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**WISCONSIN: THE STATE THAT NEVER HIBERNATES**

*Prevent winter blues with Wisconsin's line-up of exciting, tasty and cheerful events*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MADISON, Wis. (Nov. 5, 2015)** – There is no such thing as the “winter blues” in Wisconsin. Temperatures may drop, but energy is high. The days might be shorter, but our appetite for fun is unmatched. Snow and ice transform Wisconsin into a winter playground that draws foodies, athletes and festival goers of all kinds for world-renowned events. Even underneath a blanket of snow, we take our fun seriously with back-to-back events all season long.

*Please note that event changes may occur. We encourage the media to double-check dates and contact information before going to print or posting online.*

And remember, travelers looking for year-round Wisconsin getaway ideas, travel planning, events and free guides can discover their own fun at [TravelWisconsin.com](http://TravelWisconsin.com) on their desktop, tablet or mobile device. Be sure to plan your skiing or snowmobiling trip around the season's snowfall using the [Travel Wisconsin Snow Conditions Report](#).

Fireside Theatre's "A Wonderful Life the Musical" - Fort Atkinson	Oct. 29 – Dec. 27, 2015
<b>Driftless Film Festival – Mineral Point</b>	<b>Nov. 5-9, 2015</b>
Ugly Sweater Fun Run, Walk and Roll – Janesville	Nov. 7, 2015
<b>Holiday Art Fair – Madison</b>	<b>Nov. 20-22, 2015</b>
Holiday Folk Fair International – West Allis	Nov. 20-22, 2015
<b>Milwaukee Holiday Parade – Milwaukee</b>	<b>Nov. 21, 2015</b>
Christmas in the Country – Lake Geneva	Nov. 22-Dec 31, 2015
<b>Downtown Appleton Christmas Parade – Appleton</b>	<b>Nov. 24, 2015</b>
<b>Garden of Lights at Green Bay Botanical Garden – Green Bay</b>	<b>Nov. 27-29, Dec 11-13, 18-20, 26-30, 2015</b>
Spring Green Country Christmas – Spring Green	Nov. 27-29, Dec. 4-6, Dec. 12-13, 2015

