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SCENIC VIRGINIA SEEKS DIGITAL BEAUTY FOR FIRST-EVER VIEWSHED PHOTO COMPETITION

Theme of 2008 contest is "Celebrating Virginia"

Richmond, Va. In conjunction with its Tenth Anniversary celebration, Scenic Virginia is sponsoring its first-ever Viewshed Photo Competition.

"We are looking for the best of the best," notes president Eugenia Anderson-Ellis. "We challenge all photographers to send us their favorite images of Virginia's most scenic landscapes." To accomplish this goal, Scenic Virginia is calling upon professionals and amateurs alike to submit their digital photographs of the Commonwealth's breathtaking views and vistas in one of the following five categories:

- Coastal /Chesapeake Bay
- Mountains
- Open Space/Farmland
- Rivers/Waterways
- Urban Landscapes.

A panel of expert judges will select a winner in each of the five categories. Winners will receive a $50 honorarium, recognition at Scenic Virginia's 2008 Scenic Awards ceremony in November, mentioned in Scenic Virginia's "Yes, Virginia!" newsletter, and featured on the organization's website.

From the five category winners, one photo will be chosen the overall winner. That photograph will be featured on Scenic Virginia's 2008 holiday card.

Complete rules and regulations are online at www.scenicvirginia.org. There is no charge to enter, and entrants can submit up to five photographs each. The deadline for submitting entries is 5:00 pm EST on September 1, 2008 (Labor Day).

Winners will be notified by October 1, 2008. The winning images will be displayed at Scenic Virginia's 2008 Scenic Awards Luncheon, scheduled for Thursday, November 13 at noon at the historic Kent-Valentine House in Richmond.

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Scenic Virginia is a statewide conservation nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve, protect and enhance the scenic beauty and community character of the Commonwealth, with a particular focus on the preservation of Virginia's most significant viewsheds and vistas. Membership is open to all.

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