

WAUKESHA COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION, INC.

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General FAQ's for 2020 Waukesha County Fair

Why is the 2020 Waukesha Count Fair cancelled?

The Waukesha County Fair Board alongside our dedicated team of volunteers have been working tirelessly weighing all of the possibilities for the 2020 Waukesha County Fair- exploring every option and recognizing every consideration set forth by our trusted resources. It was known that at the forefront of any decision that would be made would always be the health and safety of all involved.

After reviewing where the latest information, recommendations, and guidelines were at, with the health and safety of the community and all involved, The Waukesha County Fair Board made the heavy hearted decision to cancel the 2020 Waukesha County Fair.

The goal is never to diminish the Fair experience or compromise the health and safety of anyone – for any reason – ever. Fairs are all about bringing people together, but planning for the safety of thousands of people that our event welcomes, including rigorous cleaning practices and schedules, enforcing social distancing, all while implementing facial coverings, continued to bring the scope of sacrifice beyond the level any fairgoer could remotely enjoy. In the end, none of this was a risk that was willing to be taken.

Every consideration that could be, was evaluated, to ensure all responsibility was being taken in the approach. It is the right decision, for the right reasons, knowing that all opportunities were considered and no stone is left unturned.

Why was the decision to cancel made now and not later?

The Waukesha County Fair is an event welcoming over 120,000 fairgoers, exhibitors, vendors, operators, concessionairres, volunteers, sponsors, entertainers, and so many more each July. The planning and preparations for many of these, along with us as the Fair, is a year-round process with several additional factors to consider along the way. Out of respect and consideration of operations, time and financial investments, employees, set-up, product, along with so many other factors, the time frame is right – we needed to make the decision at this time.

The unknown of the weeks or months ahead, the journey will be filled with waves. Regardless, we do know that we will be able to have a better understanding for planning and preparations looking to brighter days ahead in 2021.

Were all options reviewed according to CDC/EDC guidelines regarding facial coverings, temperature check recommendations, social distancing, and more?

These guidelines and recommendations were all things that were continually reviewed, considered, and re-configured as The Waukesha County Fair Board, along with their respective Committees, evaluated week-to-week if not day-to-day changes. When the updates came out, questions were proposed, and several considerations were reviewed. Anything from limiting the number of daily attendees admitted into the gates to expanding spaces between vendors and booths both inside and outside with respect to the 6' social distancing protocols, all the way to the feasibility of enforcing and controlling facial coverings not only for those as they enter but all throughout the fairgrounds.

These evaluations continued to bring the scope of sacrifice beyond the level any fairgoer could remotely enjoy. In the end, we know that none of this was a risk we were willing to take.

Will there still be some way for people to enjoy some version of the Fair experience?

Nothing compares to the sights, sounds, smells, experiences, and thrills that coming to the Waukesha County Fair each July have. At this time we are working through some logistics to highlight Fair moments, exhibits, opportunities, and Fair "feels" looking ahead to July.

Please stay tuned and follow us on social media <u>Waukesha County Fair Facebook Page</u> for any updates and details. We have hopes to highlight Fair exhibits and offer some Fair fun for all ages.

How can I support the Waukesha County Fair?

The Waukesha County Fair, presented by Inpro, is the oldest fair in the state of Wisconsin and largest event in Waukesha County. The Waukesha County Fair Association is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) volunteer organization run by a 15 member volunteer Board of Directors that is completely separate and receives no funding from Waukesha County or the City of Waukesha.

The loss of this year's annual summer staple resonates deep and hits hard. Each year the Waukesha County Fair relies solely on our gate receipts, donations, food/beverage sales, and carnival income to sustain into the next fiscal year. Donations would be used to make the 2021 Fair better and brighter as we look ahead.

Anyone can make a "Friend of the Fair" contribution by contacting our Executive Director, Chrissy Gluege - <u>Chrissy@waukeshacountyfair.com</u>, or our Fair Office directly – 262-544-5922. You are also able to make a donation to the Waukesha County Fair through our <u>Waukesha County Fair Facebook Page</u>.

MISSION STATEMENT

As a non-profit 501 (c)3 volunteer organization, any donation to the Waukesha County Fair is eligible for a tax deduction. Documentation and details are available any time – feel free to reach out!

How can I still support the local service organizations affiliated with the Waukesha County Fair?

The decision made to cancel the 2020 Waukesha County Fair will impact all of us, there's no doubt. Over the years, the Waukesha County Fair has been so fortunate to integrate incredible local service groups and organizations that continue to do so much good in our Waukesha County neighborhoods. As we look ahead, we will be working with these groups to see how we can continue to share their message alongside ours to continue to highlight all the great things throughout our Waukesha County communities far and wide.

Please stay tuned and follow us on social media <u>Waukesha County Fair Facebook Page</u> for any updates and details. We have hopes to highlight them and continue our missions together.

What about the exhibitors?

While the 2020 Waukesha County Fair has been cancelled, we are looking at opportunities for our Junior exhibitors to still show their projects in both the livestock and competitive exhibit areas. Stay tuned as updates are in the works – at this time we are accepting Junior exhibit registration through June 15th.

The Waukesha County Fair along with the Competitive Exhibits Committee had to make the tough decision to cancel the Open & Senior Class exhibit area for 2020.

Any questions, please email your concerns to our 4-H Entries & Auction Coordinator, Sarah Brimmer at Sarah@waukeshacountyfair.com.

When is the 2021 Waukesha County Fair?

The 2021 Waukesha County Fair, presented by Inpro Corporation, will be held, July 21-25.