



July 6, 2016

Fun at the Fair

It's summer in Wisconsin, and that means enjoying our great outdoors, ice cream, and the very best of what our state has to offer. One of the best ways to experience the heart of our state is by visiting a county fair. Wisconsin has over 75 county fairs, including three of our own counties: the Jefferson County Fair (July 6th-10th), the Dane County Fair (July 20th-24th), and the Waukesha County Fair (July 20th-24th). Our county fairs all include delicious food, spectacular entertainment, and highlight the best of Wisconsin agriculture.

Agriculture is important because it is one of our state's top industries. The state's Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP) states that agriculture accounts for almost 12% of our state's total employment, providing over 410,000 jobs. More fun facts are that our state ranks third in potato production, and, according to the Wisconsin Farm Bureau, our state produces 33% of the nation's carrots, leads the nation in cranberry production, and is second in the country in oat production.

With over 9,000 dairy farms in our state, we have more hard working dairy farmers than any other state. These dairy farms make over a \$43 billion impact on our economy, and they help give us the food items we love the most – cheese, ice cream, and milk. In fact, Wisconsin's cheese makers make over 25% of the country's cheese and make our state the leading cheese producer in the nation!

Our county fairs are a great opportunity to relax, take in the most of Wisconsin agriculture, and best of all, make memories. For more information, feel free to visit the state's Tourism website at www.travelwisconsin.com. Enjoy your time at the fair!