



**RCAS Fall Meeting
Columbus, OH
September 13 - 16, 2026**

Travel Information

Fly into: John Glenn Columbus International Airport ([CMH](#))

4600 International Gateway, Columbus, OH 43219

~12miles from airport to hotel

[Rideshare](#) (Uber, Lyft) and taxis

Hotel Information

Hampton Inn & Suites

3160 Olentangy River Road, Columbus, OH 43202

Check-In/Check -Out: Check-in 3:00 pm /Check out: 12:00 pm

Hotel Parking: Complimentary self-parking in front of the hotel.

Hotel Amenities:

- **Internet:** Complimentary internet in guestrooms.
- **Fitness Center & Pool:** Complimentary access to hotel fitness center and indoor pool.
- **Breakfast:** Complimentary Continental breakfast.
- [Hampton Inn & Suites Link](#)

Research Center Administrators Society

Fall Meeting, September 13-16, 2026

Hosted by The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES)

AGENDA

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

- 1:30 PM Registration Opens
- 2-5 PM Executive Business Meeting
Hampton Inn, Leaders & Legends Room
- 5 PM Dinner on your own: [Area restaurant link](#)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

- *7:40-8 AM Travel from Hampton Inn to Waterman Agricultural & Natural Resources Laboratory
Travel Time 5 minutes
- *Spouse Tour Option 7:40 AM-12 PM*
Columbus area: [Chadwick Arboretum](#) and Learning Gardens, [Ohio Stadium VIP tour](#), option to meet the group at Waterman at 12 PM for lunch and join them for the remainder of the day.
- 8 AM Welcome, Overview for the Day, and Introduction to the [College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences \(CFAES\)](#)
Dr. Graham Cochran, Associate Dean for Operations, CFAES, Ohio State
Dr. Dewey Mann, Director of Waterman, CFAES, Ohio State
- 8:30 AM-12 PM Tours at the [Waterman](#) Agricultural and Natural Resources Laboratory
[Controlled Environment Agriculture Research Center \(CEARC\)](#)
[Multispecies Animal Learning Complex \(MALC\)](#)



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12 PM	Welcome and Overview of CFAES Cathann A. Kress, Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Dean of CFAES, Ohio State
12:15 PM	Lunch: City BBQ
1:15 PM	Travel from Waterman to Molly Caren Agricultural Center (MCAC) Estimated travel time 45 minutes
2 PM	Molly Caren Agricultural Center (MCAC) Overview and Tour
3:30 PM	Travel from MCAC to ST Genetics Estimated travel time 30 minutes
4 PM	Tour ST Genetics
5:15 PM	Depart ST Genetics for Western ARS Estimated travel time 15 minutes
5:30 PM	Tour Western Agricultural Research Station
6:30 PM	Dinner at Western ARS
8 PM	Travel back to Hampton Inn Estimated travel time 50-60 minutes

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

7:15 AM	Depart Hampton Inn for Corcoran Farms Estimated travel time 1 hr 15 minutes
8:30-9:30 AM	Tour Corcoran Farms
9:30 AM	Depart Corcoran Farms for Speyside Cooperage Estimated travel time 40 minutes
10:15-11:15 AM	Tour Speyside Cooperage
11:15 AM	Depart Speyside Cooperage for Jackson County Extension Office Estimated travel time 5 minutes



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- 11:30-12:30 PM Lunch: Jackson County Extension Office
- 12:30 PM Tour [Jackson Agricultural Research Station](#)
- 1:45 PM Depart Jackson ARS for Bluegrass Farms
Estimated travel time 1 hr 14 minutes
- 3:00-4:30 PM Tour [Bluegrass Farms](#)
- 4:30 PM Depart Bluegrass Farms for Hampton Inn
Estimated travel time 50 minutes
- 5:30 PM Arrive at Hampton Inn
Dinner on own: [Area restaurant link](#)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

