

The Best of Grand Ledge 2017 Photo Contest

Information on Rules and Entry

Enter the 2017 Photo Contest by 4:00pm, on Sunday, September 10, 2017.

Photographers of all ages are invited to enter their best, “high resolution” images celebrating our community in the Best of Grand Ledge 2017 Photography Contest. Entering is easy and free. For more information visit www.cityofgrandledge.com/photocontest. If posting photos to personal social media outlets, please consider using the hashtag #NaturallyGrand.

CONTEST DATES:

- Entries will be accepted beginning Friday, February 10, 2017 through Sunday, September 10, 2017 at 4:00pm
- Photographs entered in the contest can be taken at anytime
- **Photos must be uploaded no later than 4:00pm, Sunday, September 10, 2017**

CRITERIA: The mission of the contest is to celebrate the splendor and allure of the City of Grand Ledge, therefore all photos entered must be taken within the city limits. Photos taken outside of the City are not eligible for submission. Please note that low resolution images that cannot be well reproduced in printed materials will be disqualified. Be sure to set your camera or smartphone settings to the highest possible resolution for best results.

The City will display the entries online beginning at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, September 15, 2017 and ask the public to select up to 10 of their favorite images. The City will identify 10 images that have received the most votes and a committee of the Downtown Development Authority will select final winners and award the following prizes:

- First Prize: One image will be selected to receive a \$500.00 cash prize
- Second Prize: One image will be selected to receive a \$300.00 cash prize
- Honorable Mention: Eight images will be selected to receive a \$25.00 cash prize to each photographer

Winners will be announced in fall of 2017. All contest entries are eligible to be featured in city-wide publications of print and electronic media.

CATEGORIES: Capture the essence of Grand Ledge with photos that may encompass some of the following common elements, such as:

1. **Spectacular Natural Environment** – Grand River, “The Ledges”, island, park and wildlife scenes
2. **Charming Architecture** – downtown cityscapes, landmarks, infrastructure
3. **Vibrant Culture and Community** – children and adults in sports, art, festivals, special events

SUMMARY OF CONTEST RULES:

(For Official Rules for the Best of Grand Ledge 2017 Photo Contest, visit www.cityofgrandledge.com/photocontest)

- No entry fee.
- Photos must be taken within the Grand Ledge city-limits and must be deemed suitable for publishing by the City.
- In submitting photos you are granting the City of Grand Ledge permission and the right to publish (and/or) post your photos to the internet, television, and any printed materials without any compensation or any other consideration.
- Persons entering the contest agree to forever hold harmless the City of Grand Ledge from any liability caused from the publishing or posting of submitted photos of the contest.
- Open to photographers of all skill levels and of any age.
- Minors under the age of 18 years old may enter but must have their legal parent or guardian submit the entry on their behalf.
- Employees of the City of Grand Ledge, members of the Downtown Development Authority's voting committee, and all of their immediate families are NOT eligible to win any prize monies but are welcome to enter the contest.
- Maximum of five (5) photos allowed with entry, per photographer.
- Photographers may only enter the 2017 Photo Contest one (1) time.
- Photographers are only eligible to win one (1) cash prize (either First Place, Second Place, or one (1) of the eight (8) Honorable Mention awards) in the 2017 Photo Contest. The City will have a total of ten (10) different prize winners for this contest.
- Photos with recognizable persons can only be entered with a signed Model Release Form. Visit www.cityofgrandledge.com/photocontest to download this form.
- Photos must be titled according to contest requirements.
- The City reserves the right to reject any entry based on criteria.
- No print or emailed entries will be accepted. Only electronic files, uploaded via www.cityofgrandledge.com/photocontest will be accepted.
- **The deadline to enter the contest is Sunday, September 10th, 2017 by 4:00pm.** The City assumes no responsibility for late, lost, misdirected, or damaged entries.
- By submitting, photographers must agree to the following:
 - I hereby give permission to the City of Grand Ledge or anyone authorized by the City to use and/or reproduce any or all digital images for any purpose including multi-media publications (any print materials, internet, broadcast television, presentation, and internal City use) without compensation or any other consideration to me.
 - I understand that my submittal may be used in its entirety or in part and may be revised or combined with other images for use by the City and its designees without recognition.

