

CHIPPEWA VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2004

INTERESTING STATS SHOW SIZE OF FARM TECHNOLOGY DAYS TENT CITY

In the middle of August a new city that will host upwards of 100,000 people will emerge from the fields of Hilger Farms, Inc., as Wisconsin Farm Technology Days Tent City is shaped and constructed. The technology and planning that will go into the planning and building of Tent City is surprising to any FTD neophyte, and at the very least extremely interesting to even those who have been to other such events. Let's take a look at the stats.

Tent City itself will cover 70 acres. The need for adequate parking will gobble another 100 acres. The grid of road structure will feature 12 streets and four connecting avenues. That will be 3-1/2 miles of internal streets. A one-mile perimeter will enclose Tent City, which will serve as an emergency/fire lane. The street layout will have 40 city-sized blocks. Each block will contain 20 lots. Tent City will have 900 lots for those exhibitors who bring their own tents. A total of 200 inside booths will be sited in the five commercial tents inside the city. The street and block grid will be surveyed by engineers and laid out to the inch.

The City will also feature 33 core tents which range in size from 12' by 12' to the barn size of 60' by 80'. There will be three

educational theme tents - Energy, Alternative Crops, and Animal Agriculture. The tents will be rented from a commercial company that will install them. It will take one week to erect all of the tents. That totals about 145,000 square feet, or 8 football fields, that will be under canvas.

Such a large enterprise will need water and sanitary services for 100,000 people - over three days. It will also require a heavy electrical grid with full phone service. Workers will use two-way radios for communication. Food will be served in 4 tents dedicated exclusively to that purpose. A fleet of vehicles will be used by FTD personnel and will include 30 golf carts, 50 ATV's, and 5 pickups. A fueling station and loading dock will be near the main facility. And of course, there will be a Fire/First Aid/Emergency Station which can service a helicopter if needed. A security force will patrol the grounds throughout the show.

The power poles will be erected 4-5 weeks before the show. Tent City will stand a month and then be taken down one week after the conclusion of the event.

Watching Tent City being constructed should be an interesting sight to see. Don't miss Farm Technology Days 2004, hosted by Hilger Farms Inc., Bloomer, WI.

Wisconsin Farm Technology Days 2004

Sept 21 - 23

"Harvesting the Future"



"A total of 200 inside booths will be sited in the five commercial tents inside the city."

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(source: EPA)



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