MEDIA CONTACT:
Kristina LeVan, Wisconsin Department of Tourism
klevan@travelwisconsin.com; 608-266-0458

Lisa Marshall, Wisconsin Department of Tourism
lmarshall@travelwisconsin.com; 608-267-3773

Media Room: http://media.travelwisconsin.com

FALL FUN NEVER GOES OUT OF STYLE IN WISCONSIN

Wisconsin's list of fall events from September through mid-November 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MADISON, Wis. (Aug. 11, 2016) – Swap out your tank top for a sweater, your volleyball for a football and say hello to fall in Wisconsin. Fill your season with fall-worthy events like Maple Fall Fest, one of the many statewide Oktoberfests, vibrant art shows and deliciously fun apple festivals. Choose from a variety of brand new events like Kilbourn City Live, Zoo Lights at Henry Vilas Zoo and the International Wisconsin Ginseng Festival. With exciting fall activities throughout the season, your fading summer tan will be the last thing on your mind.

Please note that event changes may occur. We encourage media to double-check dates and contact information before going to print or posting online.

Travelers can visit TravelWisconsin.com on their desktop, tablet or mobile device. Plan your fall getaway around the season's color using the Travel Wisconsin Fall Color Report. You can also choose to "Like" us at Facebook.com/TravelWisconsin or follow along on Twitter at Twitter.com/TravelWI and Instagram at TravelWisconsin.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS (Pages 3-9)

Can-Yak Fishing Tournament – Mercer	Sept. 2-4, 2016
La Crosse Area Bicycle Festival – La Crosse	**Sept. 2-5, 2016**
Whooping Crane Festival – Green Lake County	Sept. 8-11, 2016
Chilimania – Edgerton	**Sept. 9-10, 2016**
Villa Louis Carriage Classic – Prairie du Chien	Sept. 9-11, 2016
Mid-Lakes Thresheree & Tractor Show – Manitowoc	**Sept. 10-11, 2016**
Fat Tire Ride – Lake Geneva	Sept. 10, 2016
Running of the Llamas – Hammond	**Sept. 10, 2016**
Thirsty Troll Brewfest – Mount Horeb	Sept. 10, 2016
Pardeeville Watermelon Fest – Pardeeville	**Sept. 10, 2016**
Sputnikfest – Manitowoc	Sept. 9-10, 2016
Artrageous Weekend – Wausau	**Sept. 10-11, 2016**
Take Me to the River – St. Croix	Sept. 10, 17-18, 24-25, 2016

International Wisconsin Ginseng Festival – Wausau	Sept. 15-17, 2016
Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival – Cable and Hayward	**Sept. 16-18, 2016**
Elkhart Lake Vintage Festival – Elkhart Lake	Sept. 16-18, 2016
Oktoberfest – Chippewa Falls	**Sept. 16-18, 2016**
50th Annual Wo-Zha-Wa Days Fall Festival – Wisconsin Dells	Sept. 16-18, 2016
5th Annual Festifall – Lakewood	**Sept. 17, 2016**
40th Annual International Fall Festival – Eau Claire	Sept. 17, 2016
Bacon Bash – River Falls	**Sept. 17-18, 2016**
Driftless Area Art Festival – Soldiers Grove	Sept. 17-18, 2016
Wine & Harvest Festival – Cedarburg	**Sept. 17-18, 2016**
Maple Fall Fest – Marshfield	Sept. 17-18, 2016
Harvestfest & Taste of Siren – Siren	**Sept. 22-24, 2016**
Milwaukee Film Festival – Milwaukee	Sept. 22-Oct. 6, 2016
Apple Festival – Gays Mills	**Sept. 23-25, 2016**
30th Annual Wind Power Windsurfing Championships – Fond du Lac	Sept. 23-25, 2016
Warren's Cranberry Festival – Warrens	**Sept. 23-25, 2016**
Fall Color Biking Festival – Whitewater	Sept. 24, 2016
Beef-A-Rama – Minocqua	**Sept. 23-24, 2016**
35th Annual Octoberfest – Appleton	Sept. 24, 2016
Green Lake Harvest Fest – Green Lake	**Sept. 24-25, 2016**
Snowmobile Grass Drags & Swap Meet – Wausau	Sept. 24-25, 2016
Spirit of the St. Croix Art Festival – Hudson	**Sept. 24-25, 2016**
Geneva Lakes Boat Show – Fontana	Sept. 24-25, 2016
Wade House Civil War Weekend – Greenbush	**Sept. 23-25, 2016**
Oktoberfest USA – La Crosse	Sept. 29-Oct. 2, 2016

OCTOBER EVENTS (Pages 9-13)