<b>10th Annual Rotary Winter Wonderland – Marshfield</b>	<b>Nov. 27-Dec. 31, 2015</b>
A Vintage Christmas at Wollersheim Winery – Prairie du Sac	Nov. 28, 2015
<b>Wassail Holiday Dinner Concerts At Rittenhouse Inn – Bayfield</b>	<b>Dec. 5-6, 9, 12-13, 19-20, 2015</b>
40th Annual “A Christmas Carol” at the Pabst Theater – Milwaukee	Dec. 1-24, 2015
<b>Holidazzle – Beloit</b>	<b>Dec. 4, 2015</b>
Old World Christmas Market – Elkhart Lake	Dec. 4-13, 2015
<b>Can’t Depend on Snow – Fond du Lac</b>	<b>Dec. 5, 2015</b>
International Holiday Festival – Kenosha	Dec. 5, 2015
<b>An Old World Christmas – Eagle</b>	<b>Dec. 5-6, 2015</b>
Badger State Winter Games – Wausau	Dec. 4-6, 2015, Jan. 15-17, 22-23, 28-31, 2016
<b>Holiday Light Show – Janesville</b>	<b>Dec. 11-13, 17-23, 26, 27, 2015, Jan. 2-3, 2016</b>
Madison Ballet’s “The Nutcracker” – Madison	Dec. 12-27, 2015
<b>Winter Festival at Frank Lloyd Wright’s Taliesin – Spring Green</b>	<b>Dec. 12, 2015</b>
The Big Cheese Drop – Plymouth	Dec. 31, 2015
<b>Droppin’ of the Carp – Prairie du Chien</b>	<b>Dec. 31, 2015</b>
Winter Picnic in the Park – Phillips	Jan. 2, 2016
<b>Jack Frost Fest – Spooner</b>	<b>Jan. 9, 2016</b>
35 <sup>th</sup> Overture Center for the Arts’ International Festival – Madison	Jan. 9, 2016
<b>Winter Festival (Kickapoo Valley Reserve) – La Farge</b>	<b>Jan. 9, 2016</b>
AMSOIL World Championship Snowmobile Derby – Eagle River	Jan. 8-10, 14-17, 2016
<b>Bald Eagle Watching Days – Prairie du Sac</b>	<b>Jan. 15-16, 2016</b>
Waukesha JanBoree – Waukesha	Jan. 15-17, 2016
<b>Phillips Flurry 5k and 10k Snowshoe Race/Walk – Phillips</b>	<b>Jan. 23, 2016</b>
Cabin Fever Fest – Beaver Dam	Jan. 30-31, 2016
<b>Fish Creek Winter Festival – Fish Creek</b>	<b>Feb. 5-7, 2016</b>
Hot Air Affair – Hudson	Feb. 5-7, 2016
<b>Winter Wine and Cherry Fest – Fish Creek</b>	<b>Feb. 6, 2016</b>
Apostle Islands Sled Dog Race – Bayfield	Feb. 6-7, 2016
<b>20th Annual Book Across the Bay Cross-Country Ski Race – Ashland</b>	<b>Feb. 13, 2016</b>
Dip for Dozer – Cambridge	Feb. 13, 2016
<b>Madison Winter Festival – Madison</b>	<b>Feb. 13-14, 2016</b>
Death by Chocolate – Appleton	Feb. 14, 2016
<b>American Birkebeiner – Cable/Hayward</b>	<b>Feb. 18-21, 2016</b>
Beloit International Film Festival – Beloit	Feb. 19-28, 2016
<b>Annual Frozen Tozen Winter Fest – Boulder</b>	<b>Feb. 20, 2016</b>
Pig-in-the-Ice Festival – Elkhart Lake	Feb. 20, 2016
<b>Mad City Model Railroad Show – Madison</b>	<b>Feb. 20-21, 2016</b>
Bald Eagle Appreciation Days – Prairie du Chien	Feb. 26-27, 2016
<b>World’s Longest Weenie Roast – Cable</b>	<b>Feb. 26-27, 2016</b>
Wisconsin Fishing Expo – Madison	Feb. 26-28, 2016
<b>Ho-Drags on Ice – Rhinelander</b>	<b>Feb. 27, 2016</b>
Squirrel Hill Skiathlon, Tour & Beat the Bunny – Minocqua	Feb. 27, 2016
<b>Green Bay Film Festival – Green Bay</b>	<b>March 3-6, 2016</b>
Bayfield Winter Festival – Bayfield	March 4-6, 2016
<b>Arti Gras – Green Bay</b>	<b>March 5-6, 2016</b>
Canoecopia – Madison	March 11-13, 2016
<b>Maple Syrup Sunday – Chilton</b>	<b>March 20, 2016</b>
MapleFest 2016 – Amery	April 2-3, 2016

### **A Fireside Theatre "A Wonderful Life the Musical" – Fort Atkinson – Oct. 29 – Dec. 27, 2016**

Warm your mittens and your hearts with this charming remake of the classic film we've loved for ages. With a stunning musical score written by Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winning lyricist Sheldon Harnick, the musical adaptation of this holiday favorite will take you through the story of George Bailey like you've never seen (or heard) before.

800-477-9505; [www.firesidetheatre.com](http://www.firesidetheatre.com)

### **Driftless Film Festival – Mineral Point – Nov. 5-9, 2015**

Experience some of the best new independent cinema Wisconsin has to offer at the Driftless Film Festival. The fest continues to grow with appearances by nationally recognized filmmakers and a newly added Student Showcase Competition, which includes 90 students from 17 different universities. All films play at the historic Mineral Point Opera House.

