

# Ways to Get Involved

The work being done by local refuges does not stop with Service employees. Surrounding communities play a large part in conserving nature for all. Refuges offer opportunities for volunteering, collaborative partnerships, and education.

## Menu

**VOLUNTEERING**

**OUR PARTNERS**

**EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

## Volunteering



[Image Details](#)

Volunteer opportunities are project-based and get added throughout the year, so check back here often to see if something new offered aligns with your interests. For more information about the following opportunities contact the Volunteer Coordinator [Jared\\_Strawderman@fws.gov](mailto:Jared_Strawderman@fws.gov).

### Potential Volunteer Opportunities:

#### Biological Projects

- Planting
- Wildlife monitoring
- Invasive plant species removal



[Image Details](#)

### Maintenance Projects

- Trail Maintenance
- Enhancing visitor amenities
- Maintaining volunteer equipment



[Image Details](#)

### Community Outreach

- Multi-media development
- Attend community events off-refuge
- Support nature-based community programs



[Image Details](#)

### Refuge Ambassador Program

- Lead nature walks
- Become a trail steward
- Assist with environmental education

[Return to Top](#)

## Our Partners

National wildlife refuges are often small pieces of broad landscapes, but the Refuge System commitment and vision are not small. To be effective in confronting the challenges posed by climate change, invasive species, habitat fragmentation and development, the Refuge System must look beyond refuge boundaries to work and plan with multiple partners.

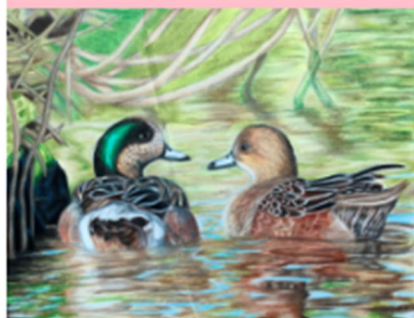


## Outreach

### Education Programs

#### Junior Duck Stamp - Art and Conservation Design Contest

**For 2022, we are happy to announce that Ridgefield NWRC is hosting the contest for Washington State.**



[Image Details](#)

Refuges are a great place to visit, especially during the fall and winter if you want to observe a wide variety of waterfowl, including ducks, geese and swans. Of the eligible species you can create art of for the Junior Duck Stamp Art and Conservation Contest, many of them call our Refuges home. We hope that you will visit us to observe these animals and gain inspiration for your contest entry. The natural world inspires many different artists and when you look at nature as art itself, you might just start to notice beauty often dismissed among the plants and wildlife you are looking at. Such as the beautiful colors not only of a male Wood duck, but the hidden shades of purple in a female Wood duck's feathers. Or the way a gray day in the pacific northwest looks even more gray in contrast to the white body of a swan...

Learn more below about the free Junior Duck Stamp Contest and how you or your class can enter.

- Mesha Wood, Washington State Junior Duck Stamp Coordinator

### What is it?

The Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest provides students the opportunity to learn about conservation by connecting science and the arts.

After studying waterfowl anatomy and their habitats students express what they have learned through the arts. Students may draw, paint, or sketch a picture of an eligible North American waterfowl species and enter it into the annual contest.

Because students express themselves best in different formats, the conservation message contest gives students interested in creative writing an opportunity to use the written word to express their knowledge.

### Who can participate?

All students in kindergarten through grade twelve (public, private, or homeschool) are encouraged to participate in this free contest as part of a school lesson and our curriculum, or through their own study and observation.

Students from across the United States submit their artwork to the state, territory or district competition they reside in. A Best In Show from each competition is submitted to the (National?) Federal Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest, where a panel of judges will select one image to become the next Junior Duck Stamp

### How do you enter?

**All entries must be postmarked by the deadline: March 15, 2022.**

Please note that due to our current office construction, entries must be mailed to one of the following addresses.

#### UPS or FEDEX

Ridgefield NWRC  
Jr Duck Stamp Contest  
28908 N Main Ave  
Ridgefield, WA 98642

#### United States Postal Service

Ridgefield NWRC  
Jr Duck Stamp Contest  
PO Box 457  
Ridgefield, WA 98642

### Learn More:

To learn more about the contest including a complete list of eligibility requirements, how to enter and contest rules please visit our National website. We encourage you to review our accompanying curriculum to help you engage your students. Click here for resources to get you started or find them also on the National website.

**For questions or other needs, please reach out to:**

Mesha Wood, Email: [mesha\\_wood@fws.gov](mailto:mesha_wood@fws.gov)