



Washington County Agricultural Fair
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April 27, 2023- For Immediate Release

**The 225th Washington County Agricultural Fair Anniversary Committee
To Recognizes the Fair Mission and the Agricultural Industry**

WASHINGTON, PA-The Washington County Agricultural Fair a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is Pennsylvania's oldest fair dating back 225 years to October of 1798. When Washington County was celebrating its first fair, John Adams, our nation's second president, was in office. At the time, only sixteen states existed. The first fair was named the "Morganza Fair" and was an exhibit of cattle and sheep. The primary mission of the fair is to promote and advance the interest of agriculture, horticulture, homemaking subjects, arts and sciences, 4-H clubs and FFA organizations and activities.

Today, The Washington County Agricultural Fair is an eight-day event attracting more than 65,500 spectators annually. The 225th Anniversary Fair runs August 12-19. The 225th Anniversary Fair Planning Committee is actively organizing the fair and special anniversary activities. The committee is chaired by Jeff Kotula President, Washington County Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Promotion Agency.

"While we are celebrating the 225th Washington County Agricultural Fair, the foundation of this event is timeless. It has always been a way to honor our county's rich farming heritage and, more importantly, the generations of families that have raised the crops and livestock that we depend on every day. It is a way for us to appreciate what those families and farms mean to our county and country." said Jeff Kotula Chairman, Washington County Agricultural Fair 225th Anniversary Planning Committee.

Agriculture is the largest industry in Washington County. The USDA ranked Washington County fourth overall in the Commonwealth with 1,760 farms: this is the largest by far in Western Pennsylvania trailing only to Lancaster, York, and Berks County amongst the state's 67 counties.

The Washington County Agricultural Fair 225th Anniversary Planning Committee has been actively planning a celebration aimed at recognizing the agricultural industry and families and farms that make the industry as vital to feeding our region today as it was 225 years ago.

The planning committee members are as follow:

225th The Washington County Agricultural Fair Anniversary Committee Members

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| Jeff Kotula | Committee Chairperson - President, Washington County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Promotion Agency |
| Chase McClain | Director of Marketing – Washington County Chamber of Commerce And Tourism Promotion Agency |
| Todd Richards | President - Washington County Agricultural Fair Board |
| Wayne Hunnell | Secretary - Washington County Agricultural Fair Board |
| David Cowden | Vice President - Washington County Agricultural Fair Board |
| Diana Irey Vaughan | Chair, Washington County Board of Commissioners |
| Larry Maggi | Washington County Board of Commissioners |
| Nick Sherman | Washington County Board of Commissioners |
| Lisa Cessna | Washington County Director of Planning |
| John Swiatek | Founder/Director -JMS Advisors |
| Scott Becker | Executive Director- PA Trolley Museum |
| Bill Iams | Owner Log Cabin Fence Company |
| Ryan McClain | Mills Group |
| Carole DeAngelo | Director of Advertising & Events – Observer Reporter |
| Clay Kilgore | Executive Director – Washington County Historical Society |
| Shana Brown | Main Street Manager – City of Washington |

The Washington County Agricultural Fair and the fairgrounds are key economic drivers for Washington County and surrounding communities. The fairgrounds include five exhibit halls, ten barns, grandstand, show arena, show tent, and picnic pavilion. The fairgrounds are active on a year-round basis attracting various shows and exhibits. Most of these events are “rentals” where organizations lease the facility. Most events occur over multiple days and weekends and the total Fair and Expo Center attendance exceeds 135,000 annually.

For more information, visit the fair website at www.washingtonfair.org or call the Fair office at 724-225-7718. Daily admission is \$10 including carnival rides and parking is always free.

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About the Washington County Agricultural Fair

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