



THE CRANBERRY COUNTRY CRIER

Printed by the Vilas County News-Review in conjunction with the Cranberry Fest Committee

Volume XL

Saturday & Sunday

Oct. 4 & 5, 2025

Eagle River, Wis.



Inside:

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**NO PETS
PLEASE!**

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EAGLE RIVER, MINOCQUA, RHINELANDER, TOMAHAWK AND MANITOWISH WATERS

AUXILIARY FOOD/SNACK BOOTHS CRANBERRY FEST 2025

LOCATED ON MAIN CRANBERRY FEST GROUNDS

FOOD SPACE 1

Taco Joe's

Items sold: Tacos, walking tacos, burritos, quesadillas, tamales, taco salads, nachos and cheese, nacho deluxe, taquitos, chimichangas, hot ham & cheese sandwiches, breakfast burritos, soda, water, hot chocolate, tea. *Serving breakfast starting at 7:00 AM!*

FOOD SPACE 2 & 3

J.P.N.'s Concessions

Items sold: Bison & elk burgers, smoked brisket, prime rib sandwich, Cuban sandwich, Sloppy Joes, smoked kielbasa, Italian sausage, fresh cut fries, cheese fries, sloppy cheese fries, deep fried pierogies, deep fried pretzels, funnel fries, lemon shake ups, slushies, cotton candy, frozen dipped bananas + Cheesecake, coffee, hot cocoa, water, soda.

FOOD SPACE 4, 5, & 6

All Star Catering

Items sold: Cheese curds, corn dogs, fries, chicken tenders, mini

donuts, gyros, chicken fajitas, pulled pork, lemonade.

FOOD SPACE 7 & 8 Bortolotti's CinCin

Items sold: Hawaiian ham sandwich, chicken ranch BLT, lemongrass veggie wrap, jalapeno and cranberry turkey wrap, jambalaya, Italian meatballs, little smokies, bruschetta, Tribute jalapeno beer cheese dip with Bavarian pretzels, pumpkin butternut squash soup, chips, baked apples with homemade whipped cream, coffee, hot apple cider, water, soda.

FOOD SPACE 9

Grandpa Choo Choo's

Items sold: Kettle corn, caramel popcorn, cheese popcorn, cranberry popcorn.

FOOD SPACE 10 Scrima's Wood - Fired Pizza

Items sold: Wood Fire Pizzas, breadsticks, hot chocolate, Water and soda.

FOOD SPACE 11 & 12

Dublin's Paddy Wagon

Items sold: Reuben sandwich, corned beef sandwich, club sandwich, turkey/bacon/apple/cranberry sandwich, mozzarella sticks, jalapeno poppers, special appetizer, soda, water, coffee.

BOOTH NUMBER 15

The Nut Man

Items sold: Pre-Packaged nuts, snack mixes and Candy.

BOOTH NUMBER W9

The Licorice Guy

Items sold: Pre-Packaged old fashioned Licorice.

BOOTH NUMBER: X 1 & 2

Travelin' Nuts LLC

Items sold: Bavarian Roasted nuts.

NEAR TENNIS COURTS

Conover Area Fire Department

Items sold: Fresh Cranberry Cream Puffs.

Welcome to Eagle River's 45th annual Cranberry Fest!

The 45th annual Cranberry fest, an Eagle River Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center-sponsored event, will be held Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 4-5.

This year's festival will again be located at the Vilas County Fairgrounds on Highway 70 W., with additional activities downtown on Saturday only.

Cranberry Fest has something for everyone — an arts and crafts show with more than 250 booths, cranberry food sales, a bakery, family fun, entertainment, sweatshirt and T-shirt sales and more.

With more than 45,000 people attending the festival annually, it is one of the highlights of the fall.

Downtown activities will include an open-air antiques market, farmers market, an arts and crafts fair, food and entertainment. While you're at the fairgrounds, check out the food tent. You'll find soups, charbroiled sandwiches and fresh cranberry baked goods, cranberry beer and cranberry wine.

How about fresh



Hundreds of smiling volunteers brave whatever Wisconsin weather may throw at them to help out at one of the North Woods' biggest events. Beyond the volunteers, there are many artists selling handmade items alongside cranberry-themed food and beverage vendors that pack into the Vilas County Fairgrounds.

—NEWS-REVIEW PHOTO

cranberries? More than 8,000 pounds of local premium-select fresh cranberries will be sold during this annual event.

Cranberry Fest is made possible by many volunteers who help organize, set up, clean up and everything in between for this festival.

The chamber would like

to thank everyone for all of their time and efforts, and would like to welcome one and all to experience the excitement of this year's Cranberry Fest and the beautiful scenery and shops of Eagle River. Cranberry

Fest is traditionally held on the first full weekend in October.

Mark your calendar for the Oct. 3 and 4, 2026, festival. We hope to see you soon during an Eagle River visit!

Please... No pets!

Fest organizers remind visitors that pets and animals are not allowed at the Vilas County Fairgrounds, according to Parks and Recreation Chapter Ordinance 19.08 Animals.

"This ordinance will be enforced by event organizers and area law enforcement. You will be asked to leave the grounds immediately and could be fined, so please leave your animals at home," said a

fest spokesperson.

In addition to any vendor, exhibitor and food concessionaire areas located at the Vilas County Fairgrounds, pets are not allowed at Riverside Park or Eagle River tennis courts.

"In areas where permitted, pets shall be kept on a leash no more than 8 feet long. All pets shall be effectively restrained or under the owner's control at all times," the spokesperson said.



Friday, Saturday & Sunday

Oct. 3, 4 & 5, 2025

MAIN EVENTS

FRIDAY, OCT. 3

- Cranberry Marsh Tours, Eagle River Area Chamber of Commerce, 10 a.m. to noon.

