



# PHOTO CONTEST

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

## US. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District, 2025 Photo Contest

Attention all shutterbugs! The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the Detroit District invites you to enter your pictures in our photo contest! As you are out enjoying the Soo Locks, Duluth Ship Canal and Great Lakes piers and harbors be sure to have your camera handy to capture the great landscapes, boats and piers that are only found on the Great Lakes. Submit your digital photographs beginning November 14, 2025, through 11:59 p.m. November 23, 2025, by following the Contest Rules below.

12 winners will have their photos included in a downloadable 2026 calendar. First, second and third place photographers will receive a plaque with their winning photo, provided by the Soo Locks Visitors Center Association.

### Contest Rules:

By entering or participating in the contest, contestants agree to these official rules.

### Who May Enter:

Any amateur photographer who is at least 18 years of age.

### Exceptions:

1. Employees of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or board members of the Soo Locks Visitors Center Association, and their immediate family members (spouses, parents, children, siblings, grandparents etc.) and persons living in the same household of each, are not eligible to participate in the contest.
2. Photographers who derive five percent or more of their income from taking photographs are also ineligible.

### What to Enter:

Photos should be taken at a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pier or facility within the Detroit District (Soo Locks, Duluth Visitor's Center and Ship Canal or U.S. Army Corps of Engineers structures like piers, break walls, etc. on Lakes Michigan, Huron and Superior).

Photographs containing nudity, obscenity, profanity, pornography, violence or anything lewd or offensive, or otherwise inappropriate images will be excluded from the contest. The U.S. Government reserves the right at its sole discretion to reject and disqualify any images that are considered inappropriate or depicting unsafe activities.

No alteration or manipulation of photographs is permitted except for cropping, red eye removal and/or adjustment of contrast and brightness. Photos must be free of watermarks or other embedded text.

Winning photos from previous years will not be considered.

### **How to Enter:**

Photos must be submitted by email in a JPEG (.jpg) format, with **a minimum file size of 2 MB and maximum file size of 10 MB.**

The e-mail must contain appropriate contact information for the entrant, and must contain at a minimum, full name, address and phone number of the entrant.

Please identify the location at which the photograph was taken and any other details necessary.

Any personal information that is submitted by the contestants will be for the Corps of Engineers internal use only and for the sole purpose of this photo contest. Contestant entry information will not be shared with any other parties or appear with entries on the Facebook album where photos will be 'judged'.

Each entrant may submit up to two photos. Each photo must be an original photo personally taken by the entrant at a Corps of Engineers facility or structure.

A credit will be provided under winning images selected for the calendar. Entrants should include how they want their name to appear in the credit line. Descriptions or titles, if any, used with the photos are at the government's sole discretion.

### **Entry Deadlines:**

Entries for each category must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Eastern time on November 23, 2025, to be considered for the contest.

### **Judging and Prizes:**

All photographs will be posted into an album on Facebook and will be open for public

voting beginning December 2 and ending at 9:00 a.m. December 8, 2025. Votes will be counted according to the number of 'likes' each photo receives. Entrants may tag or identify their photos on Facebook at their own discretion. Winning photographs will be announced on the Detroit District web page, Facebook page, and in other related media outlets.

The top 12 winners will be included in a downloadable 2026 calendar available at the end of December 2025.

The top three photographers will receive a plaque featuring their winning photo, courtesy of the Soo Locks Visitors Center Association.

**Restrictions:**

The submitted images must be the photographer's original work. The photographer certifies that the images submitted have never been copyrighted or, if copyrighted, that the photographer is the copyright owner. The photographer must be the sole owner of the copyright of any image submitted. The submission of the photograph is your guarantee that you are the author and copyright holder of such photograph.

Photographs from the public domain are excluded from the contest. Copyright of the images will remain the property of the photographer.

All photographs should be taken at a Corps of Engineers facility, harbor or structure (pier, dam, breakwater, etc.) within the Great Lakes boundaries.

It is the sole responsibility of the submitting photographer to obtain a written release from any recognizable person in a submitted photo. Submittal of the photograph is the entrant's warranty that the photograph does not infringe on any third party's rights, and that written permission has been received by the entrant from any third party whose image appears in the photograph.

By submitting a photo in this contest, you give the U.S. Government the right to use or display the photo on U.S. Government web pages and publications, as well as the web pages and publications of associated organizations without payment, compensation or other consideration to the contestant. When possible, photo credit will be provided to the photographer. Entrant also gives the government the right to edit, resize, convert and recompress the photo for viewing convenience and/or faster loading. The submitted photograph may be used singly or in combination with other photographs.

All photos entered in this contest will become the property of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and will not be returned. The entrant of the photos grants the Corps of Engineers the right to display the photos online and to use the photos in print or online marketing.

In the event that the ownership of a photograph submitted is challenged in any manner by any person, the Government may disqualify that photograph and will discontinue its use.

This is a fun contest, and the Corps of Engineers asks participants to treat everyone with respect. The U.S. Army has Seven Core Values, one of them being respect. This Core Value reads in part: "Treat people as they should be treated."

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**By submitting your photos, you agree to the Photo Contest rules as described above: [LREphotocontest@usace.army.mil](mailto:LREphotocontest@usace.army.mil)**

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – DETROIT DISTRICT**

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