURE FOR OUR WILDLIFE AND WILD PLACES!

You can buy the Stamp at many U.S. Post Offices, National Wildlife Refuges, and sporting goods stores or order the Stamp online. Each Stamp currently costs $15.

**Yes! I want to join the Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp**

- ______ Friend—$15
- ______ Supporting Friend—$100
- ______ Business/Organization —$500
- ______ Additional Contribution

Name __________________________
Address _________________________
Phone _________________________
Email __________________________

Make checks payable to the Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp and mail to:

Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp
P.O. Box 2143
Columbia, MD 21045

The membership year runs from July 1 to June 30.

*Contributions are tax-deductible. The Friends is a 501(c)3 organization, and contributions are fully tax-deductible.

Affiliate member, National Wildlife Refuge Association, a national nonprofit working to protect America’s wildlife www.refugenet.org

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