608-987-3501; [www.driftlessfilmfest.org](http://www.driftlessfilmfest.org)

### **Ugly Sweater Fun Run, Walk and Roll – Janesville – Nov. 7, 2015**

Break out your craziest Christmas sweater for this fun twist on a run/walk. In this two-and-a-half-mile event, participants showcase their finest, most festive and most over-the-top sweaters and run or walk to raise funds for People Can't Wait, a local program supporting adults with disabilities.

608-785-3547; [www.riverfrontinc.org](http://www.riverfrontinc.org)

### **Holiday Art Fair – Madison – Nov. 20-22, 2015**

Celebrate the holiday season at the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art's Holiday Art Fair. More than 85 artists and vendors display their handcrafted ceramics, jewelry, paintings and other artistic creations. Enjoy delicious goodies in the Gourmet Gallery or get some holiday shopping done at the Rediscovered Arts and Treasures collection. Listen to local musicians as you shop your way through the decorated spaces of MMoCA.

608-257-0158; [www.mmoca.org](http://www.mmoca.org)

### **Holiday Folk Fair International – West Allis – Nov. 20-22, 2015**

Experience vibrant cultural diversity at State Fair Park for Holiday Folk Fair International. With 53 ethnic groups represented, this three-day event features traditional song and dance from a variety of cultures. Be sure to check out the World Café, offering delicious authentic dishes and the International Bazaar with eclectic gifts from around the world.

414-225-6225; [www.folkfair.org](http://www.folkfair.org)

### **Milwaukee Holiday Parade – Milwaukee – Nov. 21, 2015**

Since 1927, Santa and his elves have made a stop in Milwaukee for the annual Holiday Parade. Over 100 different marching bands, floats, giant balloons, live animals and local businesses bring their Christmas cheer to downtown Milwaukee. Don't miss this cherished tradition.

262-377-5935; [www.milwaukeeparade.com](http://www.milwaukeeparade.com)

### **Christmas in the Country – Lake Geneva – Nov. 22-Dec. 31, 2015**

Kick off the holiday season with this six-week event happening at the Grand Geneva Resort and Spa. Come for the Illumination Ceremony showcasing dazzling fireworks and over 2 million lights. Check out the intricate artwork at the Gingerbread House display outside Ristorante Brissago. Kids can have a scrumptious breakfast with Santa and even drop off their Christmas letters to him.

262-248-8811; [www.grandgeneva.com](http://www.grandgeneva.com)



*Christmas in the Country*  
*Photo Courtesy of Grand Geneva Resort and Spa*

### **Downtown Appleton Christmas Parade – Appleton – Nov. 24, 2015**

Considered the largest nighttime parade in the Midwest, the Appleton Christmas parade celebrates the theme of "A Night of Family Traditions." Enjoy over 100 floats as you witness a beautiful decorated downtown Appleton. Come early and enjoy the Santa Scamper 1-mile run. All proceeds from the race benefit St. Joseph's Pantry.

920-954-9112; [www.appletondowntown.org](http://www.appletondowntown.org)

### **Garden of Lights at Green Bay Botanical Garden – Green Bay – Nov. 27-29, Dec. 11-13, Dec. 18-20, Dec. 26-30, 2015**

Gather the family to gaze at the thousands of lights spread throughout Green Bay Botanical Gardens. Within the garden, discover an enchanted icicle forest, sparkling flowers, dazzling critters and a musical fountain. Enjoy this stunning adventure by foot or take the popular horse-drawn wagon ride.

877-355-4224; [www.gbbg.org](http://www.gbbg.org)



*Garden of Lights*  
*Photo Courtesy of Amenson Studios*

### **Spring Green Country Christmas – Spring Green – Nov. 27-29, Dec. 4-6, Dec. 12-13, 2015**

The newly expanded Spring Green Country Christmas welcomes three weekends of holiday fun with activities for both children and adults. Check out the holiday light parade, winter fireworks and live entertainment. New this year is the Winter Art Show featuring local artists and art workshops. Be sure to check out the horse-drawn carriage rides to see all the twinkling lights.

