**EVERGREEN TOUR 2019**

**State Officer Visits**
If you would like state officers at your next event (district gathering/CDEs, fair, award ceremony, service project, etc.), or are hoping to have them visit your chapter – please complete at request at: https://www.washingtonffa.org/visit-request-1/. There are still lots of opening available!

- **<State Officer Visits #1:** The District “priority” weeks are listed on the Washington FFA calendar and also below:
  - Sept.30-Oct.4: D9 scheduled
  - Oct. 7-11: D6 scheduled
  - Oct. 21-24: D4 by Oct. 7
  - Nov. 4-8: D5 by Oct. 21
  - Nov. 11-15: D8 by Oct. 28
  - Nov. 18-22: D2 by Nov. 4
  - Dec. 2-6: D1 by Nov. 11
  - Dec. 9-13: D3 by Nov. 18

- **<State Officer Visits #2:** Requests must be made at least 2 weeks in advance of the desired visit date. Visits are NOT guaranteed until a confirmation email has been sent from Washington FFA staff. Advisor(s) must be present throughout the entire chapter visit.

**FFA Roster**
Remember that the FFA roster is entered through and housed by National FFA, not Washington FFA. You must use the FFA.org system for your roster, otherwise it is not official and cannot be processed.

- **<Roster #1:** I have posted the annual step-by-step roster documents. These are also on FFA.org.
- **<Roster #2:** Deadline reminders:
  - **August 1** = 1st day of the 2019-2020 FFA membership year (roster is open)
  - **October 15** = Last day to submit “Affiliate Chapter” paperwork (do NOT submit ANY roster information if pursuing this)
  - **November 1** = Last day to submit roster without penalty; Last day to submit POA without penalty
  - **December 1** = Dues payment received (not POI) without penalty; late penalty invoices will be sent after this date
  - **March 1** = Last day to submit spring roster without penalty
  - **April 1** = Dues payment received (not POI) without penalty; late penalty invoices will be sent after this date
- **<Roster #3:** You MUST “Submit for State Approval” or a student is not recognized as a member. This triggers the invoicing for dues, as well as advancement for NFFA membership.
  **Double-check your roster for duplicates (especially last name/first names reversed or nickname/full name accounts)** Chapters WILL be charged for duplicates. Once you click “Submit for State Approval” it means you have checked for these errors & will be charged for all submitted members.
• <Roster #4: AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP – If your chapter is considering becoming an affiliate chapter I have posted all the information you need (fee scale, required documents, information on the opportunity, etc.) at: https://www.washingtonffa.org/advisor-resources/. Affiliate documents are due to me no later than noon on October 15. If you are going to become an affiliate chapter DO NOT submit your roster for state approval!!! If you submit before your chapter’s status has been changed…it cannot be updated for this membership year and affiliate status would have to wait until 2020-2021.>

• <Roster #5: Dues remain the same at $17/member ($7 NFFA/$10 WAFFA). Affiliate is also unchanged.
  o An invoice will be emailed from me with the WAFFA logo on it (this is the OFFICIAL invoice – the version provided by NFFA is not official…it just supports the start of a PO process). If you use the NFFA summary of charges, be sure to explain to your Accounts Payable that the official invoice is still coming and that the WAFFA invoice will include the $100 Events & Activities fee that every chapter must pay to be in good standing.
  o The deadline for dues and the E&A fee is PAID (not PO) by December 1 or the chapter will be charged a $100 late fee.
  o It is the advisors’ responsibility to submit the roster early enough to process payment by Dec. 1. Rosters are processed in batches on Mondays starting Sept. 9 and invoices are sent the same day. Submit early – you can always add members during the spring membership window!>

• <Roster #6: Double-check and download! DOWNLOAD A COPY OF YOUR FINAL ROSTER from 18-19!! Yes, it’s in the system…but if the system crashes, then you have a back-up. Download a version after you submit for state approval – it’s just a good practice. Go to your chapter roster, then click on the little green spreadsheet icon and save the download.>

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National FFA Convention (Indianapolis, IN) – Oct. 30-Nov.2

Washington FFA will once again have a strong presence at the National FFA Convention in October in Indianapolis, Indiana.

