

## Take 'Em! Waterfowl Journal Writer's Guidelines

Articles and photos that fit Take 'Em! Waterfowl Journal's motto, **The Magazine for True Waterfowlers**, are always welcome. We cover waterfowl hunting only. We do not cover deer or other game.

**General guidelines:** Please write for our magazine's whole audience. We have readers who are brand-new hunters AND readers who have hunted waterfowl 60-plus years. Have something interesting to tell both groups. Go beyond how many birds you killed. Tell a great story. Paint vivid lively word pictures. Tell how you set your decoy spread and why, habitat you hunted, how you got the birds to work (or why you think they didn't), and interesting things you saw or that happened. Best stories use a rich style that carries your reader along so they are part of the story, and they learn something.

**We want:** Personal Hunt Experiences, Conservation, Waterfowl Education, Kids or Women in Waterfowling, Freelance Hunting Opportunities, How-to/DIY projects, Shotguns/Ammo (note: we will not print reloading data), Hunter Health & Fitness, Waterfowl Dogs, decoys, calls/calling, Nostalgia/Heritage, waterfowl organizations, funny true stories, and Recipes you have actually made.

**We do not want:** Product placements, endorsements, fluff, or anything that resembles advertising copy. These will be edited and/or rejected with glee. But -- brief mentions of brands or models of hunting gear or services are fine if they fit the context of your article.

**Format & Length** Manuscripts should be emailed SINGLE-SPACED 12 point type as either a Word document (.doc) OR as the body of an email to: [duckmagz@gmail.com](mailto:duckmagz@gmail.com). PLEASE DO NOT FORMAT YOUR MANUSCRIPT or embed photos in it. **Manuscripts should be 400 – 1,000 words; 700 is optimal.**

**Shorter items 50-200 words are welcomed.** Long articles may be edited for length or broken into parts to run in consecutive issues. Sidebars encouraged. We follow Associated Press Style. ANY manuscript or art sent to us will be automatically regarded as the author's own work and legal property. Always include your contact address and phone number.

**Revisions:** We always reserve the right to make minor edits for length, spelling, grammar, and accuracy. Most articles are not changed by us except for minor spelling, grammar and punctuation. Major edits will be sent back to the author for re-write.

**Queries:** A query is not required. However, a short email visit with the editor beforehand can help focus your article and save you re-write time later. [duckmagz@gmail.com](mailto:duckmagz@gmail.com).

**Photos:** Send 1 to 3 photos as 300 DPI CMYK TIFF files, cropped 8x10 or 5x7 to support your article. If we need more than 3, we will ask for them. Our email system can accept up to 5 megabyte files. Please include a suggested caption for each photo, Candid or "action" shots are ALWAYS preferred. We do not want "bird pile" or tailgate photos. If you DO NOT have a photo, send your manuscript marked NO PHOTOS. We have options for images and artwork.

Again, our email: [duckmagz@gmail.com](mailto:duckmagz@gmail.com)

Thank you very much! -- Gordy Gordon, publisher/editor (816) 724-0653