SATURDAY, OCT. 4

- Fresh, Premium Cranberry and Craisins® Sales, Fairgrounds, Downtown Eagle River and Eagle River Area Chamber of Commerce.
- Pancake Breakfast, Fairgrounds, 7 to 10 a.m.
- Open Air Market, Downtown Eagle River, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Cranberry Marsh Tours, Eagle River Area Chamber of Commerce, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Arts & Crafts Fair, Fairgrounds, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Bake Sale, Cranberry Fest Headquarters Tent, Next to Fresh Cranberries at Fairgrounds, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Beer & Wine Garden, Fairgrounds, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Family Entertainment by Bill Stevens Entertainment, Fairgrounds, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCT. 5

- Pancake Breakfast, Fairgrounds 7 to 10 a.m.
- Bake Sale, Cranberry Fest Headquarters Tent Next to Fresh Cranberries at Fairgrounds, 9 a.m.
- Fresh, Premium Cranberry and Craisins® Sales, Fairgrounds, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Arts & Crafts, Fairgrounds, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Beer & Wine Garden, Fairgrounds, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Cranberry Marsh Tours, Eagle River Area Chamber of Commerce, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Family Entertainment by Bill Stevens Entertainment, Fairgrounds, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



A whole row of the grounds is dedicated to food vendors slinging their own brands of delicious offerings.

—NEWS-REVIEW PHOTO



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Activities planned downtown Saturday

While there will be a lot of activity at the Vilas County Fairgrounds during Cranberry Fest, there will also be plenty of attractions in downtown Eagle River.

The festivities will include a farmers market, an arts and crafts fair, an antiques show and a food stand — all within just a few feet of dozens of unique shops in downtown Eagle River. Featured food will include many delicious cranberry-flavored products.

For the convenience of the festival-goers, the first three blocks of Wall Street will be closed to traffic for the antique/vintage show and farmers market Saturday.

In addition, a bus shuttle will provide transportation between the fairgrounds and downtown.

"People visiting the area are encouraged to extend their stay at Cranberry Fest in downtown Eagle River," said Kim Emerson, executive director of the Eagle River Area Chamber



Antiques and other goods will line the streets of downtown during Saturday of Cranberry Fest weekend. Also downtown there will be a fiber artist show and library book sale.

—NEWS-REVIEW PHOTO

of Commerce Visitors Center.

Antique/vintage show

A favorite annual attraction of Cranberry Fest is scheduled to return this year, with the open-air antiques market, Saturday, Oct. 4.

The Eagle River Chamber of Commerce will host the event. The show will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

on the first three blocks of Wall Street.

A variety of antiques and collectibles will be available for sale, including glassware, jewelry, furniture, sporting goods and more.

Arts and craft fair

Handcrafted items such as chainsaw carvings, metal work, custom made resin art jewelry, pot holders,

towels and more from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4, in downtown Eagle River.

Farmers market

Fresh fall produce will be available from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4, in downtown Eagle River. A variety of fresh produce will be for sale on Wall Street. Fresh cranberries and Craisins® can also be purchased downtown.

More than 400 volunteers make it happen at festival

The Eagle River area is known for its Chain of Lakes and its chain of events throughout the year.

Cranberry Fest, the first full weekend in October, is one of the biggest links in that chain thanks to hundreds of volunteers who help make it all possible.

Volunteers are the key to every community event in the area and Cranberry Fest is no different.

According to Kim Emerson, executive director at the Eagle River Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center, Cranberry Fest has an incredible number of enthusiastic volunteers who give graciously of their time and talents.

Emerson said that without all of these people, Cranberry Fest would not be possible.

While planning for this year's event, Emerson noted that Cranberry Fest utilized more than 400 volunteers, giving more than 2,000 hours during the festival alone.

"People are really surprised when you start talking about how many volunteers it takes to carry out Cranberry Fest," said Emerson.

She noted many volunteers come back year after year because they enjoy the event so much.

"We are fortunate that many of the volunteers return year after year, working in the same areas, while some choose to try something new. Plus, these people, along with friends and family, are always willing to help out in a pinch," she said.

Emerson said a frequent comment heard from all new volunteers is, "I never knew how much fun it could be to help. I'll be back next year."

Comments heard about the volunteers from visitors are equally positive.

"Cranberry Fest has happy volunteers. Everyone is so helpful, that's why we like to come to Eagle River," said a festival veteran.

Out-of-town visitors also ask how the chamber can accomplish its many large events.

"How can Eagle River organize so many great events? How do you get all those volunteers? We could never do that. Do you know how lucky you are?"

Emerson responds with, "We are very fortunate to have these people and greatly appreciate all that they continue to do for the events of Eagle River, especially Cranberry Fest."

Cranberry Fest is an all-volunteer, communitywide event.

Volunteers range in age from 9 to 90, and come from all over the area.

No experience is necessary and training is provided.

Festival volunteers are treated to coffee and lunch in a heated tent designated just for them during the weekend.

New volunteers are always welcome and the hours are flexible. If you are interested in volunteering at any of the Eagle River area events, call the chamber at 715-479-6400.

CRANBERRY MARSH TOURS SCHEDULE

October 2-5

Bus leaves from Eagle River Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center, 201 N. Railroad St.

- Thursday - 11, 11:30 a.m.
- Friday - 10, 10:30, 11, 11:30 a.m., noon
- Saturday - 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (every 30 minutes)
- Sunday - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (every hour)

Reservations appreciated.

\$10/adult; \$5/ages 6-12;

Ages 5 and under free if placed on lap

FOR RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION, CALL
800-359-6315 OR 715-479-6400.

