## Wisconsin Christmas Tree Producers Association
### Summer Convention Information for Attendees- Aug. 24-26, 2023

| Deadline | Please register (mail postmark or last minute email!) by August 1 so that we can get the meal count in. Late fee will apply after August 1. |
| Hotels | See information on another page of this mailing |
| Convention Site | All events will be at Swanson’s Evergreen Nursery/Christmas Big Red Barn, W7484 Valerio Road, Niagara, WI 54151. |
| Tree Contest Setup | We are having the tree contest on Friday. The contest rules are enclosed here. Register for the contests at the main registration table on Friday morning. Wahmhoff Farms from Gobles, Michigan is providing equipment to drill the tree stumps. Thank you to the Wahmhoffs for providing this service for us! |
| Registration | Please fill out the registration page and mail it back to us with your payment. We will provide you with a name tag and meal tickets. |
| For The Things That Bug You | Bring in your diseased tree specimens and consult with the experts. Brooke Sanneh or others from WI Dept. of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and USDA may be available in the vendor area on Friday. USDA will plan to be there for USDA compliance agreements for interstate shipping. |
| Buy & Sell Boards | Bulletin boards will be available for you, the growers, to post notices of trees or equipment for sale or wanted. Pictures are welcome. |
| Pre-order your chemicals and supplies | Vendors are open on Thursday and Friday. Call your supplier and place an order so they can bring it with them to the convention for you to pick up. |
| Questions & Payment Type | If you have questions about any of the convention events, please contact Cheryl at the association office, 608-742-8663. WCTPA accepts cash and checks only. Vendors - some accept credit/debit cards along with checks. |
| Refreshments | Coffee and treats on Friday & Saturday morning. Water and a variety of cold drinks will be provided each day. Cash bar. |
| Thursday Night Bean Bag Tournament | It’s game time! Enjoy the time to catch up with other growers and vendors. Join the bean bag tournament and enjoy free homemade pizza compliments of Swansons and Pizza Pete. Cash (or sponsored) drinks on site. Prizes for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd winners. |
| Friday Meals | In the morning, enjoy homemade cinnamon rolls from Storheims Restaurant along with donuts, coffee, & juice. Lunch will be a variety of sub sandwiches, chips, cookies, & beverages while enjoying conversations amongst friends. |
| Friday Banquet | Social hour starts early. At the banquet, we’ll announce the tree contest winners, give out awards, and enjoy a delicious meal catered by Shane Larson BBQ with smoked brisket and chicken, Smashed Baby Red Potatoes, with Roasted Garlic, Macaroni and Cheese, Drunken Bourbon Carrots, Green Bean Almondine, Southwestern Corn, & Fresh Fruit. Cash (or sponsored) bar for beer & soda pop. |
| Saturday | Donuts and cinnamon rolls with coffee & juice in the morning. Grilling out for lunch. |
| Photos and Video | Please be aware that photos and/or video may be taken at the convention. The pictures may be used in publications, on social media or websites. |
Thursday, August 24
12:00  Board Meeting
12:00-4:00  Vendors Set Up
3:00  Registration Opens
3:00-5:30  Vendors Open
5:30  Bean Bag Tournament, homemade pizza, & fun

Friday, August 25
8:00  Registration Opens
8:00-11:30  Tree Contest Entries
Register & Set Up
8:00  Homemade Cinnamons from Storheims Restaurant
8:15  Vendors Open
9:00  DATCP Update
9:30  CT Promotion Board Update
10:00  Break
10:15-11:00  Jim Rockis - Genetics 101
11:00 - 11:30  Jeff & Joe NRCS  - Irrigation
11:30-12:00  Jeremy Irish - Fence Programs
12:00  Lunch/Visit Vendors - Sub Sandwiches
12:00- 2:00  Tree Judging
1:30-2:15  Jim Rockis Genetics 102
2:15-2:30  Snacks/Drinks for Nursery Tour
2:30-4:30  Nursery Tour/ Demos/ Speakers
4:30  Annual Meeting
4:30-7:30  Boujee Bar Serving Drinks/ visit vendors
5:30  Vendors Close
6:00-7:30  Banquet - BBQ/Enjoy Boujee Bar/Visiting

Saturday, August 26
7:30-8:30  Donut and Cinnamon Rolls and Juice/Coffee
8:30-10:00  Seed Orchard Tour/ Wholesale Field/Pumpkin Patch
10:00-10:30  Kissing Ball and Wreath Overview - Q&A
10:30-11:00  Scott Reuss - Crops and Soils Educator UW - Madison
11:00-12:00  Grab Lunch- Grill Out
11:30-12:45  Christmas Tree Field Demos-Scott Reuss, Jutek, Planting, Managing
1:00-3:30  Agri-tainment Tours -Gift Shop, Sweet Shop, Barn, Activities Q&A

Speakers – Demos – Tour
Jim Rockis – Reliable Source: Morgantown, WV
• Genetics 101 & 102
• Recognizing Seed Source, Choosing the Proper Seed, Consistency in Collection and Tracking Seed
• Swanson Balsam Fir Orchard (Tour)
Scott Reuss – Regional Crops/Soils Educator: Marinette, Oconto, Langlade & Shawano Counties
• Nutrition Management Practices
• Weed Control Options
• Chemical Options/ Comparisons – In Field
Jeremy Irish – USDA Deer Management Program (Fence Program)
• Program Details
• Requirements, Program Terms, Etc.
Jeff Maroszek / Joe Vanhulle – NRCS Irrigation Management Programs
• Cost Sharing Program
• Requirements, Program Terms, Etc.

Nursery Tour- Friday after Lunch -Wagons to Back Field
Seeds/Plugs (Weyerhaeuser/IFA)--Frozen (Thaw plants) to Ground
Mechanical Transplanter 6 row
Bed Preparation
Irrigation Set up
Pre - Emergent Weed Application --Chemicals Used- Herbicide/Pesticides
Irrigation Control
• Ranch Systems – Pump Control, Soil Moisture, Rain Gauge, Frost Protection Temperatures, OverHeat Temperatures
Fertilizing
Winterizing
Spring Harvest
• Number of Crew Members
• Wagons, Bin, Tractors, Digger
• Sorting, Root Pruning,