• <National Convention #1: UPDATES – We have our text-based update system that is used at state convention -- and will be using it for National Convention to keep folks up-to-date with how WAFFA is doing. This information, and pictures, will also be posted on the Washington FFA social media (Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter) as time and technology allow.
  o The success of this update system will hinge on advisors of teams/individuals texting Abbie directly with information to share out via the update system – time/locations of competition rounds, advancement to finals, etc. 509.592.3444.
  o Here’s how you can opt-in to the WAFFA Nat’l Convention Text Updates (if you didn’t already for state convention):
    ➢ To receive messages via text, text @waffaupdate to 81010.
    ➢ You can opt-out of messages at any time by replying, 'unsubscribe@waffaupdate'.

• <National Convention #2: SCHEDULE – There are lots of scheduling components to National Convention…both before and during. National FFA should be posting the convention schedules soon. Here’s a few that are Washington FFA specific… I will update this as additional information is made available by NFFA:
  ▪ Now-Sept.25 = Limited availability in the WAFFA State Housing block. I do NOT complete reservations for you – you must do it using the new online system and a credit card must be listed for the reservation(s). *see previous emails for more information*
  ▪ Oct. 9 (6pm EST…3pm PST) = Concert & Rodeo ticket sales, round 2. Through Ticketmaster (set up your account ahead of time!)…refunds from Round 1 have been sent (apparently).
  ▪ Mon. Oct. 29 = National Officer Candidate Advancement. This is the night we find out if our candidate, Seth Smith, advances in the election process.
▪ Oct. 30-Nov. 2 = CDE/LDE competitions. All schedules are available on FFA.org on each events page.
▪ Fri. Nov. 1 (9:45am) = State Photo…NEW LOCATION → Lucas Oil Stadium, Exhibit Hall 2.
▪ Fri. Nov. 1 (8am) = Honorary American Degree Session, Lucas Oil Stadium. WAFFA has four recipients (this year awarded alphabetically, not by state).

EMERGE Leadership Conference 2020
Year 2 in the Washington FFA developed leadership program. This two-day leadership program replaces the NFFA 212/360 program. This program is for high school students – we do not have programming for Discovery-degree junior high students at this time.

• <Eastern Washington EMERGE: March 6-7, 2020 in Wenatchee, WA. This conference will have a capacity of 240 students; 70 in the Greenhand track; 70 in the Advanced track. This will run concurrent with WAAE Spring Exec and State Degree sifting; however the entire conference will be held at the conference hotel, not WVC. WAAE has been notified but hasn’t made a decision about their location at this time.
• <Western Washington EMERGE: Feb 28-29, 2020 in Olympia, WA. This conference will have a capacity of 240 students; 70 in the Greenhand track; 70 in the Advanced track.
• <Registration: Registration for both conferences will open Nov. 5 and will be open until Dec. 1 or until the conference is filled (whichever occurs first). There will be a non-refundable deposit of $50/participant.
• <Rooms: Information about the room block for each conference will be provided to registered advisors. Chapters will be responsible for their own housing reservations/payment.

The Washington FFA Website
There have been a number of updates and additions to the Washington FFA website and it will continue to evolve. It is a work in process so there will be some delays, adjustments and improvements…and constructive feedback is welcome.