Free shuttle bus offered at festival

Bus shuttle services will be available to transfer people to all the activities during Cranberry Fest.

The shuttle will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4.

The shuttle will pick up interested individuals at the east gate of the fairgrounds near the tennis courts.

Buses will run approximately every half hour Saturday, with stops at Olson Memorial Library, First Congregational United Church of Christ and Eagle River Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center for marsh tours.

There will be one bus stop downtown Saturday for the antiques show and farmers market at BMO Harris Bank at the corner of First and Wall streets.



There's something for everyone at Eagle River's Cranberry Fest event.

—NEWS-REVIEW PHOTOS



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Mix 96.5

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CRANBERRY FEST CRAFT EXHIBITORS

Basketry

J 28 **Cherishables** - Handwoven baskets

Tent 8 **Grandma Hearts LLC** – Grandma Hearts book series

Tent 46 **Jenifer LeClair** – Author of eight award-winning novels in the Windjammer mystery series

J 24 **Spinning Wheels Publishing** – Children's picture books

Candles

BB 1, 2 **Beckley's Best Blends Candles** – Handmade soy candles

Barn 8 **Big Cock Candle Company** – High-end handcrafted candles and diffusers

L 12 **Kota Bear Candles** – 100% soy wax candles, hand-painted in Milton; candles come in fun, unique, and upcycled containers, jars, and tins; also small wood handmade shelves and stands, and birdhouses

Barn 16 **Wild Daisy Decor** – 100% soy candles

Ceramics

Tent 41 **Love For Pottery** – Handmade functional ceramics

Clothing

R 12 **Alcar Designs** – Wildlife-themed clothing and accessories

Tents 42, 43 **DeerTshirts.com** – Hand-drawn original artwork screen-printed deer hunting and fishing shirts

Barn 3 **Dreamy Jules** – Handmade purses

M 5, 10 **Elsheimer Fur Company LLC/ Wildthings** – Fur hats and accessories

X 5 **Enchanted Egg** – Embellished clothing for kids and adults, flannel for all

Tents 17-19 **Furhats/Beaverhoops LLC** – Fur hats and accessories for men and women

Barn 14 **Gem Bug Designs** – Vintage hard-dyed T-shirts; repurposed cargo shorts into purses, bags, and totes; vintage collar necklaces

Tents 4, 5 **HMB Designs** – Handcrafted apparel and jewelry

B 15 **Hugs by Mick** – Knitted clothing items

Tents 21-24 **Junction City Craft Co.** – Sewn and embellished women's clothing

G 8, 9 **My Girlz Clothing Co.** – Painted and printed clothing

Y 11, 12 **Oh How Cute** – Infant, toddler, and women's embroidered/appliquéd coordinates

K 9 **Whittons Mittens** – Wool and cashmere mittens

Fine Art

J 11 **Chris Bowe** – Blown glass, polished gemstones, art

I 8 **Sharon Deckert** – Hand-painted glassware; ornaments made from eggshells; suncatchers and handcrafted ornaments

Barn 2 **Bear's Wild Creations** – Hand-collected feathers transformed into wildlife décor and framed art

N 6 **Jeff Renner Wildlife Art** – Framed wildlife art

Tents 26-28 **Mikes Antler Art** – Items made from real antler: lamps, tables, wine racks, pens, knives, cribbage boards, etc.

A 6, 7 **Stone Ridge Custom Rocks DSX Press** – Custom engraving on natural flagstone

H 25, 26 **Wennersten's Etchings** – Fine art etching work

C 1 **Wood Art by Vel LLC** – Wildlife scenes painted in oil on wood

Floral

Tents 39, 40 **Judi Kahle** – Fall decorations for walls, tables, and doors

A 3 **Mouse-Mix** – Homemade all-natural potpourri

Food Products

G 5 **Dave's Coffee Cake** – Variety of coffee cakes

K 5, 10 **FramPa's Acres** – Pickled jam, honey maple syrup, salsas, and smoked fish

E 1, 2 **Fun Factory Sweet Shoppe** – Confection candy

Tents 6, 7 **Grandma Nanyies** – Homemade dip mixes

F 16, 17 **Mrocos Sex Olives** – Jarred olives and mushrooms

Y 1, 2 **Northwoods Cheese Co.** – Cranberry cheese and sausage, gift baskets

Tent 37 **Carol Ann's Candies** – Homemade chocolates including English toffee, turtles, fudge, and more

N 10 **Dip'n Good Dips** – Gourmet dip mixes

C 7 **JD Salsa** – Salsa seasoning and dry Bloody Mary mix

N 23, 24 **Knaus Cheese Inc.** – Cheese, sausage, jams, and mustard

G 7 **Northwoods Honey Co.** – Raw honey and beeswax products from here in the Northwoods

J 25 **Popple Tree Creek Farms** – Elderberry syrup, dried elderberries, elderberry-infused honey, elderberry-infused whipped tallow skin balm, elderberry-based tea blends

D 2 **Prairie Junction Co.** – Assorted homemade toffee

J 5, 19 **Rustic Oak** – Non-alcoholic Old Fashioned cocktail

C 10 **Schleif Sugar Bush** – Maple syrup

Tent 29 **Tabal Chocolate** – Bean-to-bar chocolate and cacao-related products. Vegan, soy-free, gluten-free, ethically sourced

G 1 **Twisted Sisters Toffee** – Twisted Sisters Toffee

P 9 **Waterford Bee Company** – Honey products

M 3, 8 **ZZ Ranch LLC** – Raw honey, maple syrup, canned items, homemade soaps, candles, and lip butters

