

Photo Contest Rules for the 2025 NSAGC Photo Competition

Please note that these rules apply to the 2025 contest. Please do not use rules from previous years.

1. The contest is open to amateur photographers. (Photography cannot be your primary business.) The Chair of the contest and others closely associated with organizing the competition are not eligible. Questions of eligibility will be decided by the Chair.
2. Contestants must be **members** of a club, society or an affiliate that pays dues to the NSAGC.
3. Contestants may enter **one photograph per class** in each of the following classes: (maximum 10 photos)

Class 1 Life in the Garden

- Insects or Animals (e.g., birds, deer, squirrels, snakes, frogs, etc.) **no** humans or pets. Best if photo also shows some botanical feature.

Class 2 Close-ups

- Close-up or macro of any botanical feature (i.e., flower, leaf, etc.).

Class 3 Foliage

- Celebrate the beautiful diversity of foliage form, colour and texture featured in your garden plants.

Class 4 Water in the Garden

- Any image depicting water somewhere, somehow in the garden, from a garden pond, fountain, rain (rain drops), stream, rainbow, etc. This is a class where creativity can be expressed!

Class 5 Vegetables or Fruit

- Any type, singly or in groups, or a mixture, picked or still on the vegetation.

Class 6 Garden Art

- Any structure, sculpture or piece or art (any type) among the vegetation. Could involve such things as flower show arrangements, wreaths, topiary, creative flower beds, etc., that are part of a garden landscape (best shown among the vegetation or flowers).

Class 7 Flowering Trees or Shrubs

- One type or any mixture, either in the garden or as an arrangement. Can be shown alone or as part of a garden setting at time of flowering.

Class 8 **Fall Scene**

- A creative opportunity to capture the beauty or activities of the season, either in the garden or as a work of Mother Nature.

Class 9 **Landscape**

- A photo should capture the fun, beauty or creativity of a large portion of a garden or natural landscape, including aerial shots.

Class 10 **Nature in Winter**

- Views of gardens or plants in the winter season that are highlighted by snow, frost or vegetation shape or colour in this season.

4. Any individual photo can only be submitted in one particular class.
5. The finished photograph must accurately reflect the subject matter and the scene as it originally appeared - i.e., no Photoshop-like editing except for cropping or brightness alterations.
6. **Photos will be submitted digitally.** Change the ***File Name to Your Name and Class No.*** For example: right click the mouse on the photo to change the file name and select *Rename* from the pop-up menu. Type *Adamsmith1* for your name (Adam Smith) and the class number one. Then save the photo using *Save as* in the original folder or create a new folder for just these photos. Continue for the other photos you will be submitting, changing the class number of each.
 - **Image size is to be no smaller than 1500 pixels on the longest side** (portrait or landscape orientation). Small images do not meet the judges criteria.
 - Email your photos to photos.nsagc@gmail.com
 - Very large files may need to be submitted in successive emails.
 - Include in your email: your name, address, email address, phone number, and the club or organization of which you are a member.
 - Photos are to be received by no later than **April 29, 2025**, to allow time for judging, as well as putting the presentation together for the NSAGC convention.
7. Photos will be judged on originality, composition, focus and exposure. Judging will be done by two independent judges with years of gardening/plant and/or art/photography backgrounds and will be administered by the Chair.

The judges will accept any photo that is a reasonable interpretation of the title of the class concerned. Remember, one of the four criteria of judging is originality.

8. Photos that have received a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place standing in any class of a previous NSAGC annual photographic contest cannot be resubmitted in subsequent years.
9. **One 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prize will be awarded for the three “Best Overall” photos.**

10. Display during convention: Since all photos will be in a digital format, they will be put together in a video which will run on a screen in a loop during the entire convention so that all attending members will have the opportunity to view them all. Each photo will have the contestant's name included, along with any award it received. The three Best Overall winners will be displayed as well.
11. In submitting your photos, you grant the NSAGC permission to display or reproduce them for the following purposes: to promote, inform or advertise the photo contest to members of the NSAGC; and/or for the NSAGC to use as promotional material. All submitted photos will be uploaded to the NSAGC website - www.nsagc.com - shortly after the Convention.

In all other matters the owners of the image(s) will retain their rights under copyright law. If you choose to include people in your submission, you are responsible for obtaining the necessary release from the individual depicted.