

Wisconsin Association of Fairs 2026 Spring District Meetings



9:30 Registration / rolls & beverages

10:00 Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
2026 President's Message: Mary Check

Roll Call: Jayme Buttke

Share: What would you like to see for a future convention session/workshop? Consider hands on, panel or single presenter.

WI DATCP Update: Debbie Gegare, Fairs Coordinator will bring our fairs up to date with all of the programming updates.

11:30 Animal Health Inspections & Required Paperwork
Staff from WI DATCP Animal Health Department will be joining us virtually to once again discuss the inspection process and expectations.

12:00 Lunch

12:45 Legislative Update

1:00 **WI Economic Impact Recap & Tools**

WAF has been working on promotional tools that fairs can use to spread the news of the \$1 BILLION Economic Impact that WI Fairs have in our state. It's time to spread the good news about our industry and we've created tools to spread that unified message. We'll be sharing flyers with WI Data, as well a YOUR LOCAL FAIR page to input your data. We'll be handing out yard/gate signs that you can put at your fair gates celebrating our impact. Just imagine the impact we'll have if all 74 Fairs share the same message all Fair Season long.

As you prepare to attend the meeting, think about the domino effect your Fairs has to your community and bring some examples to share at the meeting. Example: You host the Fair; service clubs have a food stand; from the revenue made they give out scholarships to youth in your community. Many times we are asked, what is the direct or indirect impact your Fair has to the community. Let's share as many examples as possible so we are all prepared to share the great news!

YMTD App

Ian Hill, founder of the You Make the Difference tour, has now created an app that everyone in our Fair Industry can use for FREE. Looking to connect with other Fair-Minded people to ask a question, find a resource or simply network with? The WAF Board will walk you through the app to show all of the features available. There is also the possibility that your fair could create a section just for your Fair Board. Options are endless.

2026 WAF Updates

WI State Fair Contest Rooted in Tradition Photo Contest & Outrageous Oatmeal Cookie Creation
Awards Updated Rules & Form
Fairest Updated Forms
Hotel Reservations Update for Convention
IAFE Scholarships

2:30 Adjourn

Wisconsin Association of Fairs 2026 Spring District Meetings

The Wisconsin Association of Fairs (WAF) will once again host four district meetings at a central location within each district. WAF District Directors will take the lead organizing reservations. We hope to see every fair represented in some fashion at the upcoming district meetings.

2026 Calendar of Events:

- April 2** **RSVP for District 3 & 4 meetings due**
April 8 (Wed) District 3 Spring Meeting, WI Dells
April 9 (Thurs) District 4 Spring Meeting, Fond du Lac
April 12 **RSVP for District 1 & 2 meetings due**
April 22(Wed) District 2 Spring Meeting, Barron
April 23 (Thurs) District 1 Spring Meeting, Merrill

**Cost for all in-person district meetings is \$20 per person.
Advance reservations are required by the deadline printed for each meeting.
Your fair will be responsible for the cost of each meal if a reservation is made & not canceled
two days prior to the meeting.**

**Cash and/or check payments may be paid the day of the meeting. Checks should be made payable to WAF.
If you prefer to pay via credit card you can use the link below prior to attending the meetings.**

<https://www.wifairs.com/p/getconnected/district-meeting-details>

District 3: April 8, 2026 (Wednesday)

- Hosted at the Chula Vista Resort, Upper Dells Ballroom, in WI Dells.
- The cost for lunch is \$20.00 per person.
 - RSVP to Liz Cook, 608-356-8707 or info@saukcountyfair.com
- Deadline for reservations is April 2 by noon.
- GPS Address: 2501 River Road Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

District 4: April 9, 2026 (Thursday)

- Hosted in the Recreation Building at the Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds in Fond du Lac. (new building)
- The cost for lunch is \$20.00 per person.
 - RSVP to Eileen Walsh-Grzenia, 414-520-8951 or eileen@walworthcountyfair.com.
- Deadline for reservations is April 2 by noon.
- GPS Address: 530 Fond du Lac Avenue, Fond du Lac, WI 54935

District 2: April 22, 2026 (Wednesday)

- Hosted at the Barron Electric Cooperative
- The cost for lunch is \$20.00 per person.
 - RSVP to Jackie Kumm, 715-381-3744 or jackiekumm@edinarealty.com
- Deadline for reservations is April 12 by noon.
- GPS Address: 1434 State Highway 25 North, Barron, WI 54812

District 1: April 23, 2026 (Thursday)

- Hosted at Ballyhoos Bar and Grill, Merrill. (new location)
- The cost for lunch is \$20.00 per person.
 - RSVP to Dale Christiansen, 715-218-1148 or cwsfexecdir@gmail.com
- Deadline for reservations is April 12 by noon.
- GPS Address: 124 N Prospect Street, Merrill

Upcoming Fall Meeting Schedule:

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| Oct 7 (Wed) | District 3 Spring Meeting, WI Dells | Oct 8 (Thurs) | District 4 Spring Meeting, Fond du Lac |
| Oct 14 (Wed) | District 2 Spring Meeting, Barron | Oct 15 (Thurs) | District 1 Spring Meeting, Merrill |