Kilbourn City Live – Wisconsin Dells	Oct. 1, 2016
Shawano Country Miles of Art Fall Festival – Shawano	**Oct. 1-2, 2016**
Cranberry Fest – Eagle River	Oct. 1-2, 2016
Nekoosa Giant Pumpkin Fest – Nekoosa	**Oct. 1-2, 2016**
Fermentation Fest – Reedsburg	Oct. 1-9, 2016
Autumn on the Farms at Old World Wisconsin – Eagle	**Oct. 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 2016**
50th Annual World Dairy Expo – Madison	Oct. 4-8, 2016
5th Annual Chain O'Lakes Blues Festival – Waupaca	**Oct. 7-8, 2016**
Audubon Days Festival – Mayville	Oct. 7-9, 2016
Fall Fresh Art Tour – Pepin and Pierce Counties	**Oct. 7-9, 2016**
Rural Arts Road Trip – Calumet County	Oct. 7-9, 2016
55th Annual Bayfield Apple Festival – Bayfield	**Oct. 7-9, 2016**
Sheboygan Children's Book Festival – Sheboygan	Oct. 7-9, 2016
Harvest Fest – Boulder Junction	**Oct. 8, 2016**
Pumpkin Patch Festival – Egg Harbor	Oct. 8-9, 2016
25th Annual Oktoberfest Celebration – Lake Geneva	**Oct. 8-9, 2016**
Chippewa Valley Book Festival – Chippewa Valley	Oct. 10-20, 2016
Fall Festival Weekend – Wisconsin Dells	**Oct. 14-15, 2016**
Fall Art Tour – Baraboo, Dodgeville, Mineral Point, Spring Green	Oct. 14-16, 2016
Kohler Food & Wine Experience – Kohler	**Oct. 20-23, 2016**
Wisconsin Book Festival – Madison	Oct. 20-23, 2016
Wisconsin Science Festival – Madison	**Oct. 20-23, 2016**
Fall Gallery Night & Day – Milwaukee	Oct. 21-22, 2016
Madeline Island Fall Festival – Madeline Island	**Oct. 22, 2016**

Medford Area Harvest Days – Medford Area Oct. 27-30, 2016
Jack O' Lantern Days – Fish Creek **Oct. 28-30, 2016**
Fairlawn Halloween Flashlight Tours – Superior Oct. 30, 2016

NOVEMBER EVENTS (Page 14)
Big Water Film Festival – Ashland Nov. 9-13, 2016
Trainfest – West Allis **Nov. 12-13, 2016**
Holiday Harvest Wine & Food Festival – Prescott, Stockholm & Pepin Nov. 12-13, 2016
Zoo Lights at Henry Vilas Zoo – Madison **Nov. 23, 2016 – Jan. 1, 2017**

Top 2016 Fall Events and Activities
Detailed Descriptions

SEPTEMBER:

Can-Yak Fishing Tournament & Blues Fest – Mercer – Sept. 2-4, 2016
Whether you prefer canoes or kayaks, this fest offers the chance to build your very own cardboard can-yak. Participate in fishing contests along the Turtle River. Visit the Paddling Outdoor Expo on Saturday to see the latest and greatest fishing equipment along with demonstrations and workshops by experts, so you can get the most out of your gear. Enjoy live music by blues groups Jagged Highway and White House Players.
715-476-2389; www.can-yak.com

La Crosse Area Bicycle Festival – La Crosse – Sept. 2-5, 2016
This year features the Beer by Bike Brigade, a new addition to the fest where you can bar hop via bike. Cruise along a variety of bike rides throughout the city, including mountain bike and family rides. Whether you want to ride on the road or off, there's a scenic route for you!
800-658-9424**;** www.explorelacrosse.com/bikefest

Whooping Crane Festival – Green Lake County – Sept. 8-11, 2016
Celebrate the migration and life of this previously endangered bird by soaring through the International Crane Foundation during the fest. Kids can build their own birdhouses or see the interactive hands-on bird show. There will be great photo opportunities with a giant origami crane whose wingspan is 30 feet.
920-295-3877; www.operationmigration.org

Villa Louis Carriage Classic – Prairie du Chien – Sept. 9-11, 2016
Move over NASCAR, the Villa Louis Carriage Classic offers competitive carriage driving in both arena and obstacle classes. Each driver is judged on driving abilities and equine performance. This year the event features national driving expert and author Gloria Austin, who will give educational lectures and lead stable tours throughout the weekend.
608-326-2721; www.carriageclassic.com

Chilimania – Edgerton – Sept. 9-10, 2016
Save room for seconds (or thirds!) as chili experts from across the country cook up their secret recipes for a chance to win the 2016 Chilimania trophy. Enjoy live music and the Chili Chase 5K run/walk. What goes better with a chili contest than a homemade salsa contest and the best Bloody Mary contest? All proceeds benefit Edgerton High School and community projects.
608-561-7566; www.chilimania.com

Mid-Lakes Thresheree & Tractor Show – Manitowoc – Sept. 10-11, 2016
Flashback to Wisconsin rural life, the Thresheree will have a new "field-to-fork" program this year. Children will pitch bundles of wheat straw into a threshing machine, take the wheat grain to the village for grinding into flour and then use the flour to bake bread. Attendees also have the opportunity to make butter in the Cheese Factory, watch live demonstrations of equipment from the 1890s-1960s and stroll through 25 different interactive historic structures.
920-732-1562; www.mid-lakesrusticiron.org

