

July 1, 2014



# WINGTIPS

Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp

## New Stamp - New Opportunities!



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The new 2014-2015 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (often called the Duck Stamp) was just released last week. This year's stamp - valid from July through June - shows a pair of Canvasback painted by Adam Grimm.

Each stamp costs \$15, and almost all the proceeds from the sales of the stamp - adding up to about \$24 million per year - go directly to the Migratory Bird Conservation (MBCF) to secure vital breeding, stopover, and wintering habitats for Canvasback and other bird species in the National Wildlife Refuge System. This should be of great comfort to everyone who buys a stamp this year.

Today, parts of 252 National Wildlife Refuges (accounting for 2.37 million acres) and over 200 Waterfowl Production Areas (with over 3.0 million acres secured) owe their existence to the

stamp investments made through the MBCF.

We can think of no better - and more efficient - way to support securing wildlife habitat than the act of buying a federal stamp.

It's simple. It's inexpensive. It's proven.

Next month marks the 80th anniversary of the release of the very first federal Duck Stamp. It is also the anniversary of the longest and most successful stamp-based fund-raising programs for wildlife and wild places.

Please consider standing with us and other supporters of the stamp. Be counted. Buy at least one stamp and encourage your friends to do likewise. Join in [the effort to promote](#) the sales and appreciation of one of the best ways to protect waterfowl, other birds, and to grow our Refuge System. Among your options is getting your organization to sell stamps; these stamps are available in quantity and on consignment from the [Amplex Corporation](#).

Of course, the new stamp is also available individually at Post Offices and other vendors across the country and through the Internet.

### Buy the Jr. Duck Stamp, Too!



The Jr. Duck Stamp was also released last week, with the artwork by 16-year-old Si Youn "Stephanie" Kim, of Tenaflly, New Jersey. Her image on the new stamp is of a male King Eider.

An individual Jr. Duck Stamp costs only \$5. Proceeds from the stamp go to sustain and to grow the program, one that mobilized 29,400 students last year.

"The Junior Duck Stamp Program is a great way for young people to use their creative talents to express an appreciation for nature and the world around them. [It] is an entry point into a career in conservation, as well," said Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe, reflecting on last year's contest.

You can find more information on Jr. Duck Stamp [here](#), including how to buy them. This is a program that has proven to be a great success since its launch in the early 1990s. It surely deserves a bright and secure future, educating and exciting young Americans.

## About the Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp



Our Friends Group is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to two basic goals:

1. To increase promotional and educational efforts among various target audiences concerning the stamp and the National Wildlife Refuge system.
2. To increase the regular, voluntary purchase of the stamp among hunters and non-hunters alike.

The purchase of a stamp is, perhaps, *the easiest thing you can* do to protect crucial habitats in the U.S. Indeed, a 15-dollar purchase of a stamp goes a very long way!

The wetland, riparian, and grassland habitats that are secured through the stamp benefit waterfowl, of course, but the investments go much further. Among the other birds

helped are shorebirds, gulls, terns, long-legged waders, rails, raptors, and many songbirds. And there are many mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish, and insects (e.g., butterflies and dragonflies) that flourish due to ongoing stamp investments.

Yes, it's not just for ducks!

Our "Regular Friend" fee is modest, equal to the cost of one current Stamp (\$15), but all Friends are *also* asked to pledge to buy two stamps per year, joining with other individuals and organizations across the country with that promotional effort. Our "Friend's Year" also corresponds with the "year" of a valid Stamp - from July through the following June.

When you join our Friends for the year you will receive a stamp-holder, sticker, and/or other supporting material (as supplies last).

To join, rejoin, or send us a contribution today, you can go our [our online form](#), or print and fill out the form below:

___ Regular Friend	_____ \$15
___ Supporting Friend	_____ \$100
___ Business/Organizational Friend	_____ \$500
___ Any Additional Contribution	_____
	_____ Total

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS (This is required; most of our correspondence with you will be electronic)

\_\_\_\_\_

Send your check made out to "Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp" to:

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



[Buy a Stamp. Join the Friends Group!](http://www.friendsofthestamp.org)