

2026 River Valley Chamber of Commerce Photo Contest

The RVCC is promoting a photo contest. The winning photos will be used to create postcards that will be sold at the Information Center for visitors and locals to purchase. Themes and Categories are focused on celebrating the USA's 250 Anniversary.

Contest Themes & Categories

- **"250 Years of the River Valley"**: Focus on historical landmarks, buildings, or street corners that have existed for generations.
- **"Patriotic Pride: Local Edition"**: Capture red, white, and blue, hometown parades, flag-raising ceremonies, or community spirit.
- **"Our Local Natural Heritage"**: Showcase the landscapes, parks, or natural beauty that have shaped the community for over 250 years.
- **"Living Legends & National Icons": Historical Native Species**: Highlight animals that have been part of the local landscape for centuries, like White-Tailed Deer or Moose, which were vital resources for both Native Americans and early European settlers.

Contest Structure and Rules

- **Eligibility**: Open to amateur and professional photographers as the contest will select a professional and an amateur winner for each category.
- **Submission Criteria**:
 - High-resolution photos only (needed to print postcards.)
 - No AI-generated images.
 - 1 entry per category per person.
- **Required Info**: Name, contact details, location of photo, photographer status, and a signed release allowing the Chamber to use the photo for marketing/postcards.

Prizes and Incentives

- **Publication:** Winners get their photos printed on postcards with their name printed on the back.
- **Cash Prize:** Winner will receive a cash prize of \$50 generously donated by our sponsors of the event.
- **Category Winners:** There will be two winners selected from each category. One amateur photographer and one professional photographer.

Timeline

- **Launch:** July 2026
- **Submissions Deadline:** October 15, 2026
- **Judging/Announcement:** Christmas in the Valley the winners are announced, a small ceremony and the winners displayed on a poster board.
- **Printing & Distribution:** Post cards will be printed with the winner's name credited on the back of the card along with Novelty Sponsor. Post cards will be available for sale by the public at the Information Center as well as at Chamber Sponsored Events.
- **Postcard Series Collection:** 6-10 submitted photos will be selected to create a postcard package to be available to be sold.



Photo Release Form

The River Valley Chamber of Commerce Photo Contest

This Photo Release Form ("Agreement") is entered into by and between the undersigned photographer ("Photographer") and The River Valley Chamber of Commerce ("Chamber") as of the date signed below.

Permission to Use Photographs

By signing this form, the Photographer grants the Chamber the irrevocable right and permission to use, reproduce, distribute, and display the photographs submitted to The River Valley Chamber of Commerce Photo Contest for the purpose of creating and selling postcards and for any other promotional or commercial use, in any media now or hereafter known, without further compensation or approval. Credit will be given to the photographer each time their photo is used.

Photographer's Representations

- The Photographer affirms that the photographs are original works and do not infringe upon the rights of any third parties.
- The Photographer has obtained all necessary permissions and model releases for any recognizable people or private properties depicted in the photographs.

Release of Claims

The Photographer hereby releases, discharges, and agrees to hold harmless The River Valley Chamber of Commerce, its officers, agents, and employees from any claims, demands, or causes of action arising out of the use of the submitted photographs, including any claims for libel, invasion of privacy, or violation of any right of publicity.

Duration

This release is perpetual and covers all uses of the submitted photographs as described above.

Compensation

The Photographer understands and agrees that no monetary compensation will be provided for the use of the photographs as described in this release except for the initial cash prize.

Signatures

Photographer's Name (Printed):

Signature:

Photographer - Amateur or Professional:

Address:

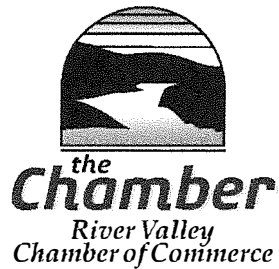
Phone/Email:

Please return this completed and signed release form to The River Valley Chamber of Commerce at info@rivervalleychamber.com to finalize your photo contest submission.

Signed Release for any recognizable people or personal properties depicted in the photographs:

Model/Property Owner Name:

Signature:



River Valley Photo Contest Sponsorship Opportunities

(1) Available—**Novelty Sponsor** \$1000---This sponsorship includes being able to judge the photos in every category, name on every postcard (from the winning photos), name on a plaque that will hang in the Information Center and their name as being the novelty sponsor on the postcard rack at the Information Center as well as name mentioned in all of the advertising.

(5) Available- **“Shutter” sponsor** \$300---This sponsorship includes name in all advertising, name on a plaque at the Information Center, able to judge the photos in every category.

(5) Available— **“Lens” sponsor** \$150---This sponsorship includes name in all advertising & name on a plaque at the Information Center.

Call The Chamber Office today to sponsor the 250th Photo Contest Celebration!