Fat Tire Ride – Lake Geneva – Sept. 10, 2016
Grab your helmet and get pedaling during the 21.5-mile ride around Lake Geneva and Lake Como – don't worry there are rest stops along the way. Go wild with the costume contest, or enjoy free live music and a pig roast dinner.
262-248-6008; www.fattireride.com

Running of the Llamas – Hammond – Sept. 10, 2016
As if 12 llamas running down Main Street isn't enough entertainment, this year features cart-driving llamas as well. Thousands of people from around the world gather in Hammond for this thrilling event, and a bonus alpaca race adds to the fun. The winning llama receives a coveted prize: a bucket of veggies. Enjoy live music and a parade before the race and visit Project Smooch at Foster Hall to snap pictures with your loved ones.
715-796-8869; therunningofthellamas.com

Thirsty Troll Brewfest – Mount Horeb – Sept. 10, 2016
Calling all beer connoisseurs. Sample a variety of craft beers, microbrews, ciders, meads and wines from around the country at this tasty event. Show your strength in the Masskrugstemmen, a popular competition where participants compete to see who can hold a one-liter stein of beer the longest with their arm extended. No spilling allowed! Don't miss your chance to get a selfie with Jorgen the Troll.
608-437-5914; trollway.com

Pardeeville Watermelon Fest – Pardeeville – Sept. 10, 2016
Pardeeville is home of the U.S. Watermelon Speed-Eating and Seed-Spitting Championships and the annual Watermelon Fest. Other championship activities include the largest watermelon contest, watermelon carving contest and kids' coloring contest. Enjoy all-you-can-eat watermelon, a volleyball tournament and the Hillbilly Silly Science Spectacular Comedy Show.
608-535-9139; www.pardeevillewatermelonfestival.com

Sputnikfest – Manitowoc – Sept. 9-10, 2016
One of Wisconsin's most "out of this world" festivals celebrates the 1962 crash landing of a piece of the Sputnik IV satellite in Manitowoc with fun, quirky activities. Compete in the Cosmic Costume Contest by creating a stellar costume at home or crafting one on site using aluminum foil, or enter your pet in the Alien Pet Contest. Don't miss the stellar Alien Drop where the Manitowoc Fire Department drops hundreds of alien erasers on the crash site.
962-686-3090; www.manitowoc.org

Artrageous Weekend – Wausau – Sept. 10-11, 2016
For over 50 years, Artrageous Weekend has joined both sides of the Wisconsin River for art and shopping. This art-filled weekend features over 120 professional artists at three main events: Art in the Park, Festival of Arts and "Birds in Art." Families can enjoy hands-on activities in the Family Art area and entertainment at the Family Stage. Grab food from either of two food courts, board a free shuttle to each location, and enjoy the art-rageous amount of talent.
715-842-1676; www.wausaufoa.org

Take Me to the River – St. Croix – Sept. 10, 17-18, 24-25, 2016
Take Me to the River spans not one, not two, but three weekends. Enjoy a collection of art fairs, musical performances, multi-artist studio sales and fine art events. The Western Wisconsin Pottery Tour is an exciting addition this year with guest potters at four locations in Hudson, Roberts and River Falls.
651-439-1465; takemetotheriver.info

International Wisconsin Ginseng Festival – Wausau – Sept. 15-17, 2016
Who knew Wisconsin is home to the Ginseng Capital of the World? Sample ginseng foods and beverages or watch cooking demos and seminars at the Robert W. Monk Gardens in Wausau. Learn where ginseng is grown by taking a guided tour through the ginseng fields and pick your own. This festival also features multicultural aspects as Hmong and Native Americans have significant influence on ginseng production.
715-355-8788; www.visitwausau.com

Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival – Cable and Hayward – Sept. 16-18, 2016
Test your endurance and agility during this exciting off-road bike event through the beauty of northwestern Wisconsin. Experienced fliers can ride the 40-mile race on the famed American Birkebeiner Ski Trail or new, off-road bikers can choose the 16-mile course.
715-798-3594; www.cheqfattire.com

Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival
Photo Courtesy of Darlene Prois

Elkhart Lake Vintage Festival – Elkhart Lake Sept. 16-18, 2016
Elkhart Lake Vintage Festival showcases more than 250 vintage and historic racecars during this three-day event. Car fanatics can watch a historic road course reenactment tour, which will leave Road America and follow an identical route to the street course driven in the early 1950s. Hop on the zip line for a bird's eye view of the track while going up to 40-miles per hour.
920-892-4576; www.roadamerica.com

Oktoberfest – Chippewa Falls – Sept. 16-18, 2016
Come for the beer, stay for the sauerkraut eating contest, abundance of live music and fun kids' activities. Enjoy over 30 musical performances, including authentic German polka, and in between performances be sure to try some of the tasty German cuisine. On Friday, see the crowning of the 2016 Festmeister and Festmeisterin during the Golden Keg Procession.
715-723-0331; visitchippewafallswi.com

