

Editorial Contributor Guidelines

National Wild Turkey Federation

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The National Wild Turkey Federation publishes two magazines, *Turkey Country* and *JAKES Country*.

Turkey Country is the NWTF's flagship publication that goes to all of its adult members. It is published bi-monthly with issues in January/February, March/April, May/June, July/August, September/October and November/December.

JAKES Country is geared toward teens and focuses on hunting, fishing and shooting sports. It mails quarterly to all youth members up to age 17.

Articles submitted for publication fulfill the promise of the author's query and, more importantly, the editor's assignment. Familiarize yourself with our publications to ensure your material is compatible with the magazines' formats or needs. Articles must be free of spelling errors, grammatically correct and factually accurate.

Failure to follow these guidelines may result in the rejection of your manuscript or photographs.

All written material should be original and unpublished and must consist of accurate information that appeals to our special-interest readership. While most feature stories deal with non-fiction subjects, we do accept fiction that contributes to the education, enlightenment or entertainment of our readers. We pay upon publication. Kill fees are 20 percent of contracted payment.

Submitting to *Turkey Country*

Editor: Matt Lindler

turkeycountry@nwtf.net

Publishing Assistant: Michelle Jones

mjones@nwtf.net

Turkey Country works four months to a year ahead of each issue. Most feature story material is planned a year in advance.

Features run 1,000 to 1,200 words and average \$450 in payment. Departments run 500 to 1,000 words and average \$350 in payment.

Note: All articles are purchased with both First North American Serial Rights for print and electronic rights for use on the NWTF.org website.

While limited use of the author's experience is acceptable, articles should feature advice from experts and not rely too heavily on biological terms to emphasize points. Preference centers on anecdotes about people besides the author.

Articles should:

- Appeal to a national readership
- Be meticulously researched
- Be accurate; dates, figures and the names and titles of agencies and people involved must be correct
- Provide documentation and contact information for all sources, including people interviewed and quoted within the story

Turkey Country is divided into six sections, each with specific content for our readers:

- Conservation
- Cause & Effect
- The Caller
- Hunting Heritage
- On the Hunt
- Take Aim

Conservation

This section is devoted to wildlife conservation on a national scope, specifically the NWTF's involvement. It includes features, as well as one department open for freelance contribution: **Sweat Equity**, which covers projects and programs that benefit wildlife habitat.

Cause & Effect

This section contains a feature that covers issues that affect sportsmen and women, from gun rights to conservation hot topics and much more. It also is home to a regular department titled **Track Stars**, which tells the story of notable individuals and their involvement in the outdoors and the NWTF.

The Caller

The primary purpose of this section is twofold: to communicate to the membership the programs and opportunities available to them through the national office of the NWTF; and to give the membership an outlet to publicize the work of local chapters.

NWTF members are encouraged to submit information, with photos, about their chapter to The Caller. (*No payment is issued for chapter news unless noted by editor.*)

Hunting Heritage

Dedicated to the NWTF Hunting Heritage programs, stories in this section should feature youth (JAKES), women (Women in the Outdoors) and people with disabilities (Wheelin' Sportsmen). Content should be informative and entertaining for all *Turkey Country* readers and people of all skill levels, who aspire to become more involved in outdoor sports and activities.

Also of interest are game and fish recipes for **Cook Nook**; stories of dynamic outdoorswomen for **The Outdoor Woman**; outdoors-related projects and activities for families in **Family Ties**; DIY tips for people with disabilities to help them enjoy the outdoors for **Access Made Easy**; where people with disabilities can enjoy the outdoors for **Road Trips**; profiles of **Hunting Heritage Heroes**, NWTF members who go above and beyond to pass on our outdoor traditions; **Campfire Confessions** for NWTF members to share their hunting and outdoor adventures. (*We do not pay for Campfire Confessions submissions.*)

On the Hunt

This section is dedicated to the interests and entertainment of wild turkey hunters everywhere, including features on how and where to hunt wild turkeys. We also publish short features on unusual hunting experiences, historical vignettes, the wild turkey in art or literature, field tips, creative uses for harvested turkeys, hunting anecdotes, humor or other appropriate hunting-related subjects.

