

Wisconsin Conservation Congress 2022 Spring District Meeting Agenda



1. **Organizational Matters** ~ (see schedule for start time)
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call

2. **Informational Items & Program Updates**
 - A. Department and Secretary's Office updates—*Secretary's Directors*
 - B. DNR program updates will be provided via a link to pre-recorded presentations that delegates can view at their leisure. Additional questions or locally specific questions can be directed to local staff.

3. **Conservation Congress Annual County Meeting and DNR Spring Hearing Logistics**
 - A. Spring Hearings will be held online in 2022 beginning at 7:00 pm on April 11 and will remain open for 72 hours. No in-person meetings will be held.
 - Resolutions can be submitted online via a survey tool through March 11. Resolutions can be pasted into the online tool and staff will assign it the resolution number on our end. The requirement for resolution length has been changed from 250 words to 2,000 characters (which the program automatically counts).

 - B. Delegate Seats
 - Delegate terms will be extended by another year, as was done last year. If you weren't planning to run again, or wish to vacate your seat, please let Kari Lee-Zimmermann, your County Chair, and your District Councilors know.
 - Applications are being taken through March 11 to help fill vacancies. Applications will be sent to the County Chair and they should review the application in consultation with the county delegates to determine if you want to appoint the applicant to the vacant seat(s).
 - Delegate profiles will be available online in the form of a survey. Delegates have until **Friday, April 8, 2022**, to complete their delegate profile online. If a delegate does not have email, a hardcopy will be sent in the mail to be completed and sent back. Newly appointed delegates with email will receive the informational email a few days after Kari Lee-Zimmermann is notified of their appointment.

 - C. Local Spring Hearing Press
 - We will be sending the press release electronically to those delegates with email. Please decide who within your county will be responsible for taking this press release to local media outlets. We offer this press release to media for their use in order to get the word out about the Spring Hearings, but we do not have the funding to pay to have this published in local papers. If you would like a hardcopy of this press release to distribute, please contact Kari Lee-Zimmermann at (608) 219-9134.

4. **Other Congress Business**
 - A. Committee Appointments
 - The District Leadership Councilors will discuss with their districts the advisory committee selection process and will work with their district delegates to identify the appropriate members to sit on the various advisory committees.

B. Youth Conservation Congress (*standing item on agenda*)

- Be sure to engage any YCC delegates in attendance at your district meetings, ask them about any YCC activities or experiences they may want to share, and continue to encourage delegates to reach out to schools and youth in their areas to promote the Youth Conservation Congress program. Delegates on the YCC Oversight Committee may have additional information to share about the status of this youth engagement opportunity. This is an opportunity to educate new delegates (and remind long-time delegates) about this program.

C. Outreach & Public Relations Efforts - Delegate Resources/ Educational Material (*standing item on agenda*) Continue efforts to educate the public about the WCC and their opportunity to participate in CDACs and Spring Hearings.

- Delegates have a number of resources available to them under “local delegate resources” from the WCC homepage (<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/about/wcc/Delegates>). Please review the guidance, trainings, and templates available to you.
- There is a 1½ minute promotional video available for delegates to use when giving talks about the Congress or encouraging others to get involved. It can be found on the WCC homepage (<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/about/wcc>).
- There is also a WCC brochure that can be printed off the web (https://dnr.wi.gov/About/WCC/Documents/WCC_Brochure19_20.pdf) or ordered from Kari Lee-Zimmermann for use when providing informational material about the WCC to citizens.
- Delegates can now get blank business cards that you can fill in with your contact information when you’re speaking to others about the WCC. Supplies of these can be ordered from Kari Lee-Zimmermann or you can also get the template to create and order on your own.

D. Shooting Sports Range Update (*from Committee Chair Harold Drake*)

The WCC Shooting Committee is once again requesting your assistance in updating the Statewide Shooting Range Inventory listing. The committee would like each district to do a preliminary review of the list at their district meetings. We are asking county chairs to review the list as it applies to their specific County. We are interested in making corrections to the list that reflect the current status of each listed range. Please take the time to investigate any listed range that you may have questions about.

Forward any changes to **Emily Iehl: emily.iehl@Wisconsin.gov**. If you have no changes, please respond by indicating your specific county and that no changes are needed.

Things we are looking for:

- 1) Any range that is not on the range inventory. (New or existing)
- 2) Any range that is on the Inventory that is no longer active.
- 3) Ranges that no longer offer a listed venue. (Shut down Rile Range Etc.)
- 4) Ranges that added a venue such as new pistol range, sporting clays Etc.
- 5) Range Status. Public or private?

E. Awards

- Nominations are being sought for organizations, clubs (either local or statewide), and educators who have made a significant contribution to conservation in the past year. Please get the word out to local organizations and individual who may have nominations. The nomination form can be found on the WCC website under “Annual WCC Awards.” Nominations are due **March 31, 2022**.

- The Executive Committee would like your help in nominating a fellow WCC delegate for the Dave A. Ladd Heavy Lifter Award. Each year the Congress recognizes one of its own for their extraordinary efforts, both within the Congress and in other areas that enhance our communities. Please provide a brief summary of your nominee and their civic accomplishments to one of the Executive Committee members or the DNR Liaison. There is no formal nomination form for this award, but any suggestions are welcome by **March 31, 2022**.
 - The Executive Committee would like your help in nominating outstanding DNR staff for the annual awards. In the past, awards were given to individuals in the specific fields of wildlife, fisheries, and law enforcement; however, as was done the past two years, the WCC will taking nominations for any deserving DNR staff, regardless of the bureau or division for which they may work. The nomination form can be found on the WCC website under “Annual WCC Awards.” Nominations are due **March 31, 2022**.
- E. WCC Learn-to-Bear-Hunt Tag
- The WCC is holding the essay contest for the Learn-to-Hunt bear tag. Essays are due **April 27th** and can be found online.
- F. 2022 Annual Convention
- We are hopeful that we will be able to hold the WCC annual convention at Chula Vista in the Wisconsin Dells, **May 12-14**.
 - The district councilors should poll your district members to ensure that enough of the delegates will be comfortable attending and available to attend in order to have a quorum so that elections for district councilors can be held and the WCC’s business can be completed.
 - Delegates should consider collecting items for WCC raffle and making sure that we have identified all of your county/district’s delegates that have passed since 2019 for memorial resolutions.

5. Member Matters

6. Adjourn