50th Annual Wo-Zha-Wa Days Fall Festival – Wisconsin Dells – Sept. 16-18, 2016
"Wo-Zha-Wa" in Ho-Chunk means "to have fun" and that's exactly what you'll do during this family-friendly, three-day fest. One of the largest festivals in Wisconsin, this event features a bit of everything: an arts and crafts fair, antique flea market, Maxwell Street Days, live entertainment and a 100-unit parade. Saturday offers the Wo-Zha-Wa Run, Wisconsin's oldest long distance run. Runners can choose between a half-marathon or 4-mile course.
800-223-3557; www.wisdells.com

5th Annual Festifall – Lakewood – Sept. 17, 2016
Celebrate Lakewood's local artists, crafters and musicians at the 5th annual Festifall. Browse local shops and discover artists sculpting, painting and crafting. Like what you see? Live demos allow visitors to customize their purchases. For a quick bite to eat and a chance to relax, visit one of the food vendors and local musicians scattered throughout downtown.
715-276-3473; www.ocontocounty.org

40th Annual International Fall Festival – Eau Claire – Sept. 17, 2016
Get ready to pack a lot of fun into one day. The eclectic, worldwide entertainment includes Hmong breakdancing, Latin salsa dancing and martial arts demos. Stroll along South Barstow Street and explore over 100 ethnic food and arts and crafts vendors. Stick around for the Parade of Nations and deliciously sweet 2nd annual Cotton Candy Eating Contest.
715-839-4914; www.downtowneauclaire.org

Bacon Bash
Photo Courtesy of River Falls Chamber of Commerce

Bacon Bash – River Falls – Sept. 17-18, 2016
Yes, the words "free" and "bacon" are used together to describe Bacon Bash. The nation's largest free bacon festival features bacon-inspired food booths, cook-offs, pig-calling contests and live music. New menu items include bacon cheese curds and mini donuts with bacon sprinkles. Bacon Bash has been selected as a 2016 Super Qualifier Event for the World Food Championships, where connoisseurs compete in one of four culinary competitions.
715-425-2533; www.riverfallsbaconbash.com

Driftless Area Art Festival – Soldiers Grove – Sept. 17-18, 2016
Whether you enjoy visual arts, performing arts, or both, this fest is a masterpiece. The festival offers handmade paintings, photography, ceramics, glass, metal works, sculpture, woodworking and jewelry. Check out the student-made work in the KidsArt gallery. Kiddos can explore their artistic side in the popular Kids Creative Zone.
608-624-3600; driftlessareaartfestival.com

Wine & Harvest Festival – Cedarburg – Sept. 17-18, 2016
Historic Cedarburg hosts the Wine & Harvest Festival complete with artisan food, award-winning wines and a large variety of arts and crafts for sale. The Giant Pumpkin Weigh-Off is a must-see after the North American record was broken last year with a colossal weight of over 2,000 pounds! The Giant Pumpkin Charity Regatta features gigantic, decorated, hollowed-out pumpkins piloted by paddlers' attempting to race across Cedar Creek to win a donation for their favorite charity.
262-377-9620; www.cedarburgfestival.org

Maple Fall Fest – Marshfield – Sept. 17-18, 2016
The 24th Annual Maple Fall Fest features over 150 arts and crafts vendors, a potato pancake breakfast and, you guessed it, maple syrup and maple dessert contests. Back again by popular demand are experts "Mad Dog & Merrill – Grillin' Buddies." Kids can play in the children's area and participate in the "Little Miss" and "Little Mister" Maple Fall Fest pageant where everyone wins!
715-384-3454; visitmarshfield.com

Harvestfest & Taste of Siren – Siren – Sept. 22-24, 2016
Three days, two festivals, one great time. Start your weekend on Thursday with Taste of Siren at Crooked Lake Park. Saturday Harvestfest kicks off with the new Run Down Hunger 5K or 10K run/walk with proceeds going to Yellow Lake Food Distribution. Later check out the motorcycle show, shop at the artisan and craft show, or aim for a strike in pumpkin bowling. Also, enjoy free carriage rides around town and a farmer's market.
715-349-8399; visitsiren.com

Milwaukee Film Festival – Milwaukee – Sept. 22-Oct. 6, 2016
Every year the Milwaukee Film Festival offers a chance to see a wealth of highly acclaimed films including some by local filmmakers. This year's lineup features a screening of the famous film *Metropolis* with the musical accompaniment of the Alloy Orchestra and the 30th anniversary screening of David Lynch's classic *Blue Velvet*. The fest offers more than 150 movies over a 15-day period playing in theatres around Milwaukee.
414-755-1965; www.mkefilm.org

Apple Festival – Gays Mills – Sept. 23-25, 2016
For over 50 years, fest-goers have enjoyed an apple-pickin' good time in Gays Mills, home to the largest orchards in the tri-state area. Munch on every kind of apple creation you can imagine along with live music, a craft show and flea market. Kids can enjoy the Sawdust Hunt, Kiddie Carnival and parade.
608-735-4341; http://www.gaysmills.org

30th Annual Wind Power Windsurfing Championships – Fond du Lac
Sept. 23-25, 2016
Fingers crossed for a windy weekend at the largest windsurfing race in the Midwest and Great Lakes Region. It's even on the U.S. Windsurfing National Tour. In the highly competitive sport, watch top national athletes participate in the 30-mile race across Lake Winnebago, considered one of the best windsurfing destinations in the country.
920-922-2550; www.windpowerwindsurfing.com

