

# MadisonPhotoPlus the Photo Summit e-Photo Newsletter

October, 2007

## The Photogenic Fall

This year seems to be heading towards a great display of fall foliage. We haven't had periods of drought or severe storms and no frost yet. BRING ON THE COLOR!

Here are some hints for photographing the leaves as the season progresses ...

>Use ISO 100 or slower film or set your digital camera to ISO 100 or its slowest ISO sensitivity. Not only will this selection yield the finest grain (film), but it will allow a contrast range most comparable to what the human eye and brain perceive.

>Because autumn scenes are so popular as enlargements, use a tripod and remote release if you have one. Why?

1. A photo taken with a camera mounted on a tripod is ALWAYS sharper than if the camera was hand held.

2. It is easier to get and keep a camera level if it is on a tripod.

3. A tripod allows you to take more than one photo with exactly the same composition (you may wish to vary the shutter speed, depth of field or filtration while keeping everything else constant.

4. If you later decide to create a panorama shaped photo of the scene, the horizon line will be the same in each shot (if the camera is level).

>Let the direction of the scene influence the time of day to take the pictures. For example, if you are shooting from east facing west, shooting in the early

morning will probably give the lighting you want. Avoid shooting at midday as this will give duller, shadowless photos lacking impact.

>If you have a SLR camera (film or digital), use an enhancing filter (yes, that's its name). This valuable filter more deeply saturates red colors while leaving other colors unaffected. (Although the red channels can be altered in Adobe Photoshop and other software, the rendering done through the filter still yields a better image.)

>Don't be afraid of bad weather! A dark gray sky accents the bright foliage better than an otherwise boring sky.

>Make water your friend. If the leaves are wet, the colors are deeper and more saturated. Shooting right after a rainstorm gives excellent contrast and saturation. If it is still cloudy, try using an 81A filter to prevent coolish tones.

>Look down. Many excellent pictures are of subjects on the ground. Items on the ground are also within flash range! Look for things that are connected with autumn such as acorns, wooly bear caterpillars, some mushrooms and the like.

Unlike trees, these smaller items are easy to move and be placed in better light. Get close to your smaller subjects so that they dominate the photo. Try taking a picture with flash and without. If your equipment permits, use off camera flash for side lighting effects.

>The BIGGEST HINT is - remember that if your subject goes up and down, turn your camera, move in closer and shoot a vertical!

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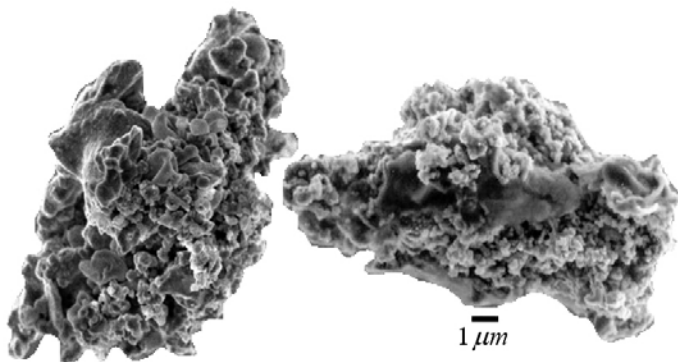
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## Another problem solved

Back in the 1970's a new phenomenon occurred in photography: red-eye. Before then, flashes were not built into cameras, they were bulky and were either positioned above or alongside cameras. When Kodak and others introduced 110 Pocket Instamatic cameras, pocket sized cameras with built in flashes, red-eye became a new part of photography.

Similarly, the advent of digital single lens reflex cameras with interchangeable lenses brought another new phenomenon: dust on the sensor. Some SLR companies, most noticeably Olympus, anticipated the problem and built a "fix" into their first dSLR. A few models by other makers have adopted this remedy but it still plagues dDLR users.

The good news is that many inexpensive digital sensor cleaning devices are available. We sell some daily, and also clean sensors in house for those who prefer not to risk accidentally damaging their cameras. There is no reason to accept white or black spots in the same place on all your photos.



magnified dust particles  
(icky)

## A Few Last Snipits

Sunday, October 7, we will be photographing historical sites in Summit and Madison with help from Nikon. If you are interested in joining our Photo Field Trip, sign up **today**, space is very limited.

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Halloween is approaching. For trick or treat, take a picture of your favorite goblins and display them on your front window for the next few days. Neighborhood kids will come around to look at what spooks visited *your* house.

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That's it for October. Enjoy your picture taking bring us some of your autumn photos - we're always glad to see them.

Lynne & Jerry

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## 2007 Nikon Photo Field Trip



*At the heart of the image™*

### Photo Walking Tour of Historic Town Sunday October 7, 2007 1pm-6pm

Downtown Madison or Summit (your choice!)

Join us for an afternoon of history & photography,  
as we venture through the downtown historic districts  
of Madison & Summit



Extensive Nikon equipment will be available  
for use, and we will have tour guides from the  
Madison & Summit Historical  
Societies.

Taking pictures is mandatory! There will  
be a photo contest following this event and  
prizes will be announced the day of the field trip.



Cost: \$40 (\$15 of which will be donated to respective  
historical society)



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