- I understand that any digital images submitted will become and remain property of the City.
 - I understand that any digital images submitted may be reviewed by the public and may be displayed in City and non-City facilities.
 - I have received permission and have submitted signed Model Release Forms from all person(s) in the photograph(s) for use of their image as part of my entry into the 2017 Photo Contest. Visit www.cityofgrandledge.com/photocontest to download this form.
 - I certify that the photos I submitted are unique and original, taken by me, and does not infringe upon any copyright or patent.
 - I certify that I have read and understand the Official Rules of the Best of Grand Ledge 2017 Photo Contest. Visit www.cityofgrandledge.com/photocontest to view/download the Official Rules.
- Any submission received after the entry deadline will not be eligible for cash prizes.

IMAGE REQUIREMENTS: Eligible images from a digital camera or smartphone set at no less than 3 mega pixels high resolution or digitally scanned prints (if from a non-digital camera) must be in either JPG or PNG digital format at a file size of between 3 megabytes (minimum) and 9 megabytes (maximum) at 300 dpi (dots per inch) or sufficient resolution to print at 8 by 10 inch size without loss of quality. **Be sure to set your camera or smartphone at the highest possible resolution for best results.**

RENAME YOUR FILES: All photo entries must be RENAMED as follows: [last name]_[title of photo]_[location photo was taken].

Photo EXAMPLE 1: Smith_Sunny Ledge_OakPark.jpg

Photo EXAMPLE 2: Smith_Parade_Downtown.jpg

Please submit the image only – do not embed captions, words, watermarks, or photographer’s name on the image.

SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS @ www.cityofgrandledge.com/photocontest: Entering is easy and free! Limit: up to 5-photos per photographer. Photographers may only enter the 2017 Photo Contest one (1) time. All entries must be completed via the portal at www.cityofgrandledge.com/photocontest, submitted by 4:00pm on Sunday, September 10, 2017, and include the following to be eligible:

1. Release Form with Name, Age, and Contact Information of Photographer

1a. Completed Release Form for person entering the contest. Visit www.cityofgrandledge.com/photocontest to download this form.

1b. Name, Age, and Contact Information of Legal Parent or Guardian, if Photographer is under the age of 18 years old.

2. Up to five (5) high-resolution, JPG or PNG, photos

2a. Each photo must be titled in the following way: [last name]_[title of photo]_[location photo was taken]

2b. Completed Model Release Forms for each photo containing a recognizable person, if applicable. Visit www.cityofgrandledge.com/photocontest to download this form.

3. Agreement to the Best of Grand Ledge 2017 Photo Contest Official Rules

3a. Visit www.cityofgrandledge.com/photocontest to view/download the Official Rules.

PRIZES:

- First Prize: One image will be selected to receive a \$500.00 cash prize
- Second Prize: One image will be selected to receive a \$300.00 cash prize
- Honorable Mention: Eight images will be selected to receive a \$25.00 cash prize to each photographer

Photographers are only eligible to win one (1) cash prize (either First Place, Second Place, or one (1) of the eight (8) Honorable Mention awards) in the 2017 Photo Contest. The City will have a total of ten (10) different prize winners for this contest.

Winners will be notified by email and announced publically in fall 2017.

INFORMATION: The information contained in these official rules is for reference only and is subject to change. The City of Grand Ledge reserves the right to revise, amend, or repeal these basic contest rules at any time.

JUDGING: The City will display the entries online by 12:00 p.m. on Friday, September 15, 2017 and ask the public to select up to 10 of their favorite images by 10:00 p.m. on Friday, October 6, 2017. The City will compile 10 images that received the most public votes and will provide the images to a committee of the Downtown Development Authority who will select final winners and award the prizes. The committee will only see the same information provided to the public: the image of the photo and the photo name given by the entrant. Committee members will not be given any other identifying information about the photo entrant such as name, address, age, etc. The committee will be judging based on the quality of the photo, suitability for future promotional use, and how well the image captured the essence of Grand Ledge, in their sole opinion.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Any costs associated with preparing or entering the Best of Grand Ledge 2017 Photo Contest are the Entrant's sole responsibility and will not be reimbursed by the City of Grand Ledge.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all entries, to award prizes and/or provide recognition to entries, to accept any or all alternatives, to waive irregularities and/or informalities and, in general, to make the award in any manner deemed by it, in its sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the City.