Wind Power Windsurfing Championships
Photo Courtesy of Wind Power

Warren's Cranberry Festival – Warrens – Sept. 23-25, 2016
Visit the world's largest cranberry festival, reppin' Wisconsin's state fruit. Tour a marsh to see exactly how these super fruits are produced. Enjoy 850 arts and crafts vendors, 350 antique and flea market vendors and 100 food market booths. Bring your appetite to the Cranberry Chiffon Pie Eating Contest (no hands allowed!). Sample tasty favorites like deep-fried cranberries on a stick and cranberry cream puffs.
608-378-4200; www.cranfest.com

Fall Color Biking Festival – Whitewater – Sept. 24, 2016
Whether you're riding on one wheel or two, this bike fest has a trail for you. Located at the John Muir trails, this annual mountain biking event raises money for future trail development and trail maintenance. Traverse the 35-mile trail or take part in the parent/child tag team event. The top three male and female finishers receive custom basswood plaques. New this year: an exciting unicycle event, with approximately 20 unicyclists expected to compete. After the races, relax at the beer garden with live music.

262-495-8600; www.fallcolorfestival.org

Beef-A-Rama – Minocqua – Sept. 23-24, 2016
For a finger-lickin' good time head to Beef-A-Rama. Saturday morning welcomes the beef cook-off competition with awards given to the top roasters. Sample a variety of roast beef sandwiches at one of the many street-side vendors. Enjoy picturesque views of Lake Minocqua during the 5K and 10K Rump Roast Run. Also, don't miss the Parade of Beef down Main Street. Added live music on Friday eve.
715-356-5266; www.beefarama.com

35th Annual Octoberfest – Appleton – Sept. 24, 2016
Willkommen to Appleton's largest one-day festival. This year's lineup features 26 local and national bands and 180 art and crafts vendors. Other fest offerings range from tasty traditional German food to funnel cake and, as always, a wide variety of beers. Prost!
920-734-7101; www.octoberfestonline.org

Green Lake Harvest Fest – Green Lake – Sept. 24-25, 2016
Celebrate the fall season with a craft fair, fresh farmer's market, tasty food and live entertainment. Hand-made crafts at the fair include jewelry, wooden signs, glass art and copper sculptures. Watch the 26th annual Harvest Fest Parade with over 75 entries. Kids can have fun with a petting zoo, pony rides and inflatable activity zone. On Sunday, the "Taste of Green Lake" is dishing out brat-burgers, butternut squash ravioli and seafood chowder, among other gourmet foods.
800-253-7354; www.visitgreenlake.com

Snowmobile Grass Drags & Swap Meet – Wausau – Sept. 24-25, 2016
In Wisconsin, we bring out our snowmobiles before snow is on the ground. Watch racers compete full throttle for the National Snowmobile Racing Association's Wisconsin Cup. Heats and finals will be held all weekend with vintage snowmobile classes both days. Don't miss the ATV and Mini Rod Pull, both fan favorites. After the races, bring your bargaining skills to Wisconsin's largest snowmobile and ATV swap meet.
715-571-9768; www.trailmatesclub.com

Spirit of the St. Croix Art Festival
Photo Courtesy of Hudson Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau

Spirit of the St. Croix Art Festival – Hudson – Sept. 24-25, 2016
Immerse yourself in the calming spirit of the beautiful St. Croix River and experience a variety of artwork from more than 90 juried artists. Check out acoustic musicians performing at two different stages as well as street performers entertaining visitors throughout the festival.
715-386-8411; discoverhudsonwi.com

Geneva Lakes Boat Show – Fontana – Sept. 24-25, 2016
Sail into the weekend with the Geneva Lakes boat parade, featuring classic and vintage boats from across the country. Afterwards, see who wins at the boat show awards. Categories include Most Historic, Pre-War and Post-War boats along with the coveted People's Choice award.
630-802-2693; www.genevalakesboatshow.com

Wade House Civil War Weekend – Greenbush – Sept. 24-25, 2016
This year, the Wade House celebrates 150-years since the Civil War with one of the largest Civil War reenactments in the state. Two authentically recreated battles simulate the clash between the North and South. Experience military drills, medical care situations, traditional music and food during these two action-packed days. You can meet Abraham Lincoln as he visits Union troops!
920-526-3271; wadehouse.wisconsinhistory.org

Oktoberfest USA – La Crosse – Sept. 29-Oct. 2, 2016
The biggest of its kind in Wisconsin and one of the biggest in the country, Oktoberfest USA draws over 150,000 visitors to this four-day event celebrating German heritage. Enjoy the Lederhosen Luncheon with music by the Oktoberfest Singers, the Maple Leaf parade and a traditional German dinner. Live music by local and regional country, pop, blues and rock groups will entertain throughout the festival.
608-784-3378; oktoberfestusa.com

OCTOBER:

Apple Affair – Galesville – Oct. 1, 2016
Get your apple fix with homemade apple pies, cider, caramel apples, Queen's Apple and Galesville's famous 10-foot apple pie baked in a 12-foot oven. Live music accompanies arts and crafts and a children's carnival. Catch a ride on the shuttle for a tour of Old Main or hop on a bike for the Apple Affair Bike Tour, with distances from six to 75 miles.
608-582-2868; www.galesvillewi.com

Kickapoo Reserve Dam Challenge – La Farge Oct. 1, 2016
The Kickapoo Reserve Dam Challenge Triathlon puts 500 participants to the test in the rugged hills of scenic southwestern Wisconsin and the Kickapoo Valley Reserve. Begin by paddling seven miles down the Kickapoo River then quickly jump on a bike to ride 15 hilly miles through the Driftless Area. Finish the race by running three miles along the trails.
608-625-2960; kvr.state.wi.us

Kickapoo Reserve Dam Challenge
Photo Courtesy of Owen Johnson

Stone Lake Cranberry Festival – Stone Lake – Oct. 1, 2016
Join 30,000 cran-fans for the Stone Lake Cranberry Festival. Get your cranberry fix at the cranberry pancake breakfast, pie social and bake sale. Then buy some berries, craisins or festive apparel. Show off your baking skills in the cranberry baking contest. End the day with a marsh tour to see exactly where this state berry is grown.
715-865-3378; www.stonelakecranberryfestival.com

Kilbourn City Live – Wisconsin Dells – Oct. 1, 2016
Get jazzed for downtown Wisconsin Dells' first ever music festival. Relax in the block-party atmosphere while two stages feature up and coming artists.
608-254-9879; www.wisdells.com

Shawano Country Miles of Art Fall Festival – Shawano – Oct. 1-2, 2016
The Shawano Country Miles of Art Fall Festival features over 40 emerging and established artists at two new locations: Kloes Custom Woodwork and the College of Menominee Nation. The fest also offers the Shawano Farmer's Market, Harvestfest Flea Market and Collector Car Show and Shawano Country Barn Quilt Tours.
715-524-2139; www.smartwisconsin.com

Cranberry Fest – Eagle River – Oct. 1-2, 2016
With over 10,000 pounds of cranberries sold at the fest annually and over 300 arts and crafts vendors from across the country, this fest impresses! Satisfy your cranberry cravings with a slice of the "World's Largest Cranberry Cheesecake," along with a cranberry beer, soda or glass of wine. Participate in the Berry Bog 5K walk/jog or shop at the farmer's and antique markets.
715-479-6400; eagleriver.org

Nekoosa Giant Pumpkin Fest – Nekoosa – Oct. 1-2, 2016
Cross "watching a 1,000+ pound pumpkin drop from a 100-foot crane and smashing to smithereens" off your bucket list. This fest is all things pumpkin and then some with the giant pumpkin weigh-off, great pumpkin bake-off, pumpkin carving and pumpkin decorating. Non-pumpkin activities include a farm and flea market, car shows, kids' games and a carnival.
715-323-4533; nekoosagiantpumpkinfest.com

Fermentation Fest – Reedsburg – Oct. 1-9, 2016
Farmers, chefs, artists and cheese makers converge in Sauk County for a series of tastings, demonstrations, cooking classes, art events, performances and more. Over 20 classes are held by experts on topics from fermented vegetables and hot sauces, to chocolate and coffee fermentation. Take the 50-mile self-guided Farm/Art Tour through the backroads to see art installations and mobile roadside stands selling locally grown produce.
800-844-3507; fermentationfest.com

Autumn on the Farms at Old World Wisconsin – Eagle – Oct. 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 2016
Bring the family for fun harvest activities for one weekend, or three, at Old World Wisconsin's farms and 1880s village. Each weekend offers a different experience. October 1 and 2 features the Harvest Bounty Weekend where visitors can pick their own food and prepare a harvest meal. October 8 and 9 is Farmhand Weekend. Visitors can spend the day working in the field by cutting logs, tending to draft horses or watching a traditional butchering. October 15 and 16 is Nose to Tail Weekend, where visitors can see firsthand how farm families used livestock to sustain themselves throughout the year.
262-594-6300; oldworldwisconsin.wisconsinhistory.org

50th Annual World Dairy Expo – Madison – Oct. 4-8, 2016
Take a walk through a special historical display representing the past five decades to celebrate 50 years of the World Dairy Expo. Stop by the cattle show and award-winning trade show. Saturday offers the Parade of Champions and Selection of 2016 Supreme Champions.
608-267-3976; worlddairyexpo.com

5th Annual Chain O' Lakes Blues Festival – Waupaca – Oct. 7-8, 2016
The 5th Annual Chain O'Lakes Blues Festival, hosted at the Indian Crossing Casino, features a musical lineup that will have your finger wagging and toe tapping The talent includes lively music from The Jimmy's and Rev. Raven & The Chain Smokin' Altar Boys.
715-258-7343; www.chainolakesbluesfestival.com

Audubon Days – Mayville – Oct. 7-9, 2016
Now hosted at Foster Park but still the same family-friendly fun! Watch the competitive bed races where mattresses on wheels are pushed down the street through an obstacle course. There's also the comical duck race with rubber ducks floating down the river to the finish line. On Saturday, join the Audubon Classic Run/Walk or the Metric Century Horicon Marsh Area Bike Tour with spectacular views of the fall color.
920-387-5776; www.audubondays.com