608-588-2054; [www.springgreen.com](http://www.springgreen.com)

### **10th Annual Rotary Winter Wonderland – Marshfield Nov. 27-Dec. 31, 2015**

Enjoy the sights and sounds of the season at the 10th annual Rotary Winter Wonderland at Marshfield's Wildwood Zoo. Donate a non-perishable food item and drive or walk through the zoo as it's covered entirely in 1 million Christmas lights. Be sure to stop by Santa's Village where you might spot an elf or two.

715-384-3454; [www.rotarywinterwonderland.com](http://www.rotarywinterwonderland.com)

### **A Vintage Christmas at Wollersheim Winery – Prairie du Sac – Nov. 28, 2015**

Experience the old world charm of Prairie du Sac at Wollersheim Winery's "A Vintage Christmas." Take a self-guided tour through the winery and enjoy a selection of wine paired with festive foods along with gift ideas for wine enthusiasts. Enjoy local Christmas carolers along the way.

1-800-VIP-WINE; [www.wollersheim.com](http://www.wollersheim.com)

### **Wassail Holiday Dinner Concerts At Rittenhouse Inn – Bayfield – Dec. 5-6, 9, 12-13, 19-20, 2015**

Bring the whole family for a festive night to remember at the Wassail Holiday Dinner Concerts. Enjoy tasty seasonal dishes while the Rittenhouse Chamber carolers sing throughout the 1890s Victorian mansion decorated for the holidays from head to toe. Don't miss the presentation of the "Boar's Head" and the traditional "Flaming of the Figgy Pudding."

800-779-2129; [www.rittenhouseinn.com](http://www.rittenhouseinn.com)

### **40th Annual "A Christmas Carol" at the Pabst Theater– Milwaukee – Dec. 1-24, 2015**

Follow the fantastical journey of Ebenezer Scrooge as he travels through Christmas past, present and future while learning the true meaning of Christmas. This is the 40th year of the Milwaukee Rep's delightful take on this holiday classic.

414-224-9490; [www.milwaukeeerep.com](http://www.milwaukeeerep.com)

### **Holidazzle – Beloit – Dec. 4, 2015**

Downtown Beloit glows and sparkles with holiday cheer for Holidazzle. Over 40 businesses open their doors for guests to purchase beautiful Christmas arts and crafts. Hop on the Holidazzle trolley and head to Turtle Creek Bookstore for a visit with Santa. Live music and delectable treats make this a truly holidazzling event.

608-365-0150; [www.downtownbeloit.com](http://www.downtownbeloit.com)

### **Old World Christmas Market – Elkhart Lake – Dec. 4-13, 2015**

Offering merriment reminiscent of the centuries-old Christkindlesmarkt in Germany, the Osthoff Resort's Old World Christmas includes regional and international artisans selling a variety of items including Czech blown glass, German hand-carved nutcrackers and Turkish pashmina scarves. Sample a Nüremberg bratwurst, sauerbraten, dumplings, apple strudel and more. Keep your camera handy as Father Christmas can be spotted walking through the market.

877-517-4596; [www.christmasmarketatosthoff.com](http://www.christmasmarketatosthoff.com)

### **Can't Depend on Snow – Fond du Lac – Dec. 5, 2015**

Bring the family and your furry friend for some snowy fun at Rolling Meadows Golf Course for Can't Depend on Snow. This event combines several unique dog sled races along with canine-friendly activities all to support the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Take part in the human sled pull challenge, husky toss (stuffed animals, not real dogs) and save time to get a picture with Santa.

800-937-9123; [www.fdl.com](http://www.fdl.com)

### **International Holiday Festival – Kenosha – Dec. 5, 2015**

Experience the sights, sounds and tastes of different cultures at the International Holiday Festival at the Kenosha Public Museum. Feel as though you're traveling the world at the International Market with exclusive ethnic holiday gifts, tasty traditional foods and unique musical performances.

262-653-4140; [www.kenosha.org](http://www.kenosha.org)

### **An Old World Christmas – Eagle – Dec. 5-6, 2015**

Ever wonder how settlers in the 19th century celebrated Christmas? Visit Old World Wisconsin for a day of storytelling, live holiday performances and authentic holiday foods. See this 1880s village trimmed for the holidays during a horse-drawn bobsled ride around the grounds. Get your picture taken with German folklore character Krampus who, no doubt, will have wild tales to tell.

