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Many thanks to our generous co-sponsors!

You can be a Co-Sponsor

Co-sponsors help us keep afloat, while giving recognition to good people and organizations. Co-sponsorship, costing \$160 (more if you are able), provides you: two (2) adult admissions, exhibit space, and recognition on OACC social media. Email oaccleaf@gmail.com or visit ozarkareacommunitycongress.org



Costs. Registration covers programs, lodging, plus meals Saturday and Sunday. Our policy again this year is simply "pay what you can but please consider our costs." Due to last year's rise in fees paid to the camp, we expect costs to range from \$50-\$100 per person, depending on the length of stay. See website for details.

Pay with cash or check at the door, or pre-register using PayPal: <https://ozarkareacommunitycongress.org/product/event-registration/>. Attendees under 17 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Our Volunteer Village. Please be ready to **help out**, in the kitchen, with grounds cleanup, or whatever it takes to keep our little village going. This enables OACC to be inexpensive to attend. Help with setup on Friday and cleanup on Sunday are especially needed.

Directions. From West Plains, go west on Hwy CC 15 miles to Camp entrance, on the right. The Ozark County line is 1.6 miles before. **Camp: (417) 293-8365**



You are invited!

OACC 47

*Common Threats,
Common Ground:
Uniting through education and action*



*October 9-11, 2026
Hammond Mill Camp,
Ozark Co. Mo.*

All those who love and care about the Ozarks are invited to our 47th annual congress, to celebrate, appreciate, and learn from this phenomenal part of the Earth and each other.

Ozark Area Community Congress (OACC) is

- The first and longest-standing bioregional congress.
- A decades-long forum for a sustainable and regenerative economy for the Ozarks.
- A place to network with ecologically-informed, creative, talented people, growers, activists, small business operators, musicians, writers, innovators, and just plain folks.
- OACC is a celebration of the Ozarks and all things restorative and ecological!



Thanks to Clara Vaughn and others for OACC photos

With our theme this year, "*Common Threats, Common Ground: Uniting through education and action*," the 47th annual OACC will feature two panel discussions, children's activities, a homeschooling roundtable, and the ever-popular coffeehouse talent show.

Due to its success, we're going to continue last year's bold experiment with registration. Hammond Mill Camp raised fees significantly, yet we're concerned that our longtime registration fee (\$50 for the weekend) can be a deterrent for some participants. Again this year, our fee is simply "pay what you can, but please consider our costs." Camp fees alone for an adult staying the whole weekend are now \$67! We anticipate overall costs will range from \$50 - \$100 per person (higher for those staying the weekend, but lower for those coming Saturday only). We hope anyone who can will give a little extra to cover those who are less able to pay.

OACC 47 Presentations



Most activities take place on Saturday; on Sunday morning we'll hold our OACC plenary, the planning session for next year. **Two focused panel discussions** are scheduled, listed below, but there will also be time for participants to share their knowledge. Anyone who wants to host a session may sign up during the Open Space process. However, Open Space slots may be reduced this year due to longer panel discussions.



General Schedule

Planned Activities

OACC includes both pre-scheduled and spontaneous presentations. Scheduled activities are listed here.

State of the Ozarks. This popular session offers the opportunity to hear what others are doing and to share your news. Be prepared to give a short talk about your event, project, organization, business, or ideas. Whether you're new or a long-timer, this session can help you find connections.

Open Space. Previously unscheduled events are added to the roster during our Open Space process. Join us to add your presentation at OACC. We set the final schedule then. OACC is all about sharing and participating! Open space slots are 35 minutes each. Presentations may be tied to the theme, or not.

Coffeehouse Talent Show.

Fun and entertaining! Enjoy our participants' many talents. Everyone, from the smallest child, is encouraged to perform, be it with music, poems, jokes, theatrics, or dance.



Exhibits.

Organizations, artists, and entrepreneurs set up displays and demos for their Ozark-based, environmentally-friendly products.

Panel Discussions

Data Centers & Threats to Ozark Waters

Kelly Hunter Foster, Waterkeeper Alliance Senior Attorney, will discuss potential responses to the environmental and public health implications of data centers.