Fall Fresh Art Tour – Pepin and Pierce Counties – Oct 7-9, 2016
Take a self-guided tour along the scenic Great River Road, and visit 16 art studios and galleries in Pepin and Pierce Counties. Channel your inner Picasso with hands-on workshops or pick up a few tips during live demonstrations at each location. Art forms range from textiles to pottery, painting and mixed media.
715-672-8188; www.freshart.org

Rural Arts Road Trip – Calumet County – Oct. 7-9, 2016
The Rural Arts Road Trip has 11 locations featuring one-of-a-kind artwork from new and returning artists. This three-day, self-guided road trip takes visitors through Calumet County with on-site artist demos and a bevy of eclectic art pieces to view or purchase. Along the tour indulge in local and organic foods, like grass-fed beef, artisan cheeses and raw honey.
920-286-0971; ruralartsroadtrip.com

55th Annual Bayfield Apple Festival – Bayfield – Oct. 7-9, 2016
Hailed as one of the "10 Best Fall Harvest Festivals in the Nation" in 2015 by USA TODAY, the Bayfield Apple Festival celebrates 55 years by partnering with the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore to celebrate the National Park Service centennial. Visitors to the fest can shop the farmers market for local produce from the region, and enjoy fresh apple pies, tarts, caramel apples and ciders. Don't miss the Grand Parade and Peel Out 5K Trail Run at Mount Ashwabay.
715-779-3335; bayfield.org

Sheboygan Children's Book Festival – Sheboygan – Oct. 7-9, 2016
"Dare to Discover," a theme emphasizing curiosity, fantasy and exploration in books for children and teens, makes this festival a page-turner. Visit the Mead Public Library, John Michael Kohler Arts Center or Bookworm Gardens for the Sheboygan Children's Book Festival. This fun event hosts 15 children's book authors and illustrators with workshops, author discussions and readings. The fest also offers the Teen Book Festival as part of the event this year.
920-458-6144; sheboyganchildrensbookfestival.org

Harvest Fest – Boulder Junction – Oct. 8, 2016
Excite your taste buds with delicious seasonal food and drink, try pumpkin pancakes for breakfast, a bowl of chili or a hot dog for lunch and top it all off with a fresh hand-dipped caramel apple. There's also cranberry wine tasting for the parents and games and old fashioned tractor rides for the kiddos. In observance of Fire Prevention Week, the Boulder Junction Volunteer Fire Department will have station tours, a firefighter challenge and a vehicle extraction demo.
715-385-2400; www.boulderjct.org

Pumpkin Patch Festival – Egg Harbor – Oct. 8-9, 2016
Travel to the heart of Door County for this two-day fall festival. Get your face painted in Harbor View Park, place a bid in the silent auction, and welcome live music throughout the weekend. Kids can enjoy the carnival rides, games and a roaming magician.

920-868-3717; www.eggharbordoorcounty.org

25th Annual Oktoberfest Celebration – Lake Geneva – Oct. 8-9, 2016
Another Oktoberfest celebration coming at you. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Lake Geneva Oktoberfest. Visit downtown Lake Geneva for pony rides, authentic German polka and the delicious cider donuts. Grab a drink from the Sprechtoberfest beer tent then head to the Skootoberfest scooter games for some friendly competition. At the giant pumpkin weigh-in, check out Wisconsin farmers competing to see whose pumpkin is bigger with some weighing up to 1,700 pounds!
262-729-9872; www.visitlakegeneva.com

Chippewa Valley Book Festival – Chippewa Valley – Oct. 10-20, 2016
Calling all aspiring writers. The Chippewa Valley Book Festival features 15 local, regional and international writers taking part in readings and book signings. The fest offers workshops for adult writers in nonfiction, young adult writing, fiction and poetry. Chef and author Barbara Massaad will be discussing her book on Middle Eastern cooking as well as demonstrating how to make one of her tasty recipes.
715-839-5004; www.cvbookfest.org

Fall Festival Weekend – Wisconsin Dells – Oct. 14-15, 2016
Fall Festival Weekend kicks off with the Dells Craft Beer Walk. Sample from a huge selection of artisan brews as you stroll through downtown. The event also includes Dells on Tap, which invites Wisconsin breweries to showcase their premier microbrews. In between beers, don your best Halloween costume for the Dells Monster Dash 5K.
800-223-3557; http://www.wisdells.com

Fall Art Tour – Baraboo, Dodgeville, Mineral Point, Spring Green – Oct. 14-16, 2016
Explore art studios tucked away in the scenic hills in and around Wisconsin's art communities of Baraboo, Spring Green, Dodgeville and Mineral Point. Artisans include painters, sculptors, potters, weavers, jewelers, woodworkers and mixed-media artists. Many of these studios are only open for this event, providing a unique opportunity to meet the artists and purchase their work.
608-356-9048; fallarttour.com

