



Great Midwest Crane Fest FAQ

Saturday, Nov. 15 and Sunday, Nov. 16, 2025

The International Crane Foundation and Aldo Leopold Foundation sites will be open to festival attendees between 8:30am and 4:30pm each day of the festival.

For more information, please visit greatmidwestcranefest.org

How much do general admission tickets cost?

Early-Bird Tickets (Available until Sept. 15)	Regular Tickets (Sept. 16 – Nov. 16)
\$50 Saturday and Sunday (18+)	\$60 Saturday and Sunday
\$30 Single day Saturday (18+)	\$40 Single day Saturday
\$30 Single day Sunday (18+)	\$40 Single day Sunday
\$8 Youth (ages 6-17)*	\$8*
FREE Children (ages 5 and under)	FREE

***Youth registration is valid for both days of the festival, Nov. 15 and 16.**

Are tickets refundable?

No, all tickets are non-refundable. This includes general admission tickets, and any add-on event tickets purchased. We thank you for supporting our community event and the conservation of cranes!

Are there any events with additional registration fees?

Yes, the following events require additional registration. Visit greatmidwestcranefest.org to register for these events. Please note that the purchase of a general admission ticket (single day or weekend) is required to attend any add-on events. If you are planning on bringing children to any of the following events, you will need to purchase tickets for them as well, regardless of age.

- Sunrise and Sunset Crane Field Lectures: \$55/person
- Crane Congregation Viewing Tours: \$75-\$106/person
- Mindful Moments Workshop: Connecting with Cranes and Ourselves: \$45/person

Can I purchase add-on events without buying a general admission ticket?

No, you must purchase a general admission ticket for the day(s) you want to attend any add-on events.

What activities are included with the purchase of a general admission ticket?

Guests who purchase a single-day registration for either Saturday, Nov. 15 or Sunday, Nov. 16 will have access to all included events during the day of their registration. In addition, guests who purchase a Saturday *and* Sunday registration will have access to included events on both days of the festival. **Please note that capacity may be limited for select events and seating is first-come-first-served.**

- **International Crane Foundation events included with general admission:**
 - Lectures
 - Guided Prairie Walks
 - Guided *Crane Discovery Center* Tours
 - Keeper Chats
 - Access to *Cranes Discovery Center* Exhibitions, the George Archibald Welcome Center and Gift Shop, and the Migration Center Exhibits
 - Access to on-site nature trails – these trails are not paved, so please do not take scooters, wheelchairs, bicycles, or strollers on the trails.
 - Food trucks
- **Aldo Leopold Foundation events included with general admission:**
 - Lectures and Demonstrations
 - Guided and Self-Guided Shack Tours
 - Guided Nature Hikes
 - Guided Green Building Tours
 - Access to the Aldo Leopold Center Exhibits and Gift Shop
 - Food trucks

What can I expect if I attend the Great Midwest Crane Fest?

Events will take place at the International Crane Foundation and the Aldo Leopold Foundation, with a free shuttle available to transport attendees between sites. Through this festival, attendees will witness the results of the incredible Sandhill Crane conservation success story and learn how the land connects us to our past and future. Festival events will include guided and self-led crane viewing tours, photography workshops, conservation-related lectures, exhibition tours at both host sites, art exhibitions, food trucks, and more.

Do I need to be a member of either organization to attend the festival?

No, you do not need to be a member of the International Crane Foundation or the Aldo Leopold Foundation to attend.

Will you mail me a printed ticket?

No printed tickets will be mailed. When you register online, your automated email confirmation is your proof of registration. Check your email for messages from order@humanitix.com.

If you register over the phone, we will email or mail a confirmation letter to you, and this will be your proof of registration. If you register via phone on or after Nov. 1, 2025, you will not be mailed a ticket and you will need to check in by name. If you have questions regarding your registration, please contact 608-356-9462, ext. 807 or email cranefest@savingcranes.org.

When should I arrive, and how will I check in?

The Aldo Leopold Foundation and International Crane Foundation sites will both be open between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 15 and Sunday, Nov. 16.

When you first arrive at either site, please stop at the check-in station. The International Crane Foundation's check-in station will be in the George Archibald Welcome Center. The Aldo Leopold Foundation's check-in station will be located by the Aldo Leopold Legacy Center. When arriving at either site, be sure to stop at the check-in station first to check-in and receive your event schedule and site map.

Is there transportation between the International Crane Foundation and the Aldo Leopold Foundation?

Yes, there is a free shuttle that runs between the International Crane Foundation and the Aldo Leopold Foundation throughout both days of the festival. The shuttle schedule will be posted on greatmidwestcranefest.org once finalized.

Can you recommend nearby hotels or lodging?

Please visit savingcranes.org/visit/places-to-stay/ or downtownbaraboo.com/stay for more information on nearby lodging options.

Where should I park?

Free parking is available at the International Crane Foundation and the Aldo Leopold Foundation, and you can park at either foundation. Signs will be posted that will help direct traffic. **Please note that the International Crane Foundation parking lot gates will close promptly at 5 p.m. on both days of the festival. Please be sure to plan accordingly so your car is not locked in the lot. If you plan on attending an evening crane viewing tour, drive your own vehicle to the crane viewing tour location.**

Are children allowed to attend crane viewing events?

Sunrise and Sunset Crane Field Lectures and *Crane Congregation Tours* are recommended for children 12 years and older. While there is no minimum age requirement for these tours, please keep in mind that participants will be asked to keep noise levels to a minimum to avoid disturbing the cranes and to ensure a quality experience for all attendees. All participants must stay for the tour. As you know your child best, we ask that you consider if your child will be comfortable for 2+ hours in potentially cold weather. All individuals, regardless of age, will need to have their own ticket to attend these tours.

Can I bring a pet?

No, pets are not allowed at either site or during any add-on events. Service animals are permitted but must always remain leashed and under control. If you plan to bring a service animal to the event, please contact us in advance at 608-356-9462, ext. 104.

Will there be food available for purchase at the Great Midwest Crane Fest?

Yes, food trucks and drink carts will be available at the International Crane Foundation and the Aldo Leopold Foundation. RMN Mini Donut Food Truck and Banzo Mediterranean Food Truck will be at the International Crane Foundation on Saturday and Sunday. The Las Milpas Food Truck will be at the Aldo Leopold Foundation on Saturday and Sunday.

How much walking is involved with this festival?

That will depend on your preferences and what events you plan to attend. Events that will likely include long periods of walking and standing time include the Guided Prairie Walks, Guided *Cranes Discovery Center* Tours, Shack Tours, Guided Nature Tours, and the Sunrise and Sunset Crane Field Lectures. Lectures are seated events, and seating is first-come-first-served; standing room may be offered if no seats are available.

Which events are ADA accessible?

If you have specific questions about ADA accessibility at the Aldo Leopold Foundation, please email eric@aldoleopold.org or call 608-355-0279, ext. 390.

If you have questions about ADA accessibility for specific events at the International Crane Foundation, please email cranefest@savingcranes.org or call 608-356-9462, ext. 104.

Do you have more questions or an interest in becoming a future sponsor?

For general festival inquiries, please reach out to cranefest@savingcranes.org or call 608-356-9462, ext. 807.

If you are interested in becoming a future sponsor, please call 608-356-9462, ext. 104, or email cranefest@savingcranes.org. We appreciate your support!