T 11, 12 **Chef Heatley's Hot Pepper Farm** – Chef-created artisan hot sauce

Y 3 **Christian's Maple Syrup** – Pure maple syrup, barrel-aged maple syrups, and flavor-infused maple syrups

N 11, 12 **La Campagne Bakery** – Cranberry oatmeal cookies, cranberry apple crisp, cranberry sourdough, cranberry cinnamon bread

X 12, 13 **Northwoods Maple Farm** – Maple syrup and variety of maple products

H 14, 28 **Starla's Seasonings, Dips & Mixes** – Seasonings, dips and beer bread mixes, freeze-dried candy

K 2, K 3 **Ultimate Confections Inc.** – Hand-dipped chocolates

Furniture

V 5, 6, 11, 12 **Oak Outlet** – Lodge-themed furniture and lighting

R 17 **Rustic Dreams** – Furniture made from salvaged lumber: cabinets, end tables, coffee tables, benches, trash containers, etc.

Holiday

T 23, 24 **Emily Cunningham** – Handcrafted sewn products, wooden signs, and home décor

A 10 **Al's Landscaping & Snowplowing LLC** – Holiday wreaths, décor, and wood crafts

I 1, 6 **Homespun Country** – Primitive homemade Halloween & Christmas décor

T 7, 8 **North Pole Crafting Co.** – Gnomes, holiday ornaments, holiday apparel, mugs, and painted barn wood

B 20, 21 **SNS Crafts** – Holiday wreaths, clocks, and paintings

S 3, 4 **Winter Wonders** – Christmas décor

Jewelry

E 9, 10 **Simply Irresistible Creations** – Decorated scarves, wool mittens, earrings, necklaces, bracelets

Tent 20 **ArmCandy** – Leather bracelets

Tent 36 **Baltic Amber** – Handmade Baltic amber jewelry

R 7 **Danielle's Designs** – Unique one-of-a-kind jewelry and gifts

Tent 16 **Design Your Lobes LLC** – Homemade backless spiral earrings, earvines, crawlers, and cuffs

P 23 **Geurts Gems** – Necklaces, bracelets, and earrings

H 24 **Monika's Creations** – Sterling silver jewelry, fossils, gemstones, pearls, cloisonné enamel

R 22 **T and R Jewelry** – Sterling silver rings, earrings, and pendants; opal and semi-precious stone inlays

W 5, 6 **Very Wang Pearls** – Handcrafted fresh and saltwater pearl jewelry, larimar, opal, and gemstone jewelry with s925 sterling silver, 14k, and leather; permanent jewelry

Tent 15 **Wild Born Creations** – Hand-embroidered designs on jewelry

Leather

Barns 4, 5 **Britt's Leather** – Handmade leather belts, wallets, handbags, sunglass straps, coasters, bottle holders, buckles, hat patches, and more

Metal

G 2 **DNA Metal Art** – Handmade metal and fractal wood-burned art, yard art, and signs featuring high-quality finishes at affordable prices

P 11, 12 **Eau Galle Designs** – Handcrafted sculpted metal and garden art

X 14, 15 **Junction City Garden Crafts** – Garden art, mosaic turtles, tire bird feeders

N 5, 17	Metalcraft by K – Handcrafted personalized metal signs
Q 1-4; Z 8-10	Pauls Porch Pots – Repurposed maple syrup buckets
J 10	Rustic Artworks – Hand-drawn and plasma metal art, luminaries, and ornaments
Z 1-4	Steel Heart, Ltd – Garden, holiday, and home décor crafted from metal
Tents 1-3	SWEN Products – Weathervanes, wind spinners, cornhole scoreboards, beverage stands, scenic art, and yard signs
O 3, 4	Thunder Valley Fabrication – Steel plasma art; home, garden, garage, and mancave décor
Barns 10, 11	Treeghost LLC – Metal signs and metal on wood
J 12	Spark Plug Guy – Small metal sculptures made with recycled items

Miscellaneous

L 9, 10	316 Legacy LLC – T-shirts, trucker hats, drinkware, tea towels, and signs
T 5, 6	Urban Crafty Farmer, LLC – Wreaths, swags, bows, table decorations, lanterns, gnomes, vintage book decorations, and vintage lace-wrapped books
E 8	Artful Endeavors – Eye-catching fantastical pieces to brighten any space
N 19, 20	Board In The Kitchen – Cutting boards, tasting flights, coasters, and trays made from solid surface material (corian)
Tent 34	By George! CBD – Hemp-derived CBD products for people and pets
B 10	Dahlia Decorify – Handmade rock, beach glass, and pottery shard framed art using hand-picked items from the Great Lakes shoreline
L 13, 14	Heph-Zi-Bah – Cranberry products: air fresheners, potpourri, incense, cleansing bars, jams, salsa, chocolate-covered cranberries, dried cranberries, taffy, and wax melts
B 2, 3	Herber Studios – Engraved ornaments and charming suncatchers to elevate gifts and decorations
D 3, 4	Hiawatha Wood Works – Butcher blocks, candles, soaps, reclaimed whiskey barrel products, aged coffee home décor
G 3	James Baumgart – Wooden cribbage boards, Christmas plaques
Z 12	Lake County Growers – Locally-owned CBD products: topicals, chewables, pet treats, and bath soaks
R 5	Lockhart’s Firewood Grabber – Firewood grippers

