

STATE FFA CONVENTION TOURS

ORDER TICKETS ONLINE <http://www.wisconsinffa.org/convention.php> or sign-up at the Convention On-Site Ticket Sales Table in the lobby of the Exhibition Hall. Each tour is \$6.00 per person **except** where indicated if an additional admission charge is required. There is a limited number of participants per tour. Sign Up Early! Times listed include travel to and from site. Monday tours leave from Sheraton Hotel. Tuesday and Wednesday tours leave from the Alliant Energy Center.

Monday, June 8, 2009

1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Henry Vilas Zoo

Limit: 55 people

The Henry Vilas Zoo provides 30 acres of animal exhibits from around the world including alpacas, bison, polar bears, chimpanzees, flamingoes, hedgehogs, swans, turtles, and wallabies. The Henry Vilas Zoo is sure to provide information for everyone as you take a walking tour of the different exhibits.

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

UW – Madison Babcock Dairy Plant

Limit: 25 people

Babcock Hall opened in 1950 and houses the present dairy plant. The plant's mission is to do research, provide instruction, and perform public service. Unlike most industrial dairy plants, the Babcock Hall plant produces a variety of products. This allows students, researchers, and industry personnel to study and utilize several dairy processes in one facility. The plant is required to generate one hundred percent of its operating costs from the sale of dairy products on campus. Students will walk through the plant, complete a quality control lab, and learn about the Babcock Butterfat Test.

11:35 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

McKay Nursery

Limit: 55 people

McKay Nursery Company is a Midwest leader producing over 550 varieties of quality plants on 1800 acres in South Central Wisconsin. As a complete source for you landscape needs, McKay's modern facilities support the propagation, production & delivery of plants to over 20,000 customers per year.

12:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens

Limit: 50 people

A guided tour through the mystery and beauty of nature at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. Touring through 16 acres of outdoor display gardens including Olbrich's award-winning Rose Garden and Thai Pavilion and garden. Then travel inside the Bolz Conservatory, a glass pyramid filled with exotic plants, bright flowers, a rushing waterfall, fragrant orchids and free-flying birds.

1:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Agracetus Campus of Monsanto Company

Limit: 20 people

Agracetus specializes in crop plant transformation and molecular biology. The campus is located on 4.5 acres with approximately 100,000 square feet of research space. It houses Monsanto research laboratories and a 35,000 square foot greenhouse complex. Monsanto's research centers on soybean transformation and nutritional improvement of plants for human and animal consumption. Their most prominent fields of expertise include molecular biology, tissue culture, agronomy, plant physiology, and genetics. ****All visitors and/or guests at this site should wear clothing that provides the following minimum coverage in ALL WORK AREAS WITHIN THE FACILITY:**

Long pants or skirts/dresses that provide coverage to the mid-calf

Shirts with sleeves (i.e., no tank tops)

Closed toe and heel shoes (i.e., no clogs or sandals)

Individuals that arrive and are not able to meet the minimum provisions above will be issued appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (scrubs, lab coats, and foot coverings) to be worn if visiting ANY WORK AREAS WITHIN THE FACILITY.**

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

8:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

UW – Madison CALS Tour

Limit: 55 people

Members will get to tour the Dairy Science Center, Poultry Lab, Dairy Cattle Center, Allen Centennial Gardens, and D.C. Smith Greenhouses. This is focused around prospective students or students that want to get more information about UW-Madison College of Agricultural Life and Sciences. Professors and faculty will be on site to speak with students and showcase the facilities.

11:50 a.m. – 2:15 p.m.

UW – Madison Arlington Research Station

Limit: 55 people

The 2,000 acre complex is composed of 14 crop and livestock units. These include the Agronomy, Beef Nutrition, Beef Physiology, Dairy Herd Replacement, Emmons Blaine Dairy Center, Horticulture, Plant Pathology and Entomology, Poultry, Sheep, Soils, Swine, Turkeys, and Veterinary Science units. The Forestry Department maintains approximately 55 acres of trees for research.

2:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Water Treatment Facility – Nine Springs Treatment Plant

Limit: 55 people

Over 100 years ago, the first wastewater treatment plant was built in Madison, Wisconsin. In comparison, many communities did not have wastewater treatment for another 50 years. The Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District was created in 1930 to protect the environment in the region of lakes and streams that comprise the upper Yahara River watershed. The Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District now serves almost 300,000 people in the cities, towns, and villages in the Madison area. Students will discuss the use of manure digesters and metrogrow fertilizers