

Millers River Watershed Council, Inc.  
[council@millersriver.net](mailto:council@millersriver.net)  
978-248-9491

## 2009 OTTER RIVER & WATERSHED PHOTO CONTEST

### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES (March, 2009)

The Millers River Watershed Council (MRWC) is pleased to announce the first-ever Otter River & Watershed Photo Contest and Exhibition. The MRWC hopes the Photo Contest and Exhibition will inspire Otter River Watershed residents to explore, appreciate and help protect the Otter River (one of two main tributaries to the Millers River) and its surrounding watershed of 60 square miles. The Photo Contest and Exhibition are part of the Otter River Initiative, created by MRWC to monitor water quality, highlight the river's beneficial uses, work with local communities to address serious water quality problems, and educate the public.

The Otter River begins in Hubbardston above Pitcherville Road and meanders north through wetlands into Templeton. Templeton Brook, Hubbardston Brook and Pond Brook all empty into the Otter as it flows north, forming the boundary between Gardner and Templeton. The Otter River flows through the extensive wetlands of the Otter River State Forest before emptying into the Millers River in Winchendon.

Below you will find general contest information as well as guidelines for anyone submitting images to follow. (Be sure to read and follow.) Please contact MRWC with any questions at [council@millersriver.net](mailto:council@millersriver.net) or 978-248-9491.

#### General Contest Information

- \* All images must be received by MRWC by June 20, 2009.
- \* Only printed images accepted. (No digital files or negatives)
- \* Open to all residents of the Otter River Watershed towns of Templeton, Winchendon, Hubbardston and the City of Gardner. (**Note:** A separate category has been added for people living outside of the Otter River watershed towns.)

- \* Submitted images will be reviewed and selected by a panel of judges including noted nature photographers Paul Rezendes of Athol, Bill Fournier of Gardner and Bill Byrne of Petersham.
- \* Image size limits: minimum 8" x 10"; longest side not to exceed 14"
- \* Contest is not open to professional photographers (those making at least half of their income from photography).
- \* Maximum three (3) images per submitter.
- \* Images accepted from any season of the year.
- \* Gift certificates from local businesses will be awarded to entries judged best in three (3) categories.
- \* Categories:
  - \* River: image focuses on Otter River or tributaries
  - \* Watershed: image focuses on small streams or Otter River Watershed
  - \* Youth: for ages 12 to 18 (**Note**: Submissions from kids younger than 12 will be accepted—all contest guidelines must still be followed.)
- \* A Photo Exhibition of all selected images will open October 4th at the Levi Heywood Memorial Library in Gardner.
- \* MRWC reserves the right to use certain selected contest images for publicity purposes, such as press releases, websites, newsletters, promotional postcards, etc. Photographer will be credited in all such uses.
- \* All submitted prints will be returned to owner.
- \* Submit all prints to MRWC at 100 Main Street, Athol, MA 01331.
- \* Include all information indicated below. (**Note**: prints lacking required information will not be eligible for Photo Contest.)

Information required for each print submitted

- \* Photographer's name, mailing address, telephone # and email
- \* Title of image (if any)
- \* Location of image within Otter River Watershed (specify local area, nearest street and/or GPS coordinates)
- \* Provide photo caption: few sentences or short paragraph describing how the image relates to the Otter River or Watershed, plus any personal comments.

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