

August 22, 2014



WINGTIPS

Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp

Buy the New Stamp - Join the Friends!



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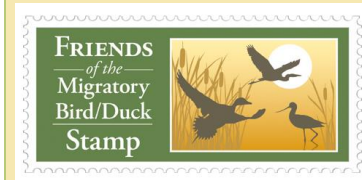
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Today is the 80th anniversary of the very "first day of sale" for the "Federal Duck Stamp."

It was on August 22, 1934 when the first stamp was sold through the U.S. Postal Service. Over the decades, the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (the Duck Stamp) has become the most successful stamp-based fund-raising programs for wildlife and wild places... ever!

Now, 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 Fund (MBCF) to

secure vital breeding, stopover, and wintering habitats for waterfowl, other bird species, and other wildlife across the National Wildlife Refuge System.

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 wildlife habitat than the act of buying a federal stamp.

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

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. You can make a real difference. Among your options is getting your own 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.

Join the Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp

If you haven't already done so since the current stamp was released at the end of June, join or rejoin the Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp.

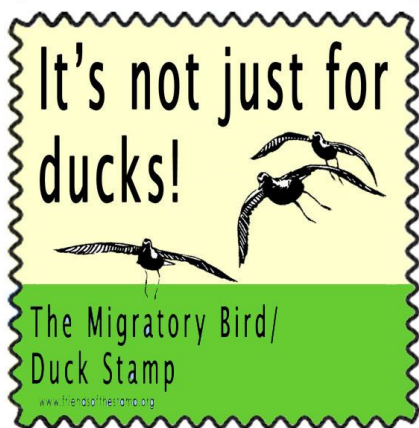
If you have already joined or re-joined, you can pass this message about the stamp and about the Friends to your friends. Use the "Forward email feature" below. (It assures the clearest formatting.) Also "friend" us on [Facebook](#).

As you probably know, our Friends Group is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to two fundamental 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 to [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

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