

PICTURING COYOTE VALLEY: PHOTO CONTEST RULES

The Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority invites photographers to enter its Coyote Valley Digital Photography Competition ("Contest"). **BY ENTERING THE CONTEST, YOU ARE ACCEPTING AND AGREEING TO ALL RULES, TERMS, AND CONDITIONS ("RULES").**

The competition is open to participants regardless of residence or citizenship, so long as the laws of their jurisdiction allow participation. **Employees of the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority are not eligible to participate.**

YOUR RIGHTS

- You will retain all rights to any photograph you submit—including ownership if applicable—other than those rights licensed in these rules. By entering the Contest, you hereby grant to the Authority:
 - i. a nonexclusive, worldwide, irrevocable, royalty-free license to reproduce, distribute, publicly display, and publicly perform the photographs you submit to the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority, and
 - ii. the right to use your name in promotions and other publications.
- Any photograph reproduced will include a photographer credit as feasible. The Authority will not be liable for any errors in attribution other than to make reasonable efforts to correct such errors. The Authority has final approval of any language that appears on its web site, in its newsletters, or brochures with any of the photos and will not promote or endorse third-party products or services.

WHAT TO ENTER

- We are looking for digital images of Coyote Valley, capturing the diversity of this natural and rural landscape. **Your images must be taken on publicly owned or managed land in the Coyote Valley Conservation Area ([reference map here](#)).**

These lands including the following parks/preserves that are open to the public:

- [Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve](#)
- [Máyyan 'Ooyákma – Coyote Ridge Open Space Preserve](#)
- [Coyote Creek Parkway](#) (Coyote Valley segment, from Metcalf Road to Cochrane Road)

Photos may also be taken from publicly accessible streets/sidewalks, viewpoints, etc. that offer views of Coyote Valley.

In addition, photos taken during public access days/events on lands currently being planned through the Coyote Valley Conservation Areas Master Plan are welcome. These lands will be open to the public on select dates during the duration of the photo contest (Dates TBD-check photo contest website for details).

- Your images may show wildlife, plant life, natural landscapes, agricultural landscapes, or people interacting with nature.
- If you choose to include people in your submission, you are responsible for obtaining the [necessary releases](#) from the individuals depicted and must be able to provide copies of those releases to the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority upon request.
- Entrants must not submit images that involve the handling or disruption of wildlife and/or plants, willful harassment of wildlife, damage to the environment by the photographer, or infringe on the rights of any other photographer or person.
- All photographs should accurately reflect the subject matter and the scene as it appeared. Photos that have been digitally altered beyond standard optimization will be disqualified. Acceptable methods for standard optimization include removal of dust, cropping, and reasonable adjustments to color and contrast. Multiple exposures that have been combined to produce a single "High Dynamic Range" image are acceptable.

HOW TO ENTER

- Starting **May 1, 2024**, enter up to three images (per participant) by uploading your photo(s) to our online entry form. The contest categories are: wildlife, plant life, agriculture, landscapes, people and aspiring photographers (youth currently enrolled in grade K-12). One category per image, please.
- Photos may be submitted that were taken any time before or during the contest period. Photos submitted in previous Open Space Authority contests are not allowed.
- We do **NOT** accept entries submitted via email or through the postal mail.

ELIGIBILITY AND JUDGING

- Images should be submitted in .jpeg, .jpg or .gif format, at least 2,000 pixels wide (or tall if a vertical image) and no larger than 10 MB. Please submit your image at the highest possible resolution (no larger than 300dpi)
- Entries must be submitted as digital files. Previously published material for which non-exclusive rights were granted may be entered as long as you still maintain the right to grant us a license (see "Your Rights" above). Upon request you must be able to disclose to Open Space Authority when and where the photo appeared previously.
- A panel of Open Space Authority staff and/or consultants will select the top three photos and one winner in each category. Photos will be judged on originality, technical excellence, composition, overall impact and artistic merit.
- The People's Choice Award will be chosen by popular vote. Details to be announced.
- Aspiring Photographers category:
 - This is a youth category and is open only to students enrolled in grade K-12 at the time of entry.
 - Finalists may be asked to provide school enrollment verification.

DEADLINES

- **The deadline for submitting entries is 11:59 pm Pacific Daylight Time on July 22, 2024. Online entries can be uploaded starting on May 1, 2024.** Entrants may be contacted to submit a paragraph describing the story behind the photo. Category winners will be announced in August 2024.
- The Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority reserves the right to adjust any deadline(s) as the result of causes beyond its immediate control.

CONTEST CATEGORIES AND PRIZES

- Each category winner will receive a \$100 REI gift card as well as well as have their photo featured (with credit) on the OSA website. Winners and two runner ups in each category will have their artwork displayed at an in-person Open Space Authority event in 2024.
- Prizes are non-transferable; no substitutions allowed. All federal, state or other tax liabilities are the responsibility of the winner. All details of any prize not specified herein shall be determined solely by Open Space Authority.

LEGAL CONDITIONS

- By entering this Contest, you agree to the Rules set out herein and to certain additional legal conditions. [Click here to read the legal conditions.](#)

QUESTIONS

- Questions and inquiries about Contest rules can be emailed to cvcamp@openspaceauthority.org