Departments in this section, including **Turkey Calls** and **Calling Wild Turkeys**, are regular columns for which we do not accept queries.

Take Aim

This section features all aspects of the shooting sports, ranging from archery to shotgun, rifle and pistol sports. We recognize firearms and shooting are important to the future of hunting. Features should focus on NWTF members who compete on the range as well as tips, techniques, how-tos and gear to get started. Features on hot-button issues surrounding shooting sports also are accepted.

Shooting Savvy and **On Target News** are regular departments for which we do not accept queries.

Submitting to *JAKES Country*

Editor: Matt Lindler

jakescountry@nwtf.net

Publishing Assistant: Michelle Jones

mjones@nwtf.net

JAKES Country works four months to a year ahead of each issue. Most feature story material is planned a year in advance.

Features run 1,000 to 1,200 words and average \$300 in payment. Departments run 500 to 1,000 words and average \$250 in payment.

Note: All articles are purchased with both First North American Serial Rights for print and electronic rights for use on the NWTF.org website.

Features for *JAKES Country* should be entertaining, informative and promote safe, ethical hunting and shooting. We include articles that profile extraordinary *JAKES* members; highlight tips and techniques for hunting and fishing for all North American species; and showcase gear of interest to our readers. Stories should aim for a young, teen audience.

Queries also are accepted for our departments:

Getting Dirty highlights conservation projects kids can get involved in on a local level, such as planting wildlife plots, backyard management, stream cleanups, etc.

DIY consists of fun do-it-yourself projects, such as building a shooting bench, target stand, turkey call, etc. Price negotiated includes several step-by-step photos.

Winner's Circle showcases different outdoor-related events, such as shooting tournaments, game calling contests, etc. by profiling a winning youth.

Hunt Secrets contains interviews with hunting experts who share their secrets of success.

Shooter's Bench helps readers get the most out of range time and discover the tools to make them better shooters.

Queries

Queries should be submitted via email and must fully explain a proposed article and its main points. Queries should include ideas for potential graphic aids and sidebars. Because queries exemplify an author's writing talent, verbal queries are not acceptable.

Queries allow us to assign specific articles according to our needs. Even though you may have a fantastic article idea, we may have recently published a similar story or have one in our files.

Please submit queries based on the formats of each magazine section listed above. All queries should be submitted by July 1 to be considered for the following year's editorial calendar. **No laundry lists, please.** Instead, send individual queries for *Turkey Country* to turkeycountry@nwtf.net and queries for *JAKES Country* to jakescountry@nwtf.net.

Reference the specific section for which you are querying in your subject line or within your query (i.e. — Query: On the Hunt: Top 7 Hotspots for Fall Turkeys). See above for details.

Assigned Article Formats

Articles, sidebars and photo captions must be submitted in one of the following methods:

- Microsoft Word (file ends with .doc or .docx suffix)
- Rich-Text Format (file ends with .rtf suffix)
- Text-only format (file ends with .txt suffix)

All text must be single-spaced, with single spaces after periods, no spaces, tabs or indentions on the first line of paragraphs, no serial or Oxford commas and only one “hard return” at the end of each paragraph. **DO NOT EMBED IMAGES IN THE DOCUMENT.**

For email submissions: Paste all text within the body of an email message and also send the document as an attachment in one of the formats listed above.

We follow the Associated Press (AP) Stylebook and Libel Manual formats. Please ensure your article is formatted to the newest available stylebook.

Unsolicited Articles

Though we accept unsolicited manuscripts, they are not preferred. Such speculative submissions may remain in our files for a long time before being reviewed.

If an unsolicited manuscript is accepted, an editor or publishing assistant will contact you. If rejected, all materials will be returned to you if requested. (Enclose a SASE for return; the NWTF does not pay shipping costs for the return of unsolicited material.)