• <Website #1: CALENDAR – the official Washington FFA calendar is available as a Google Calendar and is updated in real-time so always check there for dates/deadlines and updates. Please note: WAAE has shifted to a Google Calendar but these are separate. ALSO: There are tutorials available to link Google Calendars to your personal e-calendar system (Google, iCalendar, Outlook, etc.) so check YouTube if you are interested in that. >
• <Website #2: CDE/LDEs – There is a page for every event that Washington FFA recognizes. Registration links and results will be found on these pages. I am updating a variety of CDE/LDE handbooks following summer conference/summer Board meeting approvals. Notices will be emailed when updated versions are available. >
• <Website #3: ADVISORS – There is a page-thread just for you! Membership/Roster resources, state officer visit request form, documents, updates, etc. can be found here. >

State CDEs/LDEs

• <CDE/LDE #1: REGISTRATION – State CDE/LDE registrations must be completed through the Google Form that Abbie emails via the listserv/posts on the CDE/LDE webpage.>
• <CDE/LDE #2: DEADLINES – Registration deadlines are listed on the registration, as well as the Washington FFA calendar. Deadlines will be enforced in 2019-2020 order to verify participant membership and provide coordinators ample time to prep the event. Be sure to check your email and the state calendar!>
• <CDE/LDE #3: 2020 CHANGES – There are announced changes for 2020 from NFFA:
  ▪ MEATS = Will change to a 4-person team (all scores count). WAFFA will move to a 4/6 contest in 2020.
  ▪ PROFICIENCIES = There will be consolidation of some areas: The home and/or community development area will be updated to the service-learning area to recognize the service-learning supervised agricultural experience (SAE) type described in SAE for All. The award area description will be based on that SAE type. The food science and technology area has merged with other areas due to lack of participation and sponsorship. The grain production – entrepreneurship and placement areas will be combined due to lack of participation and sponsorship.
  ▪ ONLINE APPLICATIONS (only) = National Chapter and Agriscience national submissions.

Spring 2020 Events
• <Spring 2020 – Legislative Days: tentative FFA Legislative Bootcamp = Jan. 21, 2020
  ▪ Feb. 21 = CTSO Legislative Engagement & Advocacy (all day)>
• <Spring 2020 – FFA Week: Saturday, February 22-Saturday, February 29. FFA Advisor Contact Accuracy

General Information
• <GENERAL #1: The WAFFA 5-year Strategic Plan is posted…please read to better understand the direction the Association is working toward in the next few years.>
• <GENERAL #2: National FFA student delegates will be considering a number of constitutional changes influenced by the recent charter changes that were approved by Congress. The students are one voice in the change process – ag teachers have 2 representatives on the National FFA Board via NAAE. If you have questions or would like to express your opinions so that the ag teachers voice is heard/represented…please contact your 2 representatives and be sure to follow-up with them otherwise the pattern of action has been rather passive until it’s too late.>
• <GENERAL #3: New Horizons magazine – if there is a problem with the student’s address (not verified = green check) they likely won’t receive it. Also, please send WAFFA “twitter highlight” stories to me to use in the State Features.
• <GENERAL #4: MONEY!! Scholarships and grants are hitting your inboxes – Dodge, Ford, Living to Serve, etc. Most take very little time/effort…Denny and I forward when received. Make sure to check the deadlines, there is usually no flexibility.

WAFFA Advisor List
With all the advisor hires/retires/changes, could you please verify that this list is correct for Abbie’s purposes…and if she needs to make a change, please email her directly! (click the text link to see the list) If you know of new teachers in WA, or soon-to-charter programs, please share my information with them and have them reach out. A weakness in our system is that I don’t have access to who is where/contact information unless someone first reaches out to me – so encourage them to email as I am happy to help!

Also, please bear in mind that this list is in NO WAY connected to the WAAE listserv → that is managed/corrected by Gary Parkert, so please contact him if you need added/removed/changed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION
As always, I welcome questions, information and constructive feedback. I’m a lifelong learner and it is always, ALWAYS my goal to make things as great as I can for Washington FFA members – in the various ways that I am able to…but I am fallible and I know it.

Abbie DeMeerleer, abbie@washingtonffa.org 509.592.3444, cell (text OK)