L 21, 22	Midwest Custom Gifts – Wooden bar products, liquid dispensers, repurposed whiskey barrels and boxes
Tents 30, 31	Naturista Monarch – Cocktail infusions
C 9	Nemissa’s Northwoods Art – Polymer clay sculptures, faux bone art, and other handmade pieces
R 9, 21	Raefluence Designs – Tumblers, cutting boards, kitchen towels, pot holders, and holiday crafts
G 4	Ring Around the Wreaths – Burlap wreaths, chunky yarn, lighted glass blocks, and more
X 10, 11	Rowe Creations – Gemstone trees and necklaces, wooden cutouts, and wooden benches
N 9	Ruby’s Pebble Art – Pebble art with frames using naturally gathered materials
G 6	Something Fishy – Hand-carved coconuts
Y 9, 10	Summer Snow – Framed glitter art
H 10	The Art of Pens – Hand-turned pens and pepper mills
B 14	Time Vault Treasures – Repurposed vinyl record cuts
J 13, 14	Two Feathers Gourds – Gourd art
B 4, 5	Veronica’s Arts – Barnwood and driftwood art, music and barbed wire art, rustic lamps, secret books, journals, ornaments, magnets
S 1, 2	Wicked Wire Jewelry – Fused glass decorations, trinket dishes, glass jewelry, fine wood table games
H 8	Gypsy Dog Collars – Dog and cat collars and accessories
B 19	Bullseye Bow – Toy bow and arrow sets

Painting

P 17, 18	Coming Up Roses Art – All original hand-painted mirrors and canvas
B 8, 9	Earth and Wood – Wildlife painting on birch bark (framed)
Barn 15	MI Woodland Art Studio – Acrylic and soft pastel paintings, hand-painted glass and canvas ornaments, and wine glasses

Photography

Tent 48	KC Decor – Homemade framed nature photography, framed wildlife, dream catchers, dream baskets, mandalas, antler art
F 18, 19	Bill Bass Photography – Nature and landscape photography
J 6, 20	Lakeland Aerial Photo – Framed aerial photos of area lakes and towns

N 22	Natural Spaces Photography – Wisconsin and Great Lakes photography
Pottery	
F 1, 2	Jen Anderson Pottery – Functional stoneware pottery
J 21	Johanna Buwalda Ceramics – Intricately decorated, colorful functional pottery
Tent 10	Land O’ Libby – Handmade slab-built pottery: dinnerware to garden accessories with nature and animal themes; very colorful
H 22	The Personal Touch – Wheel-thrown pottery and clay sculptures

Sewn

A 1	Baby and Thread – Organic baby bibs, wash cloths, and minky and faux fur baby blankets
B 11-13	Carol’s Creative Crafts – Appliquéd home décor
Barn 6	Darcy Taylor – Towels, potholders, headbands, and mittens
B 16-18	Etak 15 – Hot mats and other kitchen essentials
Tents 13, 14	Jo-Mar Flowers – Hot pads, microwavable bags, potato bags, and kitchen towels
Tents 44, 45	Kim’s Prims and Whims – Fall and Halloween fabric items
H 6, 20	Refind Designs – Recycled wool sweaters, mittens, slippers, hats, and headbands
B 1	Shari’s Crafty Creations – Handmade whimsical sewn creations: gnomes, snowmen, highland cows, donkeys, gingerbread men, owls, penguins, moose
Tent 35	The Doll Depot – Tent sets for Barbie and American Girl (includes tent, sleeping bag, and bean bag chair); football snowmen; single and double crocheted towels

A 2	Yoopers Chook – Handmade hats
Soaps	
C 11	Wenonah – Botanical skincare
H 23	Bare Naked Soap Company – Handcrafted goat milk soap and body care products
R 10	Blue Egg Farmstore – Organic body care
N 7	Gracie Pie Apothecary – Hand-poured milk soap, sugar scrubs, creams, lotions, mud masks, and anti-aging products
F 14, 15	M & N’s Artisan Shop LLC – Soap, shampoo bars, conditioner bars, body butter, lotions, scrubs, candles, wax melts, woodcrafts
F 11	Nature Made Heaven Scent Soap – Homemade soaps and body products

J 26	Star Lake Soap LLC – Homemade soaps
K 8	Winter Creek Farm – Bath and skincare products
Stained Glass	
A 18, 19	MKC West – Stained glass handcrafted into nightlights, nativities, candle boxes, window panels, etc.
F 4, 5	The Lighthouse – Stained glass
Textiles	
Barn 9, corner	Rugs From Yesterday – Braided rugs
U 1, 2, 4	Jill Zwiers – Hanging towels, bag holders, and towel sets
Tent 38	Coloring Your Own LLC – Digital art and textile printing on fabric items
P 24	Jully’s Fashion Design – Ponytail hat winter accessories
C 3	Quilted Crafts by Sue – Unique, brightly colored, modern quilted items: quilts, tablewares, purses, totes, hot pads, oven mitts, placemats, cosmetic bags, etc.; one-of-a-kind items
E 7	The Eco Purse Project – One-of-a-kind handmade clothing and accessories from reclaimed fibers
F 10	Trisha’s Got Roots – Silk Screened shirts, plasma-cut metal wall décor
Barn 7	Twenty Paws Knitting – Luxury hand-knit beanies, cowls, snoods, and mittens made from 100% merino wool

Wooden

I 10	Nate Freberg Woodshop – Modern home furnishings and accessories
Tent 25	Kirk Schupbach – Cribbage boards, cutting boards, and charcuterie boards
D 7, 8	Amy Jacobs – Handcrafted wood items for indoor and outdoor
K 1	Wallace Erickson – Hand-crafted cedar strip canoe hutches
D 1	A2B Creations LLC – Handmade items from whiskey barrels, barn wood, and some chainsaw carvings
BB 3, 4	B’z Woodworks – Butterflies and seasonal banners
Barn 1, corner	Blueberry Lane Ventures – Unique and seasonal décor, flags of all kinds
Tent 12	Boards N More LLC – Wooden signs, bullet tumblers, sublimated mugs and wine tumblers, wine glasses, resin crafts, and more
F 12, 13	Buy Me That – Handcrafted seasonal décor
A 15, 16	Carving the Wood – Hand-carved wooden sculptures

CRANBERRY FEST CRAFT EXHIBITORS CONTINUED...