Kohler Food & Wine Experience – Kohler Oct. 20-23, 2016
Turn off the Food Network and watch America's Test Kitchen celebrity chefs Jack Bishop and Julia Collin Davison in action at the Kohler Food & Wine Experience. The event brings together celebrity chefs, winemakers and foodies for an interactive culinary experience. Attend hands-on cooking demonstrations along with pairing sessions, interactive seminars and signature evening soirees. Bon appétit!
855-444-2838; www.americanclubresort.com

Kohler Food & Wine Experience
Courtesy of Photo Kohler Company

Wisconsin Book Festival – Madison – Oct. 20-23, 2016
Bookworms delight in this four-day festival hosted at the new Central Library and select other venues. Over 10,000 book lovers attend the event each year to experience literature, spoken

word and artistic performances. The festival features local literary talent alongside nationally recognized voices.
608-229-2081; www.wisconsinbookfestival.org

Wisconsin Science Festival – Madison – Oct. 20-23, 2016
Sparks fly at the Wisconsin Science Festival whether you are a casual science fan or a full-blown fanatic. Head to the Atrium for Science Arcade Night with everything from old school board games to virtual reality. Saturday features "Big Ideas for Busy People" where experts host lightning-round talks to explain their research. A huge countdown clock and gong ensure each presenter is swift.
608-316-4382; www.wisconsinsciencefest.org

Fall Gallery Night & Day – Milwaukee – Oct. 21-22, 2016
Lay eyes on Milwaukee's artistic talent during the day and long into the night. The popular Fall Gallery Night and Day event features 50 businesses, stores and restaurants throughout downtown Milwaukee showcasing artwork. Both the experienced art connoisseur and beginning admirer will enjoy the opportunities to chat with artists directly. Grab a bite to eat from one of the many popular restaurants downtown and get your art on!
414-273-1173; historicthirdward.org

Madeline Island Fall Festival – Madeline Island – Oct. 22, 2016
This fall festival offers everything from traditional pumpkin decorating to riding a bicycle-powered cider press. Munch on a Wapple, a waffle filled with apple cheesecake. Make handmade soap at Madeline Island Candles or watch a basket-weaving demonstration in front of Dockside Gifts. Other activities include a children's costume parade, face painting and local art vendors.
715-747-2801; www.madelineisland.com

Medford Area Harvest Days – Medford Area – Oct. 27-30, 2016
Medford Area Harvest Days is packed with fun for the whole family, including a weekend-long scavenger hunt. On Thursday, get active at the 5K Run/Walk down Main Street. Friday night offers adults-only trick or treating. Participate in or watch the chili and dessert contest and candy drop.
715-748-4729; www.medfordchamber.org

Jack O' Lantern Days – Fish Creek – Oct. 28-30, 2016
Jack O' Lantern Days puts the 'eek!' in Fish Creek. Board the Door County Trolley for Ghost Tours on Friday and Saturday night. Or for something less scary, head to Hands on Art Studio for Halloween Adult Art Night. On Saturday, there is mask-making for kids followed by a Halloween costume contest and parade. Attend the ghostly Kids Halloween Party at Old Town Hall and trick-or-treat throughout the village. It's the ultimate Halloween celebration.
920-868-2316; visitfishcreek.com

Fairlawn Halloween Flashlight Tours – Superior – Oct. 30, 2016
You'll feel like Eddie Murphy in *The Haunted Mansion* while touring the darkened Fairlawn Mansion built in 1891. Bring your flashlight, and learn about the superstitious life of the Victorians as guides give spooky anecdotes about how Victorians celebrated Halloween.
715-394-5712; superiorpublicmuseums.org

NOVEMBER:

Big Water Film Festival – Ashland – Nov. 9-13, 2016
Action! Experience Wisconsin's finest films in the heart of Ashland's business district. The fest kicks off with a reception on Friday at Office Bar, featuring local cuisine from area restaurants. On Saturday, Vaughn Public Library hosts "Cinema and Cinnamon Rolls." Visitors can munch on the tasty treat while listening to a filmmaker discussion.
715-682-6442; www.bigwaterfilmfestival.org

Trainfest – West Allis – Nov. 12-13, 2016
Celebrate the Milwaukee railroad this year at Trainfest with a special exhibit that will feature a 32-panel historical display. Watch more than 70 mesmerizing, intricately-detailed running trains and interact with model train manufacturers and retailers from across the nation. There is an expanded Kids' Activity Zone with free crafts and make 'n takes. All aboard!
262-820-3566; www.trainfest.com

Holiday Harvest Wine and Food Festival – Prescott, Stockholm, Pepin – Nov. 12-13, 2016
Take a self-guided tour along the Great River Road Wine Trail to kick off the holiday season. Grab your wine trail glass, and indulge in featured wines and ciders paired with local food. Reduced price tickets for designated drivers are available.
715-448-3502; www.greatriverroadwinetrail.org

Zoo Lights at Henry Vilas Zoo – Madison – Nov. 23, 2016-Jan. 1, 2017
For the first time, visit the Henry Vilas Zoo to see over 300,000 lights sparkle throughout the grounds. Kids can visit with Santa, roast S'more and ride the zoo's train and carousel.
608-258-9490; www.vilaszoo.org

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