



## Department Z Conservation

Superintendent:

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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 11, 9am-5pm

Sunday, July 12, 9am-12 noon, and

Monday, July 13, 9am to 5pm.

Exhibits may be removed from the Conservation Department on Monday, July 20. The building will be open from 9am to 4pm.

Security will be provided from Sunday, July 12, until 4pm on Monday, July 20.

### 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: Conservation Club Challenge

The *Saratoga County Council of Fish & Game Clubs* Challenge is based on the premise that the Conservation Department, with its focus on the conservation of our natural resources, is the foundation for understanding the wise use of our renewable resources. The challenge is being issued to all member clubs to design and build an exhibit for entry into the Saratoga County Fair and for other similar events, including National Hunting and Fishing Day and the Town of Milton Fishing Tournament.

### Section 3: Taxidermy

Open to everyone, amateur or professional – Saratoga County and non-county residents. Exhibits, which will not be judged, may be among the following:

- Fish

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

*Exhibitors are allowed unlimited entries.*

### Section 4: 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. The top exhibit among all classes will receive a Championship ribbon, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 5: 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.

### Section 6: 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

**Section 7: Chuck Wagon Cooking Challenge**

Cooking in the great outdoors, from the high peaks loggers of the Adirondacks to the cowboy cook-offs of the Old West, is founded on good food and lots of it for those with hearty appetites. The Conservation Department will expand its Dutch oven cooking demonstrations to include individuals or groups who would like to prepare complete meals, main courses or desserts over open fires or on coals.

**Conditions:**

- A total of 12 applications (General Entry Form) will be accepted.
- There will be two cooking presentations per day for the 2009 Saratoga County Fair. Tasting will be scheduled for 4:00pm and 7:30pm.
- When completing your application, specify your *preference* for day and time of tasting. The final schedule will be determined by the Conservation Dept.
- Those making the entry will provide all the materials that are needed, from charcoal or firewood to the foodstuffs.
- The final product(s) should be enough to provide samples to 100 fairgoers.
- Rosette ribbons will be awarded to all entries.
- 200 copies of recipes will be needed for distribution.

**Special Award**

Joan and Dick Rowland of Greenfield Center offer:

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

**Please note:**

New Ag & Markets Rules (p.10)  
General Rules & Regulations (p. 8)  
Code of Show Ring Ethics (p.5)

***Premium checks must be cashed within 30 days of issue. No exceptions!***

Absolutely no sales or transfers of ownership of animals shall occur on the fairgrounds during Fair week. No “For Sale” signs will be allowed on individual exhibits.

A promotional area may be set up at the discretion of the department superintendent in one place in the exhibit area for those exhibitors wishing to advertise animals for sale.