- 7-8:30 AM Depart Hampton Inn for CFAES Wooster
Estimated travel time 90 minutes
- 8:30 AM Arrive [CFAES Wooster Campus](#) – Restrooms & Instructions
- 9-9:45 AM Campus walking tour – 4 options, choose 1
[Bug Zoo](#)
Greenhouse apple breeding
Food, Ag and Biol Engineering Shop
Core Facility (electron microscopy, bioinformatics, genomics)
- 9:45 AM-4 PM **Spouse Tour Depart**
Wooster [Local Roots](#), Shopping, Kidron Area: [Lehman Hardware](#), MCC Thrift Store, [Flower Farm](#), [Weaver Wagons](#). Rejoin the main group at 3D Meats.
- 10-11:30 AM **Morning Bus Tours (Choose Crops or Animal Tour then Load Bus)**
Bus 1 – Crops Focus: Drive through campus with speaker highlights ([Secrest Arboretum](#), Turfgrass Improvements), Tour Trimble Lab at ATI and Snyder Farm Crops Research.
Bus 2 – Animal Focus: Drive through campus with speaker highlights ([Secrest Arboretum](#), Turfgrass Improvements), Small Ruminant Research & Education Facility, Krauss Dairy Forage Operations and Nutrition Research.



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- 11:30-12:30 PM** **Lunch:** Grilling at the Farm Shop
Welcome: Dr. Andy Michel, Associate Dean & Director, CFAES Wooster, Ohio State
Video: Certified Angus Beef
- 12:30-1 PM** **Self-Select Walking Tours**
Production and Research Equipment Display
Windrow Composting Tour
Feed Mill Tour
- 1 PM** **Meet at the Farm Shop to load busses for the Grace L. Drake Agricultural Laboratory (GDAL) tour.**
Travel time 10 minutes
- 1:20-2 PM** [GDAL Beef Cattle Facility](#)
Casey Meek, Beef & Swine Herd Manager, CFAES, Ohio State
- 2:20-3:15 PM** **Tour [Woodlyn Farms](#)**
Scott Myers, Owner, Woodlyn Farms
Dr. Doug Jackson-Smith, Professor & W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Endowed Chair in Agricultural Ecosystems Management, CFAES, Ohio State
- 3:30-4:45 PM** **Tour buses alternate stops:**
 - Bus 1 – Tilmor Tractor Manufacturing and Demonstrations
 - Bus 2 – 3D Meats: Dr. Lyda Garcia, Professor Meat Specialist, CFAES, Ohio State
- 5:10 PM** **Stop at CFAES Wooster Campus – Restrooms and drop self-drivers**
Snack bag and travel to Hampton Inn
Estimated travel time 90 minutes
- 7:00 PM** **Arrive at Columbus Hampton Inn**

Safe travels home!



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Ohio Places and Spaces

There are many things to do in Ohio while you're here, and this guide will help you get started on spots to visit, places to eat and general things to check out, both in Columbus and around the state.



SITES TO SEE



[Agritourism World](#) • [Amish Country](#) • [Columbus Museum of Art](#) •
[Columbus World Affairs](#) • [Dayton Air Force Museum](#) • [Explore Columbus](#) •
[Lake Erie Shores and Islands](#) • [Ohio Department of Natural Resources](#) •
[Ohio Visitors Guide](#) • [Pro Football Hall of Fame](#) •
[Rock n Roll Hall of Fame and Museum](#) • [Topiary Park](#) • [Wayne County Ohio](#)

RESTAURANTS

Within walking distance of hotel

- Bob Evans
- El Vaquaro
- Moda Restaurant and Bar
(in the Marriot next to the Hampton Inn)
- Roosters
- Sonic

A short drive away

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---|
| • Adriatico's | • Harvest Bar + Kitchen | • Rusty Bucket |
| • Borgata's | • The Hofbräuhaus | • Subourbon |
| • Brassica | • Hounddogs | • Tai's Asian Bistro and Sushi |
| • Cap City | • Hudson 29 | • Tupelo Honey Southern Kitchen and Bar |
| • Condado's | • Japan Market Place | • Understory |
| • Chop5 | • JT's Pizza | • Varsity Club |
| • Forno | • Lavash | • Wario's |
| • Gallo's Tap Room | • Plank's Cafe | • Wine Bistro |
| • The Gyro Shoppe | • Preston's | |
| • Hang Over Easy | • Ray Ray's BBQ | |
| • Hank's Texas BBQ | | |



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