Photographic Submissions

All photographers making submissions to the NWTF and its publications must agree and comply with the terms listed in the following guidelines. These terms supersede any terms submitted or offered by the contributor at the time of submission.

Terms

- All submissions, unless approved otherwise by the editor, are sent at the expense of the contributor.
- The NWTF does not pay agency research fees.
- The NWTF does not return digital submissions, nor does it hold any liability to replace discarded or lost CDs, DVDs, digital files or any prints from these digital files that may accompany a submission.
- The NWTF agrees to one-time North American rights for each image selected for publication or additional rights as negotiated with the contributor.

We look for quality — clarity, sharpness, composition and correct exposure. Each photo should have a written caption with a description of the shot and the names of any people shown.

Images are accepted on speculation as well as to accompany specific assignments. It is best to limit the number of images to less than 20 in a submission unless directed otherwise by the editor. Rather than sending near-duplicates and similar images, state in a cover letter whether you have more images similar to images submitted.

Color Photography Standards

For color photo submissions, the NWTF accepts only original, uncropped digital files of the highest quality.

Images must be in focus and well exposed.

Each image should include the contributor's name and a unique number for identification.

Photos including people must have a model release on file with the contributor for each of the subjects in the photo.

Submitting Digital Images

Digital photos submitted to NWTF publications must pass these criteria before being considered for publication:

- The minimum allowable resolution for photos in all NWTF publications is 2100x1,500 pixels. We prefer images at 3600x2400 pixels or larger if possible.
- Always shoot in the digital camera's highest quality, lowest compression mode.
- The camera's colorspace (color matrix, color setting) should be set to RGB.
- Please submit only slightly edited photos with light sharpening and color adjustments. Please do not crop the image from its original format.
- Photos scanned from another magazine or newspaper are not acceptable.
- Images must be in either TIF, DNG, PNG or low-compression JPEG format. We also accept RAW files from most cameras.

Digital images must be embedded with ownership metadata, the photographer's name and contact information, as well as caption and credit information.

Emailed submissions must not exceed 25mb. Links to download high-resolution files are acceptable. It is best to send low-resolution thumbnails via email at 3x5 inches/72dpi in an initial email or provide a link to an online lightbox. The editor may then ask you to send specific high-resolution files as needed.

Photography Use and Payment

Images may be submitted to accompany specific assignments or on speculation. See photograph submission information and send speculative images to the photo editor at the specified address.

We publish images of various outdoor activities and wildlife species, including:

- all wild turkey subspecies in their natural habitats
- various wildlife species
- turkey hunting scenes
- colorful scenics of wild turkey habitat and other outdoor scenes
- vintage turkey hunting scenes
- women participating in various outdoor activities
- families participating in hunting and outdoor pastimes together
- individuals with a variety of disabilities participating in hunting, shooting, fishing and other outdoor pastimes
- able-bodied and disabled people enjoying the outdoors together
- scenes depicting hunting deer, turkey, ducks, quail and more
- photos that showcase wildlife management equipment and activities from plowing to planting to prescribed fire and beyond.

Check with the photo editor for current photographic needs. To be included in periodical photo needs emails, please send your contact information to photos@nwtf.net with a subject line of: *"Add me to your photo needs list"*

Note: All photos are purchased with both First North American Serial Rights for print and electronic rights for use on the NWTF.org website to accompany the related article.

Rates for published photographs:

Turkey Country

- Cover = \$800
- Contents pages = \$250
- Two-page spread = \$300
- Full page = \$200
- Half page = \$150
- One-third page = \$100
- Less than one-third page = \$50
- Small step-by-step images = rate negotiated by editor, included in article price

JAKES Country

- Cover = \$400
- Two-page spread = \$175
- Full page = \$125
- Half page = \$100
- One-third page = \$75
- Less than one-third page = \$50
- Small step-by-step images = rate negotiated by editor, included in article price

About the NWTF: The National Wild Turkey Federation is a nonprofit conservation/education organization dedicated to the conservation of the North American wild turkey and the preservation of the hunting heritage. Established in March 1973, the NWTF has members throughout North America.