P 10, 22	Charming Farm Creations – Laser-cut hand-painted layered art, earrings, and hair clips
Tents 32, 33	Diamond Willow Dreams LLC – Chainsaw-carved lights, wood-handled grilling tools, and fire pokers
Tent 47	Farmhouse Dreamer LLC – Handmade wooden décor
L 28	Fortney's Personalized Crafts – Personalized wooden signs, posts, calendars, benches, kids' items
L 5, 6, 19, 20	Gottwalt Crafts – Decorative and seasonal wooden products
T 9, 10	Hower Toys/Ooh It's Soy Good – Wood toys, soy candles, sock monkeys
Tent 11	Jim's Cribbage Boards – Homemade cribbage boards and games
Tent 9	June's Room Creation – Pet ornaments and leather claw clips
B 6, 7	Linda's Crafts – Fall and Christmas items: skis, sleighs, lanterns, and Christmas ornaments
W 10-12	Made For You Furniture – Wooden furniture and home décor
J 23	Musky Dude – Wildlife artwork burned by hand on wood
H 7	Round Barn Woodcrafts – Wooden cutting boards, salt and pepper mills, and other functional woodcrafts
M 6, 7	Sagekraft Designs – Premium cutting boards and functional kitchen art
T 17, 18	Simply Home WI – Handcrafted wood signs
M 1, 2	The Last Measure – Wooden furnishings, seasonal, and hand paintings
Barn 12, 13	Trillium Designs – Hand-crafted fractal wood products
F 6	Tupalee's – Resin and wood art



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Visitors, area residents invited to tour working cranberry marsh

Eagle River Cranberry Fest continues to be a special event for North Woods residents and visitors with many activities for all, including the opportunity to visit and tour a working cranberry marsh.

Tours of area marshes have been taking place for more than three decades, resulting in visitors gaining insight and knowledge about the importance of cranberries to Wisconsin.

Visitors to the fest can take a guided tour of one of the largest cranberry marshes in the area — Lake Nokomis Cranberries — located right here in Eagle

River.

Tour attendees will visit a marsh that has called Eagle River home for more than 75 years, learn the history of the cranberry marsh and how it has been developed into a 334-acre marsh throughout the years, see the layout of the cranberry marsh close-up with a scenic drive on the marsh and learn about harvest equipment.

Tour guides will explain the hard work that needs to be done at the marsh in spring, summer, fall and winter.

Visitors will learn why Wisconsin is No. 1 in cranberry production, plus

they'll find out all of the health benefits received from eating cranberries.

After a scenic tour of the marsh itself, the second stop of the tour will be at the Lake Nokomis Cranberries tasting area, where they will be able to sample Lake Nokomis cranberry wine and other local wines.

There will also be samples of cranberry barbeque sauce, chocolate-covered cranberries and yogurt-covered cranberries.

The last stop of the tour will be at Lake Nokomis Cranberries Wine & Gift Shop, where visitors will find many cranberry-related items,

including cranberry wines, lotions, soaps, candles, sauces, jams and those delicious sweetened, dried cranberries. Also available will be farm-fresh cranberries straight from the marsh.

To become a part of the two-hour cranberry marsh tour and wine tasting, people should make their reservations early. Tours are very popular and book up quickly. Tours run Thursday, Oct. 2, through Sunday, Oct. 5.

To reserve a spot on the tour, call the Eagle River Chamber of Commerce at 1-(800) 359-6315 or (715) 479-6400.

Library Friends to hold book sale Oct. 2-4 during Cranberry Fest

The Walter Olson Library Friends (WOLF) will hold a book sale Thursday, Oct. 2, through Saturday, Oct. 4, as a part of Cranberry Fest celebrations. The sale will run from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

The Library's Trustees will also be selling food on Saturday, October 4.

Proceeds from the sales go toward programs and services for the Library community.

The Walter E. Olson Memorial Library is located at 203 N. Main Street and is a stop on the free Cranberry Fest shuttle bus route on Saturday during Cranberry Fest.



Volunteers are on hand dishing out delicious cranberry-themed beverages throughout the festival grounds.

—NEWS-REVIEW PHOTO

Premium select berries offered at three locations

The Eagle River Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center will have premium select cranberries for sale at the 45th anniversary celebration of Cranberry Fest Oct. 4-5.

Fest spectators can look for fresh cranberry sales located throughout the community at three locations — the Cranberry Fest grounds at the Vilas County Fairgrounds, the Eagle River Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center at 201 N. Railroad St. and downtown Eagle River at the corner of Railroad and Wall streets.

Only the best berries will be sold, according to

chamber Executive Director Kim Emerson.

"The berries are high-quality, premium select, because they follow the US Department of Agriculture processing standards for fresh cranberries," she said. "The fresh fruit is hand-sorted, clean, mature, firm and free from moisture, bruising and decay."

Each berry is approximately one-half inch in size and displays a fairly uniform red to deep purple color.

"Don't forget to take home fresh cranberries, and if you haven't tried Craisins®, be sure to get some of those, too," she said.

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Weavers, fiber artist groups to host exhibit and sale on Saturday, Oct. 4

A variety of fiber artists will be at the one-day Lake Country Weavers and Fiber Artists Guild exhibit and sale during Cranberry Fest.

