

**Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District
2023 Nature Photo Contest Rules**

- 1) Contest is open to everyone except park employees and professional photographers. (For the purpose, a professional photographer is someone who has earned 20000 or more in the 2022 calendar year producing or selling photographs).
- 2) **Entry Categories:** Youth Division (17 and under) and Adult Division (18 and over) as follows:
 - A) Specific Nature Subject – Flora
 - B) Specific Nature Subject – Fauna
 - C) Landscape
 - D) Parks/Recreation
- 3) **Specifications in Individual Categories**
 - 1) Flare will include plants as well as fungus. Fauna will include all animal life.
 - 2) In Categories A, B, & C the human element must be minimized.
 - a) Human Element: No man-made structures, humans, domestic animals, or horticultural plants may be the focal point of any photograph.
 - b) In Category C the human element rule does not apply, but the photos must be taken in a park operated by the Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District. Permission must be obtained for any recognizable person in your photograph.
- 4) **Awards*:**
 - Best of Show awarded to the overall best photo
 - Youth Division, 1st and 2nd place in each category (2 glass awards)
 - Adult Division, 1st and 2nd place in each category (2 glass awards)

*All awards are given at the judge's discretion and may be limited due to quantity or quality of entries.
- 5) **Entry Limitations:** Eight entries per person, with no more than two in any one category. Post awarded photographs are not eligible.
- 6) **Print size** must be 8x10, and will be exhibited in a clear plastic 8 1/2x11 sheet protector. **NO** matting, mounting or framing. In addition to a print, a **digital copy is required.** This can be emailed to contests@jampark.com
- 7) **Location:** All contest entries must have been taken in Allen County, Ohio.
- 8) To be eligible to win a prize, all submitted photographs must accurately reflect the subject matter as it appeared in the view finder. Normal processing of the original file is permitted, including:
 - 1) cropping
 - 2) minor adjustments to color, white balance, tone, lighting levels and curves, shadows and highlights, saturation, contrast, sharpness
 - 3) removal of dust spots and reduction of image noise
- 9) Photographs that have been digitally or otherwise altered beyond standard optimization will be disqualified. That includes:
 - 1) HDR frame stacking or stitched panoramas
 - 2) Images that have been manipulated by the addition, removal, or alteration (painting over, cloning, or blurring) of anything in the original subject and scene that were photographed
 - 3) Borders, signatures or watermarks
- 10) **Entry Deadline:** Entries must be delivered to the Park District Office (2255 Ada Road, Lima, Ohio 45802) no later than **9:00 p.m. Friday, October 20, 2023.** A completely filled-out official entry form must be secured with each photo. Call 419-221-1212 for additional information.
- 11) **Photo Contest Open House** will be at 2255 Ada Road on Friday, **November 3, 2023, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**
- 12) Photos will be displayed at set Space time for their space in the City Center) and can be picked up after January 15, 2024.
- 13) Participants are limited to winning Best of Show once every two years.
- 14) The Johnny Appleseed Metropolitan Park District reserves the right to duplicate all photos for public use.