

2011 Friends Photography Contest

You are cordially invited to submit your best pictures to the third annual Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve photography contest. This event is an opportunity for you to share your beautiful views of this very special natural area and its *native* wildlife.

Mail (or drop off) your photo(s), entry form, and entry fee (\$10 per photographer) to Six Mile Slough Preserve Photo Contest, 7791 Penzance Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33966, between November 1, 2011 and January 31, 2012 (contest closes at 3:00 PM).

The contest is open to amateur photographers only (may not possess a professional photographer tax identification number for the sale of photographs).

Photos must have been taken at the Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve.

The contest is not open to Friends' Board members, the contest judges, or the staff of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve.

Each contestant may submit a total of up to five photos. Photos may be submitted in any of the categories below:

1. Plants
2. Animals (including insects)
3. Open (any photo that does not belong in one of the above categories, such as landscape, abstract, people)
4. Altered Images (Plants, Animals, or Open) Images which are modified in ways not covered in the "Permitted Modifications" section below should be entered in the Altered Images category. Judges may, at their discretion, place an entry in this category if it shows clear evidence of such alteration.

Separate awards will be granted for contestants aged 17 and under.

Permitted Modifications (for categories 1-4, above)

- Red-eye removal and spot editing
- Use of filters or photo editing software to sharpen, soften, blur, despeckle, or remove noise
- Use of corrective functions to improve the natural appearance of the image, such as levels, contrast, brightness, curves, intensity, tone, hue, saturation, lightness, value, color balance, and tint.
- Judges reserve the right to reassign a photograph to a different category, or disqualify it.

Altered Images (Category 4)

Photographs manipulated for artistic purposes by applying digital and/or traditional special effects (i.e. hand coloring, bleaching, collage and photo composites, and filters applied to approximate other artistic techniques such as fresco, pen or pencil renditions, etc.).

Photos must be printed on the paper of your choice, 8" x 10" or 8" by 12". Please select a 6-character code and write it on a sticky Post It Note; attach it on the back of each of your photographs. Note each code on your entry form.

For a photo in which a person is recognizable, you must secure a model release from the subject or, in the case of a minor, the subject's parent or guardian and provide it to *Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve* upon request.

Judging

Entries will be judged on the basis of creativity, photographic quality, and effectiveness in conveying the beauty and/or unique character of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve in one of the contest categories. Judging will be anonymous. The contest judges will not have access to the entry forms.

First, second, and third place will be awarded in each category. Contestants are eligible to win only one award in each category. One photo will be selected from all the winners as the "Top Shot".

Miscellaneous

Award winners will be notified by February 15, 2012 and awards will be presented at a Photo Contest Celebration to be held at the Slough Interpretive Center on February 25, 2012. Winning photos will be displayed at the Slough Interpretive Center.

Prints will become the property of Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve. The Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve is not responsible for lost or damaged photos.

By entering the contest, photographers agree that *Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve* may display winning photos and may make and retain copies of the photographs for educational purposes and fundraising without any fee or other form of compensation.

Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve is designated by IRS a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, and registered as charitable organization # CH13822 in compliance with Florida Division of Consumer Services requirements.

2011 Photo Contest Entry Form

Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve 2011 Photo Contest Entry Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please mark your personal code on a post it note (or similar) and attach to the back of the photo (s) being submitting.

Category:

Plants:

Photo #1 code _____ Photo #2 code _____ Photo #3 code _____ Photo #4 code _____

Photo #5 code _____

Animals

Photo #1 code _____ Photo #2 code _____ Photo #3 code _____ Photo #4 code _____

Photo #5 code _____

Open

Photo #1 code _____ Photo #2 code _____ Photo #3 code _____ Photo #4 code _____

Photo #5 code _____

Altered

Photo #1 code _____ Photo #2 code _____ Photo #3 code _____ Photo #4 code _____

Photo #5 code _____

Send your photos (Maximum of five photos) to Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve Photo Contest, 7791 Penzance Blvd., Fort Myers, FL 33966, by January 31, 2012. Be sure to include a check for your \$10 entry fee made out to Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve. You will be notified by February 15, 2012 if you have won or placed in the contest. Awards reception will be on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at Noon. Thank you for entering and good luck!

Photo Release Form

Permission to Use Photograph in 2011 Photo Contest sponsored by Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough

I grant to Friends of Six Mile Cypress Slough ("the Friends") the right to take photographs of me and my family in connection with the above-identified event

I authorize the Friends, its assigns and transferees to copyright, use and publish the same in print and/or electronically.

I agree that the Friends may use such photographs of me with or without my name and for any lawful purpose, including for example such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content.

I have read and understand the above:

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

Signature, parent or guardian if under 18: _____