



The Havre de Grace Decoy Museum

215 Giles Street • Havre de Grace, MD 21078

October 17, 2024

Potential Marine Exhibitor:

Dear Exhibitor:

The Havre de Havre de Grace Decoy Museum has hosted its Annual Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival the first weekend in May since 1982. The event features an indoor decoy, wildlife art, and collectibles show at the STAR Centre. Historically, our event draws anywhere from 1,000 -1,200 attendees over a two day period. The weekend admission to the decoy show is \$10 for the weekend. Our partner the Susquehanna Flats Chapter of Delta Waterfowl, provides food in the form of pit beef, ham, turkey, and hotdogs for sale on both days of the event.

In 2025, the 43rd Annual Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival will be held on Saturday, May 3 and Sunday, May 4, 2025. The set up for decoy show exhibitors is in the afternoon on Friday, May 2 (12:00 PM – 3:00 PM). A free welcoming reception is held at the Decoy Museum on Friday evening from 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM.

In 2024, the Decoy Museum tried something different in order to create more excitement around our Decoy Festival venue, namely we hosted a marine exhibition in the paved parking lot adjacent to the STAR Centre. Unfortunately, the weather was horrible that weekend and the marine exhibition was a wash out. We are not discouraged by the bad luck in 2024 and will be again hosting a marine event in 2025. We are reaching out to our regional marine suppliers to invite you to participate in 2025 at no charge to you. We will not charge admission to customers for the marine event. Once we both determine how worthwhile this idea may be for future consideration, we can figure out how the Decoy Museum might raise a few dollars going forward.

Havre de Grace is a boating town and there are numerous boaters from both in and out of town that flock to our local marinas each and every weekend to enjoy the relaxation that boating and water sports offer. The first weekend of May is a time that every boater is (or should be) at their boats readying them for the upcoming season. In addition, it's guaranteed that over 1,000 decoy show attendees (most of which are avid outdoorsmen) will be on the property throughout the weekend. Additionally, the City of Havre de Grace will celebrate Defender's Day at Concord Point Park on Saturday, May 3 with fireworks to follow at dusk at the waterfront providing yet a greater draw to the city that day.

I have attached a layout of the 2025 Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival for your review showing where the marine exhibition will be in relation to the other events. Please indicate your willingness to participate by returning the attached space application asap with a brief description of what you plan to exhibit. Thank you.

Mike Tarquini

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