262-594-6301; [www.wisconsinhistory.org](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org)

### **Badger State Winter Games – Wausau – Dec.4-6, 2015, Jan. 15-17, 22-23, 28-31, 2016**

Four weekends packed with epic winter events are sure to get any winter sport lover's heart racing. A schedule of classic competitions like curling, fat tire bike racing and figure skating round out this month-long lineup. This year make sure to check out the new Ski Jumping competition, and curling, which is held at one of the best facilities in the country.

715-355-8788; [www.badgerstategames.org](http://www.badgerstategames.org)

### **Holiday Light Show – Janesville – Dec. 11-13, 17-23, 26, 27, 2015, Jan. 2-3, 2016**

Over 350,000 lights illuminate the night with a spectacular display of 2,000 luminaries and 100 beautifully decorated trees. Visit the unique Cottage Garden Gallery and delight in an impressive 200' electric model train display, cozy quilts and a visit with Santa.

608-752-3885; [www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org](http://www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org)

### **Winter Festival at Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin – Spring Green – Dec. 12, 2015**

This holiday season, Frank Lloyd Wright's renowned estate will be open for horse-drawn wagon rides and the newly restored Tan-y-Deri will be open for hot beverages by the fireside. The Frank Lloyd Wright Visitor Center will have additional kids' activities, and the Riverview Spring Green Restaurant will be open for lunch. Experience Taliesin and admire the architectural beauty in a whole new way this season.

608-588-7090; [www.taliesinpreservation.org](http://www.taliesinpreservation.org)

### **Madison Ballet's "The Nutcracker" – Madison – Dec. 12-27, 2015**

There's nothing quite like seeing this holiday classic live at Madison's Overture Center. Follow Clara and her Nutcracker on a magical journey through twirling snowflakes, enchanted sugar plum fairies and the eccentric Mouse King. The Madison Ballet's rendition of this timeless performance is sure to delight all ages.

608-278-7990; [www.madisonballet.org](http://www.madisonballet.org)

### **The Big Cheese Drop – Plymouth – Dec. 31, 2015**

Ring in the New Year like a true Wisconsinite at the Big Cheese Drop in Plymouth. In years past, the drop has coincided with a count down to midnight, but this year the cheesy fun starts at 10 p.m. to kick off the party earlier. Grab a cup of complimentary hot cocoa and get ready to count down.

920-892-8409; [www.plymoutharts.org](http://www.plymoutharts.org)

### **Droppin' of the Carp – Prairie du Chien – Dec. 31, 2015**

Celebrate the New Year with the quirky fun of Droppin' of the Carp. Watch as the 30-pound frozen carp, "Lucky," is hoisted up 100-feet into the air then dropped at the stroke of midnight. Beforehand, spectators can give Lucky a kiss for good luck.

800-732-1673; [www.prairieduchien.org](http://www.prairieduchien.org)

### **Winter Picnic in the Park – Phillips – Jan. 2, 2016**

Whether on snowmobile or in a car, travel through the beautiful Wisconsin forest dusted with snow to make your way to the perfect pit stop nestled on scenic trail 112. Chow down on brats, hamburgers and hot dogs along with steaming hot coffee and hot chocolate. Choose to enjoy your meal inside the heated pavilion or sit aside the blazing bonfire just outside. All proceeds benefit trail maintenance and club expenses.

715-879-2223

### **Jack Frost Fest – Spooner – Jan. 9, 2016**

Bundle up and enjoy the beauty of the outdoors at Jack Frost Fest. Bring the family for the ice-fishing contest, pond hockey tournament or the snowshoe sprints. Warm up with hot cider or hot chocolate, but save room to sample tasty treats at the chili and ribs contests. This Spooner family staple is nothing short of fun.

