

86TH ANNUAL MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF FISH & WILDLIFE AGENCIES DIRECTORS' MEETING



JUNE 23-26, 2019
MAUMEE BAY LODGE & CONFERENCE CENTER • OREGON, OHIO

Program Agenda (as of 6/10/19)

- ✦ **Dress Code:** Casual attire throughout the conference.
- ✦ Meetings & Coffee Breaks will take place in the Bald Eagle/Blue Heron sections of the Grand Ballroom; and Meals will be located in the White Egret/Tern rooms.
- ✦ Hospitality Suite: Check with the conference registration desk for Suite #.

SUNDAY – JUNE 23, 2019

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Conference Registration Desk Open
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	MAFWA Executive Committee — MAIN SAIL ROOM
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Welcome Reception — COURTYARD <i>Sponsored by Pheasants/Quail Forever; Remarks by Jim Inglis</i>
8:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room <i>Sponsored by Bass Pro Shops</i>

MONDAY – JUNE 24, 2019

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet <i>Sponsored by National Wild Turkey Federation; Remarks by Ross Melinchuk</i>
7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Conference Registration Desk Open
8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Greetings and Welcome to Ohio Honor Guard and Pledge of Allegiance
8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	State Hot Topics Facilitator: Kendra Wecker, <i>Chief, OH DNR Division of Wildlife</i>
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Refreshment Break <i>Sponsored by D.J. Case & Associates</i>
10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Wind Energy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ohio Wind Program – Erin Hazelton, <i>Wind Energy/Wildlife Administrator, ODNR Division of Wildlife</i> ▪ Mapping Airspace Use to Inform Conservation Decisions Along the Great Lakes – Beth Rigby, <i>Assistant Regional Energy Coordinator, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service</i> ▪ Institute Update – Abby Arnold, <i>Executive Director, American Wind and Wildlife Institute</i> ▪ Wind & Wildlife: A Prairie State Perspective – Elisha Mueller, <i>Conservation Biologist, North Dakota Game and Fish Department</i>
11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Director Group Photo
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Awards Luncheon <i>Sponsored by Ducks Unlimited and Canadian NAWMP Partners; Remarks by David Brakhage and Tim Sopuck</i>
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Lake Erie <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Walleye Fishery – Travis Hartman, <i>Lake Erie Program Administrator, ODNR Division of Wildlife</i> ▪ Ohio Grass Carp Response Strategy – John Navarro, <i>Aquatic Invasive Species Program Administrator, ODNR, Division of Wildlife</i> ▪ Commission Overview – John Dettmers, <i>Director of Fisheries Management, Great Lakes Fishery Commission</i> ▪ Implementation of Farm Bill – Jim Inglis, <i>Director of Governmental Affairs, Pheasants Forever</i>
3:00 p.m.	Refreshment Break <i>Sponsored by Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation</i>

3:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Offsite Dinner Event at the Winous Point Shooting Club <i>Co-sponsored by Sovereign Sportsman Solutions; Remarks by Eric Richey</i> (Depart from hotel at 3:30 p.m. in the front circle entrance)
9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room <i>Sponsored by Airgun Sporting Association</i>
TUESDAY – JUNE 25, 2019	
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet <i>Sponsored by Archery Trade Association; Remarks by Dan Forster</i>
7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Conference Registration Desk Open
8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	How a Shift in Wildlife Values Can Affect Wildlife Management in the U.S. – <i>Tara Teel, Professor, Colorado State University</i>
8:45 a.m. – 9:55 a.m.	Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake Recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Research – <i>Greg Lipps, Amphibian & Reptile Conservation Coordinator, The Ohio State University</i> ▪ Land Management – <i>Bob Ford, Wildlife Management Supervisor, ODNR Division of Wildlife</i> ▪ Recovery Planning – <i>Angie Boyer, Endangered Species Coordinator, Ohio Field Office U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service</i> ▪ Panel Q&A
9:55 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.	Refreshment Break <i>Sponsored by The Mule Deer Foundation</i>
10:10 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.	AFWA Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Ed Carter, AFWA President; Director, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency</i> ▪ <i>Ron Regan, AFWA Executive Director</i>
10:40 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	MAFWA Committee Reports Facilitator: <i>Ollie Torgerson, MAFWA Executive Secretary</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CITES ▪ Feral Swine ▪ Hunter and Angler Recruitment and Retention ▪ Deer and Wild Turkey ▪ Furbearers ▪ Law Enforcement ▪ Legal ▪ National Conservation Needs ▪ Private Lands ▪ Public Lands ▪ Wildlife Action Plan ▪ Wildlife and Fish Health
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch Buffet <i>Sponsored by Kalkomey; Remarks by Mitch Strobl</i>
1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Ohio Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Butterflies to Blanding's: Helping Ohio's At-Risk Species – <i>Kent Bekker, Director of Conservation, The Toledo Zoo</i> ▪ Ohio Pollinator Habitat Initiative – <i>Marci Lininger, ODOT & Mike Retterer, Pheasants Forever</i> ▪ Building Partnerships to Restore Lake Erie Coastal Wetlands – <i>Tim Schetter Ph.D., Director of Natural Resources, Metroparks Toledo</i>
2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Refreshment Break <i>Sponsored by The Nature Conservancy</i>
2:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Midwest Landscape Initiative <i>Kelley Myers, Senior Advisor for Landscape Conservation, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service</i>
3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Federal Partners Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – <i>Charlie Wooley, Region 3 Director</i> ▪ U.S. Forest Service – <i>Leah Rathbun, Assistant Director of Renewable Resources Eastern Region</i> ▪ USDA APHIS-Wildlife Services – <i>Willie Harris, Eastern Region Director</i> ▪ USGS Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Units – <i>John Thompson, Deputy Chief</i> ▪ U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service – <i>Noreen Walsh, Region 6 Director</i>
5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Offsite Dinner Event: Howard Marsh Metropark (Depart from hotel at 5:00 p.m. in the front circle entrance) <i>Sponsored by National Archery in the Schools; Remarks by Roy Grimes</i>
9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room <i>Sponsored by JMT Technology Group</i>

