

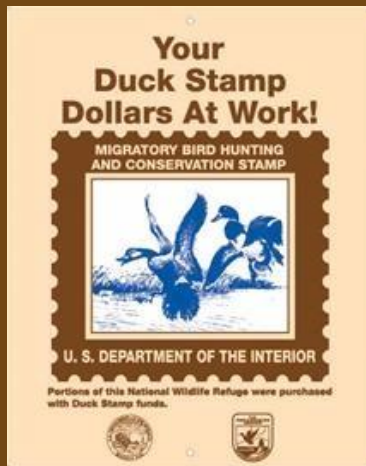
September 13, 2017



WINGTIPS

Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp

DUCK STAMP ART CONTEST



In This Newsletter Issue

ART CONTEST HELD ON FRI/SAT

SUPPORT THE FRIENDS

NEED A STAMP?

Quick Links

[Our Website](#)

[Join Friends of the Stamp](#)

[Resources](#)

[Connect via Facebook](#)

[Tweaking Future Art Rules](#)

[THREATS TO SANTA ANA NWR](#)



CONTEST TO BE HELD THIS WEEK!

The artwork embedded in the refuge sign above is from Jay Norwood "Ding" Darling's first sketches in his rush to get the first "Duck Stamp" (1934-35) ready for production. In the 80+ years that have gone by, the artwork for the stamp has developed a special culture and constituency, one that cherishes the connection between great wildlife artwork and the conservation that helps grow the National Wildlife Refuge System. Today, we have that special contest to select the waterfowl-dominated artwork that is found on the yearly stamp.

The very next contest, the 2017 Federal Duck Stamp Contest, will be held this Friday and Saturday, September 15 and 16, at the Noel Fine Arts Center in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. The five species that are eligible for artwork illustration in the contest are the following:

- Mallard
- Gadwall
- Cinnamon Teal
- Blue-winged Teal
- Harlequin Duck.

The public is invited to see the contest entries beginning at 9 a.m. (Central), September 15 and 16, and watch the judging, which will begin at 10 a.m. (Central). The event is free and open to the public. A schedule of all the activities is [available on a website](#) established by the university.

Of course, if you cannot be at the Noel Fine Art Center to review the artwork and watch the contest, you can take a look at [all 215 entries online](#). (Please note: These images were not color-corrected or otherwise edited online.) There are certainly some real beauties in the running this year! And, fortunately, for those unable to attend the contest in person, there will be a [livestream of the event](#) (Friday and Saturday), beginning at 10 a.m. (Central).

The effort to bring the contest to the state was the brainchild of Dr. Christine Thomas, dean of the College of Natural Resources at UW-Stevens Point. Thomas, who serves on several conservation organization boards of directors including Ducks Unlimited (DU), and was the founder of the Becoming an Outdoors-Woman program, served as a judge in the Federal Duck Stamp Contest in 2012 and invited the contest to Wisconsin. "I am so thrilled and glad that we are getting it here with the interest in wetlands and waterfowl in Stevens Point and Wisconsin," Thomas said.



Photo: UW-Stevens Point
College of Natural Resources

UW-Stevens Point has a long history as also a conservation leader. It has been the largest undergraduate traditional natural resources program in the country. Many of its graduates are involved in key positions at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

MBCC MEETS AND SECURES HABITAT AT SIX REFUGES

The Migratory Bird Conservation Commission met earlier this month and approved more than \$5.4 million from the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund to secure 2,259 acres at six National Wildlife Refuges. These funds, of course, were raised largely through the sale of Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps, commonly known as "Duck Stamps."

Investments for habitat were made specifically for the following National Wildlife Refuges:

- Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, Maryland: \$663,000
- Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, New Jersey: \$867,600
- Great River National Wildlife Refuge, Missouri: \$677,500
- San Bernard National Wildlife Refuge, Texas: \$1,211,500
- Supawna Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, New Jersey: \$440,300
- Swan River National Wildlife Refuge, Montana: \$1,568,000

Still haven't gotten your 2017-2018 Stamp?

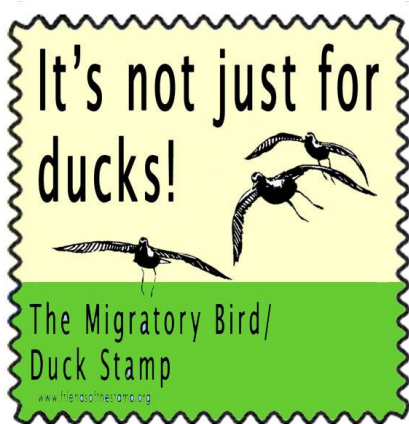
The easiest way to buy a stamp is probably to get yours at your local post office. Also, we at the Friends Group currently have a supply of 2017-2018 stamps on hand. Just send us a \$25 check (made out to "Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp") along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope, and we'll send you your stamp. Please include a note with your e-mail address if there is any problem where we have to get back to you:

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

Support the Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp

The Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp 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.



promotion of the Stamp program, the Friends, and smart conservation through the sales and promotion of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation [Duck] Stamp.

And don't forget support for the Jr. Duck Stamp Program which reaches tens of thousands of youngsters. One way to help is described here, on the right, through AmazonSmile.

Our membership is annual, corresponding to the year of validity for the Federal Duck Stamp, namely from the beginning of July to the end of the following June. Our "Regular Friend" fee is modest, only \$15, but all Friends are also asked to *pledge to buy TWO stamps per year*, joining with other organizations across the country in that effort.

You can access a secure online form to join the Friends - or to make a contribution - [via Razoo](#). Or you can access our simple mail-in [membership form](#).

We encourage you to commit yourself to the

Shop at AmazonSmile
and Amazon will make
a donation to:

The Junior Duck Stamp Program
through our Friends

Get started

amazonsmile

Sharing and Adapting *Wingtips* Content



The text of *Wingtips* by Friends of the Migratory Bird/Duck Stamp is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/).

- This license allows sharing and a right to adapt the written materials, with appropriate credit.
- Images are *not* included in *Wingtips'* Creative Commons license, and are reproduced through the courtesy of their respective license holders (as indicated by the photographer credit lines). Permission to reproduce an image must be obtained from the image's license holder.