800-367-3306; [www.spoonerchamber.org](http://www.spoonerchamber.org)

### **Overture Center for the Arts' International Festival – Madison – Jan. 9, 2016**

The 35<sup>th</sup> International Festival (previously held in March) moves up to early January, and the event will showcase more than 30 performers in seven venues at the Overture Center for a full day of cultural celebration. Attendees can expect to experience a vibrant scene of traditions from around the globe: flavors, art and live performance.



*International Festival  
Photo Courtesy of Martin Saunders*

608-258-4141; [www.overturecenter.com](http://www.overturecenter.com)

### **Winter Festival (Kickapoo Valley Reserve) – La Farge – Jan. 9, 2016**

Bring your bundled-up family to this wintry festival full of events that highlight classic winter activities. Every member of your crew will enjoy iconic, yet unique fun in the snow with skating, a snow sculpture slide and ice cave hikes. Little ones will love sledding, horse drawn bobsled rides and face painting while parents fill their bellies with a toasty meal from the annual chili and bread contest.

608-625-2960; [kvr.state.wi.us](http://kvr.state.wi.us)



### **AMSOIL World Championship Snowmobile Derby – Eagle River – Jan. 8-10; Jan. 14-17, 2016**

This nationally recognized snowmobile race is now bigger than ever before, expanding into a two weekend event. Come and enjoy the largest snowmobile competition along with a whopping 40,000 other spectators. Throw it back to years past at the Snowmobile Vintage Derby or get your heart racing at the official Snowmobile Derby the following weekend.

715-479-4424; [www.derbytrack.com](http://www.derbytrack.com)

### **Bald Eagle Watching Days – Prairie du Sac – Jan. 15-16, 2016**

Revel in the beauty of the patriotic bald eagle this winter with the best viewing locations around. Drive around in your own vehicle or partake in a bus tour to ensure you see all that the area has to offer.

608-643-4168; [www.ferrybluffeaglecouncil.org](http://www.ferrybluffeaglecouncil.org)

### **Waukesha JanBoree – Waukesha – Jan. 15-17, 2016**

Enjoy yet another year of winter wonder at this year's musically infused JanBoree, Jammin' JanBoree. Packed full with 25 events, including those that are musically themed, both kids and adults will surely be entertained. Most events are free, with paid events going to support the ability to keep events free or low in price.

262-524-3737; [www.janboree.org](http://www.janboree.org)

### **Phillips Flurry 5k and 10k Snowshoe Race/Walk – Phillips Jan. 23, 2016**

This yearly snowshoe race, run and walk hosts the Wisconsin State Snowshoe Championships. The competition also hosts the USSSA's National race qualifier. Enjoy a post-race meal catered by Lola's Lunchbox after you race past the finish line.

715-339-6254; [www.phillipsflurry.com](http://www.phillipsflurry.com)

### **Cabin Fever Fest – Beaver Dam – Jan. 30-31, 2016**

This year's fest is a weekend full of fun activities including wagon rides, bonfire, s'mores and a snowball drop complete with cash prizes. Celebrate the season with a fundraising event that's sure to knock your mittens off with the "Mayor's Plunge."

920-887-4639; [www.beaverdamchamber.com](http://www.beaverdamchamber.com)

### **Fish Creek Winter Festival – Fish Creek – Feb. 5-7, 2016**

Wisconsinites know how to have fun even in the middle of winter, and the Fish Creek Winter Festival is ultimate proof. Head up to Door County for the festival, and you'll find a contagiously fun atmosphere complete with games, music, food, a chili cook-off, minnow racing, a bike toss and the Fruit Loop run. The winter blues don't stand a chance at this festival.

920-868-2316; [www.visitfishcreek.com](http://www.visitfishcreek.com)



*Hot Air Affair  
Photo Courtesy of Mike Reich*

### **Hot Air Affair – Hudson – Feb. 5-7, 2016**

This spectacular event will "Paint the Sky" with the art of hot air ballooning. Enjoy the mass ascension of more than 30 hot air balloons, paired with fireworks, smooch boarding, a craft fair and a marketplace featuring live entertainment.