WEDNESDAY – JUNE 26, 2019

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet <i>Sponsored by National Shooting Sports Foundation; Remarks by Jim Curcuruto</i>
7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Conference Registration Desk Open
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	MAFWA Business Meeting Kelly Hepler, MAFWA President <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Call to Order and Roll Call▪ Agenda Review▪ Approval of 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes▪ Resolutions Committee Report – Sara Parker Pauley (MO)▪ Bylaws Committee Report – Sara Parker Pauley (MO)▪ Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference – Sara Parker Pauley (MO)▪ Treasurer's Report – Roger Luebbert▪ Audit Committee Report – Dale Garner (IA)▪ Investments Committee Report – Jim Douglas (NE)▪ Awards Committee Report – Terry Steinwand (ND)▪ Executive Secretary's Report – Ollie Torgerson▪ Approval of Affiliate Members – Ollie Torgerson <i>Old Business</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ National Wild Pheasant Plan Update – Scott Taylor▪ Mid-Continent Monarch Strategy Report – Bill Moritz (MI)▪ R3-John Frampton and MAFWA R3 Committee <i>New Business</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ TRACS Go-Live – Paul Rauch, USFWS▪ Midwest Landscape Initiative-Kelly Hepler (SD)▪ 2020 Budget Approval - Roger Luebbert
10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Refreshment Break <i>Sponsored by National Wildlife Federation</i>
10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	MAFWA Business Meeting (continued) Closing Comments – President's Remarks Passing of Gavel to Next State
12:00 p.m.	Conference Adjourns

Featured Events: Monday

★ Awards Luncheon — *Grand Ballroom/White Egret & Tern*

Monday, June 24 / 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Ducks Unlimited and Canadian NAWMP Partners

Remarks by David Brakhage (DU) and Tim Sopuck (Canadian NAWMP)

Presented by: The Awards Committee – Terry Steinwand, Chair

- ★ Law Enforcement Officer of the Year
- ★ Wildlife Biologist of the Year
- ★ Fisheries Biologist of the Year
- ★ Spirit of the Shack
- ★ Excellence in Conservation
- ★ Special Recognition Service Award
- ★ President's Award

★ Offsite Dinner Event: Winous Point Shooting Club

Monday, June 24 / 3:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Sponsored by Sovereign Sportsman Solutions

This event is included in the full conference registration fee, and transportation will be provided as follows:

Board motor coaches at 3:30 p.m. from resort main entrance for departure to the Winous Point Shooting Club. We'll begin the return shuttles to the hotel at approximately 8:30 p.m. The drive is an estimated 45 minutes.

Join us at the oldest duck hunting club in the country for a festive event featuring a guided tour of the Club, networking social and BBQ dinner. Winous Point Shooting Club (WPSC) was founded in 1856 and is the oldest continually operating waterfowl hunting club in North America. WPSC is one of the largest wetland owners in Ohio. In addition to its hunting heritage, WPSC has a long history of research with many current Division of Wildlife employees having interned at the facility. WPSC is a valuable partner of numerous colleges in the Midwest for students obtaining advanced degrees.

Featured Event: Tuesday

★ Offsite Dinner Event: Howard Marsh Metropark

Tuesday, June 25 / 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sponsored by National Archery in the Schools Program.

This event is included in the full conference registration fee, and transportation will be provided as follows:

Board motor coaches at 5:00 p.m. for departure to Howard Marsh. We'll begin the return shuttles to the hotel at approximately 8:45 p.m. The drive is an estimated 15 minutes.

Join us at Howard Marsh Metropark for an evening of socializing and a Fish Fry dinner. No formal activities are planned however there will be opportunities for archery, kayaking, canoeing and walking on the boardwalk/trails. Formerly a 1,000-acre agricultural field on the shores of Lake Erie, Phase I restored 571 acres to wetlands and 116 acres to upland habitat. In the first year 191 species of songbirds, shorebirds and waterfowl were documented using the park. Opened in the spring of 2018, visitors have enjoyed 6 miles of walking trails and a quarter-mile boardwalk through the marsh. Waterfowl hunters enjoyed their first season during the fall. Howard Marsh Metropark has received state, Midwest and National awards. Planning for the restoration of the remaining 250 acres to wetlands is currently underway.