Hosted by guild members, the exhibit will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4 at First Congregational United Church of Christ, located at 105 N. First St. in Eagle River. Admission is free.

The church is located on the corner of First and Division streets. The Cranberry Fest shuttle bus from the fairgrounds will stop in front of the church at regular intervals Saturday.

If you have ever wondered how the wool from a sheep in the meadow turns into a warm scarf or sweater, this is the place to be. You will see wool being spun into yarn

and might even see beads being added.

A fiber show would not be complete without a kitting demonstration. A number of the club members are accomplished knitters. If you have a question, they will offer their assistance.

There will be a variety of items for sale that reflect the use of many different fiber-related skills. Original rugs, mittens, hats, scarves, table runners, felt hats, felt clogs and hand-spun yarns will be available for purchase.

In addition to the fiber exhibit, demos and sale, the Women's Fellowship at the church will offer a bake sale in the church

basement. Be sure you stop in for their delicious offerings while you visit the fiber show upstairs spread out on all the pews.

The Lake Country Weavers and Fiber Artists Guild helps support weavers, knitters, crocheters, rug hookers, spinners and other artists in the North Woods. To further education and camaraderie, monthly meetings are held. A wide geographical area is covered, from Land O' Lakes to Rhinelander, Presque Isle to Three Lakes.

For more information on Cranberry Fest activities, call Mary Jackl at 715-545-2897.

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Pancake Breakfast, 7 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Regular or Cranberry Pancakes, Pork Sausage and a Drink

The following organization sponsors the Cranberry Fest Food Tent
Abundant Life Church



Shoppers can find delightful fall-themed flavors, served with a smile by vendors.

—NEWS-REVIEW PHOTO

FORK hosting downtown food tent at Cranberry Fest

Cranberry Fest is about a lot of things, including food and community.

Fest goers who find themselves downtown Eagle River on Saturday will find cranberry brats, brats, pulled pork sandwiches, hot dogs and baked goods for sale at Rotary Square at the corner of First and Wall Streets, across from The Pontoon Saloon. Food will be served

from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Proceeds of the food sales at Rotary Square will benefit Feed Our Rural Kids (FORK), a local non-profit organization whose mission is to provide nutritional support to local children from food-insecure homes.

Learn more about FORK and its various programs at FeedOurRuralKids.org

Performing at Cranberry Fest has changed, but the love of music remains the same

BY BILL STEVENS
SPECIAL TO THE CIRR

After the last song has been played our audience ambles out shouting, "See you next year!"

Some leave singing one of the songs that is now "stuck" in their head.

"I love that," Bonnie said while packing up equipment.

I guess that's why we play those familiar songs I offered.

I've seen people come into the bakery tent at Cranberry Fest and say, "Welcome back," or, "Don't forget to play my song!" These are the moments that bring joy to our hearts.

So come on in, grab a pastry (I personally recommend the cranberry fritters), take a seat and enjoy the tunes.

A big thank you to our Eagle River sponsors for



Bill and Bonnie Stevens will again be under the tent in 2025 to perform a variety of musical selections for festgoers to enjoy.
—NEWS-REVIEW PHOTO

bringing us back again this year.

Bill and Bonnie will be

back in the Information / Bakery Tent doing what they love to do.

See you then!

Festival grounds parking to see changes in 2025

The task of getting an estimated 45,000 people to and from the Vilas County Fairgrounds for Cranberry Fest is a huge undertaking and will see some changes to operations this year.

All festival grounds parking for the 2025 event will only be able to enter from Highway 70 onto South Forrest Street, which will be a one-way street.

Drivers are asked to pay attention to signage and ask volunteers who will be on hand to direct

traffic where they should exit the fairgrounds.

Parking assistance will again be provided by the Eagle River Lions Club — the cost of \$10 per car. Club members will be able to answer directional questions as well as guide fest-goers to the designated areas at the fairgrounds.

Proceeds from the parking fee will go to the Lions Club and Eagle River Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center to support area projects and events.

Food tent to include pancake breakfast

The main food tent at Cranberry Fest is managed by the Abundant Life Church.

In addition to soup, sandwiches and hot and cold drinks for lunch, a pancake breakfast will be served Saturday and Sunday mornings, Oct. 4-5, by the Abundant Life Church group.

The pancake breakfast has been popular for vendors staying on the grounds as well as early morning festivalgoers.

Hungry customers will enjoy their choice of regular or cranberry pancakes, pork sausage and a drink.

Breakfast will be served from 7 to 10 a.m. both mornings.

Lunch will be served after 10 a.m.



Wisconsin is the nation's leading cranberry producer, with a group of only about 250 growers supplying more than 60% of the country's cranberries. Growers farm more acreage of fruit than any other state, and also lead the globe in cranberry production. Many of the state's marshes are currently run by fifth- and sixth-generation growers.

—Photo Provided By the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association

Wisconsin cranberry crop projected at 5.3 million barrels

State expected to produce nearly two-thirds of U.S. crop

Wisconsin's cranberry growers are forecasting a 5.3-million-barrel harvest in 2025, according to the latest USDA National Agriculture Statistic Services (NASS) crop production report. If projections hold, Wisconsin will remain the largest cranberry producer in the world, expected to supply an estimated 65% of the nation's cranberries.

The NASS forecast — an early-season estimate based on voluntary grower surveys — marks the 31st consecutive year Wisconsin is projected to lead the nation in cranberry production. These projections can shift as the growing season progresses and conditions change.

Other top cranberry-producing states and their 2025 projections include Massachusetts at 1.75 million barrels, Oregon at 560,000 barrels, and New Jersey at 520,000 barrels. Overall, the U.S. crop is expected to total 8.13 million barrels. Wisconsin's final 2024 crop came in at 6.01 million barrels.