715-381-2050; [www.hudsonhotairaffair.com](http://www.hudsonhotairaffair.com)

### **Winter Wine and Cherry Fest – Fish Creek – Feb. 6, 2016**

Kick off National Cherry Month by indulging in some Door County classics: cherries and wine. Festival goers can sample several wines and specialty food items, paint a wine glass and enjoy a horse-drawn sleigh ride. For the more competitive attendees, the Cherry Pit Spit Competition is an annual tradition with prizes on the line for division winners.

920-868-3479; [www.orchardcountry.com](http://www.orchardcountry.com)

### **Apostle Islands Sled Dog Race – Bayfield – Feb. 6-7, 2016**

When the sun rises on Feb. 6, 2016, more than 50 sled teams will kick off the largest annual dog sled race in the Midwest. There are two main races: a 10-dog, 80-mile race and a 6-dog, 60-mile race. Spectators line the racecourse to watch this exciting, high-energy event reminiscent of the famous Iditarod race – with festive Wisconsin flair! The race also offers popular volunteer opportunities, voted one of the best programs in the world by voluntourism.org.

715-779-3335; [www.bayfield.org](http://www.bayfield.org)

## 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Across the Bay Cross-Country Ski Race – Ashland – Feb. 13, 2016

For the 20th year, skiers and snowshoers of all ages will embark on a 10K-long journey from Ashland to Washburn for the Book Across the Bay race. This unique nighttime race takes place on a candlelit course that concludes with a post-race celebration of chili, beer and soda, music and awards.

800-284-9484; [www.batb.org](http://www.batb.org)

## Dip for Dozer – Cambridge – Feb. 13, 2016

Join the Cambridge community for a chilly plunge into Lake Ripley for the annual Dip for Dozer event. To raise money for a local football scholarship fund in memory of Dustin "Dozer" Zuelsdorf, several hundred spectators head out to the lake and support the brave few who take the dip. All-day activities include turkey bowling, ice carving, kites on ice and costume contests.

608-423-3780; [www.cambridgewi.com](http://www.cambridgewi.com)

## Madison Winter Festival – Madison – Feb. 13-14, 2016

What happens when 90 truckloads of snow arrive at the Capitol Square? The Madison Winter Festival kicks off, and 20,000 spectators, winter enthusiasts and athletes appear to take the square by storm – errr – blizzard.

Winter festival goers can partake in cross-country skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, ice sculpting, snow carving and sledding. Beautiful ice sculptures are also on display throughout the event for guests to enjoy.



*Madison Winter Festival  
Photo Courtesy of Madison Winter Festival*

608-385-8864; [www.winter-fest.com](http://www.winter-fest.com)

## Death by Chocolate – Appleton – Feb. 14, 2016

If there was ever a perfect excuse to dedicate a day to eating chocolate, it is Valentine's Day. The Death by Chocolate event is held annually in downtown Appleton, and chocolate-loving guests can sample 15-20 different decadent treats throughout the afternoon, created by some of the best chefs in the area. Whether you try one or 15, stop by and treat yourself to some chocolate indulgence.

920-954-9112; [www.appletondowntown.org](http://www.appletondowntown.org)

## American Birkebeiner – Cable/Hayward – Feb. 18-21

The largest cross-country ski marathon in North America, the American Birkebeiner, is not an event to be missed. More than 10,000 athletes compete each year, and nearly 45,000 spectators gather for the Nordic sports festivities. Stretching approximately 50K from Cable to Hayward, the event challenges the best of the best. A variety of other competitions are held in the days leading up to the event, including short distance races, the Barkie Birkie Skijor (for pets), a giant ski, a family fun ski and much more.

715-634-5025; [www.birkie.com](http://www.birkie.com)

### **Beloit International Film Festival – Beloit – Feb. 19-28, 2016**

This 10-day film festival is perfect for film buffs of all genres. With more than 180 films and artists from 30 different countries, BIFF showcases feature films, documentaries and shorts within an impressive global spectrum. Many of the filmmakers are also onsite throughout the festival, giving viewers an opportunity to meet the artists behind the films. Viewers of all ages are welcome to come experience the magic of filmmaking from around the world.

