

Hi Flagpole

November 2025 Newsletter

FlagpolePhotographers.com

What's Happening

Sunday, November 9, from 2 to 4 pm

Newtown & Beyond Photo Exhibit

Public Opening Reception

Newtown Municipal Center

Meetings are free and open to everyone. Arrive 30 minutes early for the social time.

November 6

[The Editing Challenge: Different Goals,
Different Edits Program](#)

Online

November 13

[Competition – Leading Lines or S-
Curves, Nature, Color, Monochrome and
Monthly Challenge Glass](#)

In-Person & Online

Flagpole Photographers Camera Club Posts

2025 “Newtown & Beyond” Info to Share

The Flagpole Photographers Camera Club invites you to visit our 15th Annual Exhibit at the Newtown Municipal Center's main hallway. This is a beautiful gallery setting with grand arches located at the historic Fairfield Hills Campus. Exhibit Details
Dates: November 3 - December 30
Opening Reception: Sunday, November 9th, 2-4 p.m. Viewing Hours: Weekdays 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and ...

[Read more](#)

Photo Exhibit

Newtown and Beyond

Flagpole Photographers Camera Club of Newtown



Nov 3rd – Dec 30th
Public Reception Sunday, Nov 9th, 2-4 pm

Hundreds of unique photos that make perfect holiday gifts!

**Newtown Municipal Center
Fairfield Hills
3 Primrose Street**

Flagpole Photographers
A Club To Learn, Create & Share
FlagpolePhotographers.com

2025 October Competition Results, All Photos & Video



1. Congratulations to our winners!
2. Results
3. Video of the Judges Discussing the Photos

[Read more](#)

Flagpole Photographer Awards at NECCC Fall 2025 Print Competition

Flagpole Photographers Camera Club members continue to rack up awards at the Fall 2025 New England Camera Club Council (NECCC) Individual Print Competitions. They won 5 awards, including the Best Landscape award thanks to Sandy Schill in the Monochrome Category! Other awards went to Chane Cullens for Judge's Choice, Rhonda Cullens for Judge's Choice, Robyn Abrams with an Honor Award ...

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Waterfall Workshop Learning Success with Melissa Bilotta



Our Waterfall Photography Workshop Saturday, October 11, at Southford Falls State Park was a resounding success! The crisp autumn morning provided the perfect backdrop for a creative and educational outing. We had a fantastic turnout with a dozen enthusiastic photographers: Alenda C., Chane C., Chris T., Clayton L., Darrell H., Doug S., Ed S., Margaret L., Marion L., Melissa B., ...

[Read more](#)

A Deep Dive into Composition with Rhonda Cullens

A huge thank you to Rhonda Cullens for an incredible learning night! She gave a masterclass on photography composition, providing everyone with a clear roadmap to creating more impactful and compelling images. Rhonda started with a core principle: What exactly is composition? Composition is the arrangement of elements within a frame to create a visually compelling photo. It's how we ...



[Read more](#)

Photography Ideas for November 2025

Ideas for our **Assigned Subject - Leading Lines or S-Curves** and **Monthly Challenge - Glass**. Note - the monthly subjects' meaning is always open to your interpretation, don't allow these ideas to impact your creativity.

Leading Lines or S-Curves Photography

Leading lines are a powerful compositional tool used to draw a viewer's attention through a photo, creating depth and a sense of movement. One of the most elegant types of leading lines is the S-curve, which guides the eye along a gentle, flowing path. More info at: [A Deep Dive into Composition with Rhonda Cullens](#)

1. Identify Potential Lines

Lines are everywhere, in both natural and human-made environments. Train your eye to look for paths, roads, rivers, fences, bridges, and even shadows that can act as a visual pathway in your photo. The goal is to find a line that starts in the foreground and leads the viewer deeper into the scene.

2. Match the Line to the Mood

Different types of lines evoke different feelings. Horizontal lines often create a sense of calm and stability, while vertical lines can convey strength and power. Diagonal lines introduce energy and dynamic movement, and curved lines, especially S-curves, add a sense of grace,

elegance, and flow.

3. Position Your Subject Strategically

A leading line is most effective when it points directly to the main subject of your photograph. When composing your photo, place your key point of interest at the end of the line or where multiple lines converge. This technique tells the viewer exactly where to look and makes the subject the clear center of interest of the photo.

4. Use a Wide-Angle Perspective

To make your leading lines even more dramatic, consider using a wide-angle lens. This type of lens can exaggerate the perspective, making lines appear to stretch from the very front of the frame into the distant background. By getting low to the ground, you can further amplify this effect and create a powerful sense of three-dimensionality.

5. Keep Your Lines Clean and Unbroken

For a leading line to be effective, its path should be clear and uninterrupted. Avoid having other elements, like tree branches or clutter, break the flow of the line, as this can distract the viewer and weaken the composition. A strong, clean S-curve or a direct path will guide the eye more gracefully and effectively through the frame.

Crystal Clear Tips for Photographing Glass

Photographing glass presents a unique challenge: how do you capture a transparent object that is also highly reflective? The key is to control the light and reflections to define the object's shape and texture.

1. Master the Light with Diffusion and Backlighting

Direct light, especially an on-camera flash, will create harsh glare and reflections on glass. The solution is to use soft, diffused light. A large softbox or bouncing your light source off a white wall or ceiling will create a gentle, even illumination. Often, the best technique is to light the background behind the glass, which turns the object into a silhouette defined by its elegant edges.

2. Control Reflections with "Negative Fill"

Since glass acts like a mirror, it will reflect everything around it. To create clean, defined edges, surround your subject with black cards or foam boards just out of the frame. This technique, called "negative fill," creates sharp, dark reflections along the sides of the glassware, which clearly outlines its shape and adds a dramatic, professional look.

3. Choose a Simple, Clean Background

A busy background will create distracting reflections and can be seen through the glass, cluttering the photo. It's best to use a plain, neutral-colored background like white, grey, or black to ensure the focus remains on the glassware itself. You can hang a sheet of paper or

fabric behind the subject, making sure it is smooth and free of creases.

4. Prepare the Glass Meticulously

Even the smallest smudge, fingerprint, or speck of dust will be highly visible in a high-resolution photo of glass. Before you begin, clean the item thoroughly and handle it with lint-free gloves to prevent leaving new marks. This preparation is a critical step that cannot be overlooked.

5. Use a Tripod and a Long Lens

A tripod is essential for keeping your camera perfectly still, allowing you to use a low ISO (100-200) for a clean, noise-free photo without worrying about motion blur. Using a longer focal length (like 100mm) allows you to shoot from farther away, which minimizes the chance of capturing your own reflection in the glass and reduces distortion.

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