



Department Z Conservation

Superintendent:
Bill Schwerd

The Conservation Department focuses on the natural resources of Saratoga County and the surrounding area and the groups who work for the conservation of these resources.

All exhibitors must complete an entry form.

Set-up can take place on Saturday, July 13, and Sunday, July 14, 12 noon to 5pm, and on Monday, July 15, 9am to 5pm.

Exhibits may not be removed from the Conservation Department until Monday, July 22. The building will be open from 9am to 4pm.

Security will be provided from Sunday, July 14, until 4pm on Monday, July 22.

There are no entry fees in the Conservation Department.

Section 1: Sportsmen's clubs – public conservation agencies – natural resources – education programs

All sportsmen's clubs and conservation groups devoted to soil, water and air quality including the Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Saratoga Tree Nursery are invited to participate. Each exhibit must include the group's name

Section 2: Taxidermy

Open to everyone, amateur or professional – Saratoga County and non-county residents. Exhibits will not be judged.

Classes

- 1 Fish
- 2 Birds
- 3 Full-size mammals – all
- 4 Deer heads
- 5 Group – 2 or more birds, fish or small animals in a natural setting
- 6 Miscellaneous – a humorous mount, something unique, non-traditional

Exhibitors are allowed unlimited entries.

Section 3: Fly tying

The art & science of fly tying was further developed in the Empire State. The Conservation Department recognizes the contributions of those who tie artificial flies for fishing as a

recreational pursuit. All fly tiers are invited to display their finest creations and to demonstrate their unique abilities.

Conditions: The exhibitor must create all exhibits during the past year. No premiums are awarded. Each exhibit will receive a strip ribbon awarded on the Danish system of judging, and the top exhibit in each class will receive a rosette. The top exhibit among all classes will receive a Championship ribbon, and the 2nd place exhibit will receive a Reserved Championship ribbon. For this year there are no distinctions between professional and amateur fly tiers.

Five different flies per class. All flies must be identified. The exhibits to be judged will include a display material.

Classes

- 1 Wet flies (nymphs, for example)
- 2 Dry flies
- 3 Streamers
- 4 Combination
- 5 Miscellaneous (may be a single, unique imitation)
- 6 Demonstrations – It is recognized that those who tie flies possess skills that may be of interest to fairgoers. All exhibitors are welcomed to demonstrate their skills to the public. It is requested that demonstrators participate in 4-hr time blocks. The hours of the Conservation Building are 10am to 10pm. An area will be dedicated to those who participate. Passes will be provided for those who do demonstrations.

Section 4: Bluebird challenge

The "Bluebird challenge" is open to Saratoga County and non-county residents. Re-establishment of the Eastern Bluebird is a priority of many groups in the Empire State. The process can be enhanced by placing nest boxes specifically built and properly located for the New York State bird.

Classes

- 1 Traditional style: A bluebird nest box constructed to meet established guidelines for bluebirds. All recognized styles are welcomed. Judging will be based on the skills used to construct the nest box. (Nest boxes that have been used are welcomed.)
- 2 Ornamental: Constructed following a traditional pattern. This class is dedicated to those who enjoy woodworking and bluebirds. Exotic woods or native materials may be used. The outside should be finished as a piece of furniture. The inside may be left ready for use by the next pair of bluebirds that happens by.

Judging for Class 2 will be done by fairgoers. This will be "People's Choice" category. Each nest box will receive a number; voting ballots will be available throughout Fair week. A mid-Fair count will be made on Friday and posted while the final count will be taken at noon on Sunday and the winner identified.

Section 5: Wildlife enhancement projects

Loss of habitat is the single greatest factor in the decline of wildlife species. This section features opportunities for county residents and those outside the county to exhibit specific items or plans and photographs that demonstrate ways to enhance wildlife opportunities in cities, suburban or rural environments.

Class

- 1 Wood duck nesting boxes

- 2 Bat houses
- 3 Back yard habitat improvement – plans & photographs
- 4 Quality deer management (QDM) plans – plans & photographs
- 5 Other – undefined

Special Award

Joan and Dick Rowland of Greenfield Center offer:

\$20 Winner of “People’s Choice” Bluebird challenge,
Ornamental