Kimberly Barker, freelance journalist and non-profit communications director, investigates data centers' effects on rural communities.

Gretchen Boisse, a Geological Engineer/Environmental Scientist, will discuss the Ozark aquifer, in the context of data centers' potential impact on groundwater and wells.

Wren Haffner is organizing against data centers in Ozark watersheds and enlivening cultural storytelling about the rights of water.

Ticks & the Emergence of Alpha-gal

Katrina Bogdon, a naturopathic doctor, draws on her own experience living with Alpha-gal syndrome to help others with this condition.

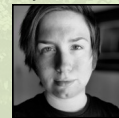
Jim Long, herbalist and author, will tell about his personal experiences learning to navigate the life-changing world of Alpha-gal.

Noelle Callaway, pharmacist, will share guidelines developed for hospital staff who work with Alpha-gal patients, to help them evaluate foods or medicines that might trigger symptoms.

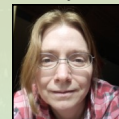
Emily Althoff, entomology professor at MU and Lincoln University, will talk about tick ecology, local tick species, and the diseases they carry.



Kelly Hunter Foster



Kimberly Barker



Gretchen Boisse



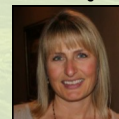
Wren Haffner



Katrina Bogdon



Jim Long



Noelle Callaway

Friday

12 p.m. Set up begins. Volunteer help appreciated. Exhibitors may set up.

3 p.m. Registration open. Go pitch your tent or set up your cabin space.

3 p.m. Homeschool Wisdom Sharing.

Roundtable discussion among homeschooling families.

6 p.m. Dinner. Potluck.

7:30 p.m. or so. Music or other activities might pop up.

Saturday

8 a.m. Registration open. Exhibitors may set up.

9 a.m. Opening Circle. Introduce yourself, make connections, learn about other participants. Very important for the full OACC experience.

After Opening Circle. Open Space Process. This is your time to sign up if you want to give a presentation.

10:30 a.m. State of the Ozarks.

12:00—1:30 p.m. Lunch.

1:00—6:30 p.m. Presentations. Our two planned panel discussions, plus workshops and other sessions, the things everyone signed up for during Open Space.

6:30—7:30 p.m. Dinner.

After dinner. Coffeehouse Talent Show. Major fun!

Sunday

8—9 a.m. Simple breakfast food available.

8—12 noon. Open Space opportunities. Cleanup.

9:30 a.m. OACC 48 Congress Planning Session. All are encouraged to attend this plenary session of the Congress, which determines the future of OACC!

11 a.m. Silent auction for unused food.

12 noon. Lunch, which will likely consist of leftovers.

Before, during, and after lunch. Cleanup.

After cleanup. Closing Circle.

Children's Activities.

We expect to have planned and informal activities for children, with the support of the adults accompanying them. Child care will not be provided.



Program subject to change. For more information:
Ozarkareacommunitycongress.org

Food — We will be serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Saturday, and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. All meals will have vegan and Alpha-gal friendly options, prepared as much as possible with organic, local, or fair-trade ingredients. Locally-sourced meat may also be included, with everything labeled. Help us keep costs low by bringing food to share, such as garden produce, fruit, cheese, mushrooms, potatoes, eggs, homemade bread and jam, etc. Please tell our food coordinator what you can bring: oaccleaf@gmail.com.



Facilities — Hammond Mill Camp is a beautiful CCC-era camp near the North Fork River, within the Mark Twain National Forest. It has a big pavilion, dining hall, and lots of outdoor space.



Lodging — Tent camping is encouraged. Cabins with bunks are a short walk from the bathroom/shower building. Cabins are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. No RSVP needed.

What to bring — Camp chairs!, drums, musical instruments, songs. Acts for the coffeehouse talent show. Swim gear, river shoes. Food donations. Friday potluck items. Your kids, your friends. News from your group or neighborhood, and maybe an Open Space presentation. Check the weather, which can range from warm and dry to cool and wet. If you're staying over, bring sleeping bags, pillows, bedding, soap, shampoo, and towels.



Please, no dogs, other pets, drugs, or alcohol.