



2025 Forrest County Photo Contest Guidelines

The Forrest County Board of Supervisors is pleased to launch the first ever 2025 Forrest County Photo Contest! This contest calls for photographers to submit their best photos of Forrest County, Mississippi and its activities, people, attractions and events, as well as historic and scenic locations. Forrest County has limitless inspiration!

Categories

The five categories are as follows:

1. Landscapes (Parks, Outdoor Scenes, Farms, Rivers,)
2. Nature/Wildlife (Animals, Insects, Plants, Trees, Flowers, Storms/Weather Patterns)
3. Sunrise/Sunsets
4. Transportation (Amtrak/railroad/trains, Boats/Kayaking, Roadways/Dirt Roads, Bikes)
5. Architecture (Buildings and other Physical Structures, Historical Sites)

Contest Rules

No purchase or payment necessary to enter or win.

Photo Eligibility

To enter you must be a local Mississippi resident. Participants ages 17 and under require parent/guardian consent on the entry form. This contest is open to amateurs and professionals. The subject of the photo **MUST** be relevant to Forrest County. The entry must be submitted by the original photographer. You must be the sole owner of the copyright of any image submitted. Your submission of the photo and entry form is your guarantee that you are the author and copyright holder of the photo. Additionally, please have any people or businesses sign the attached consent form if they will appear in your photo.

Number of Entries

Individuals may submit no more than two (2) entries per category in the contest.

Photo Subject Restrictions

Photos must be appropriate for posting on a public government website. Obscene, provocative or otherwise questionable content will not be considered. Forrest County retains sole discretion as to what constitutes inappropriate content. Please do not show commercial brand images/logos or names of private businesses in your photo unless the attached consent form is executed and attached.

Return of Photos

Photos will not be returned.

Ownership/Rights

Photographers retain the copyright to their photograph(s). By entering the contest, photographers agree to have their submitted photograph(s) displayed on the Forrest County website and/or social media platforms. No fee or other form of compensation will be remitted to a photographer if his/her photo(s) is/are selected by Forrest County for placement on its website or social media platforms. By entering the contest, photographers also agree, without fee or license, to allow Forrest County to feature their photo(s) in any publication produced by Forrest County Government or any other entity. Photographers also agree to allow Forrest County to display their (photos) in the Paul B. Johnson, Jr. Chancery Building. By entering the contest, the photographer is giving Forrest County full permission to use the photo(s) in current and future publications pertaining to Forrest County.

Photo Formats

Entries that are color images, black and white images, sepia toned and duotone images are eligible. All prints must be printed 8x10. Digital images must be at least 300 dpi. Minor digital enhancement is permitted.

Permitted:

- Images may be cropped and rotated as necessary as long as the rectangular format is maintained and the size is within the specifications above.
- Images may be resized as long as the aspect ratio is maintained.

- Red-eye removal and spot editing.
- One-step enhancement (such as “Auto Fix,” “Quick Fix” “Auto Levels”, etc.)
- Use of filters to sharpen, soften, blur, despeckle, or remove noise.
- Use of corrective filters to improve the natural appearance of the image such as levels, contrast, brightness, curves, intensity, tone hue, saturation, lightness, value, color balance and tint.
- *Not Permitted:*
- No watermarks, signatures, or copyright notices may be added to images. All winning images will be displayed with the photographer’s name.
- Adding or replacing elements in an image is not permitted.
- Artistic filters are not permitted.
- Adding borders or frames to images is not permitted.

How to Enter:

Each entry **must include an 8x10 print** AND an electronic copy via email/thumbdrive. Digital images must be at least 300 dpi. A completed entry form must be submitted with EACH photograph submitted, along with a completed consent form. If submitting multiple entries, please name and number each print to match a corresponding entry form. Prints/thumbdrives will not be returned. Entries must be emailed, hand delivered, or mailed by **October 20, 2025.** (sphillips@forrestcountymiss.us / 641 N. Main St. Hattiesburg, MS 39401 attn: Board of Supervisors)

Judging:

Entries will be judged on the basis of creativity, photographic quality, and effectiveness in conveying the beauty and unique character of Forrest County, Mississippi. An appointed Board will judge the entries, and all contest decisions are final. Entries that fail to comply with the Official Contest Rules will be disqualified.

Winners:

From submissions, one winning photograph will be chosen for each of the five categories. An overall photograph will be chosen from the five winning photographs. Winners will be notified 1-2 weeks after the contest deadline by phone or email using the information on the entry form.

Prizes:

- Four (4) winning category participants will receive a \$50.00 Visa Gift Card and one (1) overall winner a \$100.00 Visa Gift Card provided by Lewis Printing & Office Supply.
- Winning category participants will receive public recognition during a Board of Supervisor's meeting as well as receive Certificates as the winner of their category.
- Winning photographs will be featured on the County's website, social media sites, and in future publications with photo credit.
- Winning photographs will be displayed throughout the Forrest County Chancery Building.

Additional Terms and Conditions:

Forrest County is not responsible for lost, misdirected, misplaced, illegible, unintelligible, incomplete or late entries. Forrest County is entitled to interpret these rules as needed and its decisions are final. Forrest County reserves the right to disqualify any entrant that Forrest County has reason to believe is not the original work or does not meet qualifications or contest rules. All winners are subject to all requirements set forth in the Official Contest Rules. By participating in this contest, you agree to release and hold harmless Forrest County and all its employees, officers, affiliates, agents and advertising and promotional agencies from any and all damages, injuries, claims, losses of any kind resulting from your participation in this contest, including infringement of intellectual property rights. Forrest County and its employees, officers, affiliates, agents and advertising and promotional agencies assume no responsibility for any damages, injuries, claims, causes of action, or losses of any kind arising in whole or in part from this contest.

Forrest County Photo Contest 2025 Entry Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Date Taken _____ Location Taken _____

Brief Description of Photo _____

Category Landscapes Nature/Wildlife Sunrise/Sunset Transportation

By signing here, I agree to the terms and conditions in the Forrest County Photo Contest Guidelines:

Parent/Guardian Consent for Applicant Age 17 or Under:

Relationship to Applicant:

Entries MUST BE emailed or hand-delivered by October 20, 2025.

**Deliver Completed Forms to:
641 N. Main St., Hattiesburg, MS 39401**

or email: sphillips@forrestcountymys.us

*If the photograph includes people or business
establishments, a consent form is **required** to complete the
application.*

Forrest County Photo Contest

Consent Form for Minors and Other Subjects

By signing this form you are granting permission to the Forrest County Board of Supervisors to take and use: photographs and/or digital images of you/people/other subjects/backgrounds. This may include printed or electronic publications, websites, or other electronic communications. Furthermore, you agree that your name and identity may be revealed in descriptive text or commentary in connection with the image(s) and you authorize use of these images without compensation. All negatives, prints, and digital reproductions shall be the property of the Forrest County Board of Supervisors.

Date _____

Name of Person in Photograph _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

By signing here, I agree for my image to be submitted to the Forrest County Photo Contest:

Parent/Guardian Consent for Applicant Age 17 or Under:

Relationship to Applicant:

Entries MUST BE emailed or hand-delivered by October 20, 2025

Deliver Completed Forms to:

641 N. Main St., Hattiesburg, MS 39401

or email: sphillips@forrestcountymms.us

*If the photograph includes people or business establishments, a consent form is **required** to complete the application.*