Cranberries have been Wisconsin's official state fruit for more than 20 years, earning the designation in 2004. They are the state's number-one fruit crop in both size and economic value.

Wisconsin cranberries are grown on 25,000 acres across 19 counties in the central and northern regions of the state. Approximately 5% of this year's crop will be sold as fresh fruit, and the remaining cranberries will be frozen and stored for longer-term sales as frozen berries, dried cranberries, juices, sauces and more.

Wisconsin's cranberry harvest typically begins in late September and runs through October.


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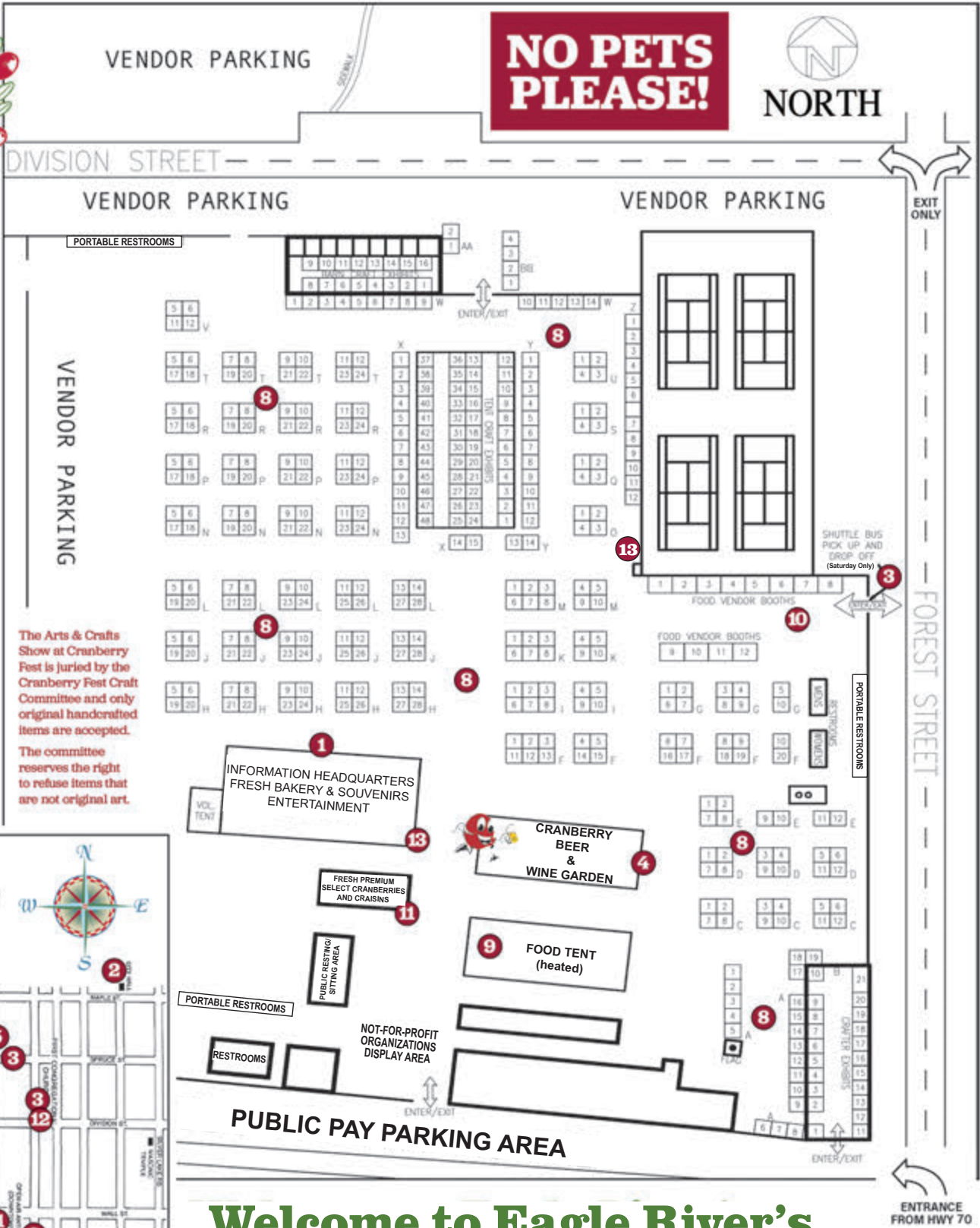


477451



- 1 Fest Headquarters & Information, Bake Sale, Musical Entertainment, Souvenirs, Cranberry Fest Coffee & Soda
- 2 Eagle River City Hall
- 3 Shuttle Bus Stop
- 4 Cranberry Wine & Beer Garden
- 5 Book Sale, Olson Memorial Library
- 6 Open-Air Antiques Market, Farmers Market and Arts & Crafts
- 7 Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center, Shuttle Bus Stop, Marsh Tours
- 8 Arts & Crafts
- 9 Food Tent - Food, seating, heated tent
- 10 Specialty Foods
- 11 Fresh Cranberry & Craisin Sales
- 12 Lake Country Weavers & Fiber Arts Guild Exhibit and Sale
- 13 ATM

The Arts & Crafts Show at Cranberry Fest is juried by the Cranberry Fest Craft Committee and only original handcrafted items are accepted. The committee reserves the right to refuse items that are not original art.



Welcome to Eagle River's 45th Annual Cranberry Fest!

Need Help? Stop at the Fest Info Headquarters near the fresh cranberries on the Fest grounds, or the Visitors Center on Railroad Street, downtown Eagle River.