608-313-1200; [www.beloitfilmfest.com](http://www.beloitfilmfest.com)

### **Annual Frozen Tozen Winter Fest – Boulder Junction – Feb. 20, 2016**

This year's Frozen Tozen Winter Fest will be entirely focused on an ice fishing tournament hosted on Allequash Lake. Plaques will be awarded to victorious anglers at the award ceremony held at the end of the event, along with a raffle drawing. Proceeds from the raffle and tournament will go towards the Boulder Junction Boat Landing Improvement Fund.

715-385-2400; [www.boulderjct.org](http://www.boulderjct.org)

### **Pig-in-the-Ice Festival – Elkhart Lake – Feb. 20, 2016**

It's not just a unique name, it's a unique event! Try your hand at ice fishing at the three lakes ice fishery held during the day, supplemented with a warm and toasty brat fry. Check out motor cross cycles on the ice, vintage snowmobile races, an ice cube hunt for the kids and the iconic all-day pig roast.

920-876-2535; [www.threeguysandagrill.com](http://www.threeguysandagrill.com)

### **49<sup>th</sup> Mad City Model Railroad Show – Madison – Feb. 20-21, 2016**

All aboard the Mad City Model Railroad Show for one of the Midwest's best model railroad events, featuring beautiful train layouts, classic toy trains and historical exhibits. Young conductors can build a giant wooden train layout and run or ride a model train. Show attendees will also have the chance to win hourly door prizes and kids can register to win a train set.

608-835-9577; [www.nmra-scwd.org](http://www.nmra-scwd.org)

### **Bald Eagle Appreciation Days – Prairie du Chien – Feb. 26-27 2016**

Wisconsin is home to several majestic birds of prey, and Bald Eagle Appreciation Days is a family-fun opportunity to experience them firsthand. Attendees can participate in educational programs on Wisconsin wildlife and environment throughout the event. On Saturday, there are programs with live raptors, including a bald eagle.

608-326-8555; [www.prairieduchien.org](http://www.prairieduchien.org)

### **World's Longest Weenie Roast – Cable – Feb. 26-27 2016**

Known throughout Bayfield County as the most fun event on ice, weenie enthusiasts from all over flock to Lake Namakagon for the World's Longest Weenie Roast – more specifically, the longest line of hot dog cookers over one fire. Events such as snowmobile speed runs, ice bowling and outlaw drags on the lake take place throughout the weekend, and the funds go towards the Namakagon Volunteer Fire Department, the Great Divide Ambulance Service and other area charities and not-for-profits.

715-794-2561; [www.lakewoodsresort.com](http://www.lakewoodsresort.com)

### **Wisconsin Fishing Expo – Madison – Feb. 26-28, 2016**

“Spawned” from the Madison Fishing Expo, the Wisconsin Fishing Expo is one of the largest consumer fishing shows in the Midwest, reeling in 20,000 attendees each year. This year's show will feature seminars from fishing celebrities in addition to a series of vendors to explore. Young anglers can also look forward to minnow races, trout fishing, casting contests and more.

262-644-7940; [www.wifishingexpo.com](http://www.wifishingexpo.com)

### **HoDrags on Ice – Rhinelander – Feb. 27, 2016**

Get ready for HoDrags on Ice, where cars and trucks drag race across the ice at speeds up to 145 miles-per-hour. All kinds of vehicles will take on the ice at this fierce competition; from rubber tire divisions to modified and outlaw vehicles. With free general admission, this event is perfect for everyone from auto-enthusiasts to kids. But remember, don't try this at home.

715-365-7464; [www.ExploreRhinelander.com](http://www.ExploreRhinelander.com)

### **Squirrel Hill Skiathlon, Tour & Beat the Bunny – Minocqua – Feb. 27, 2016**

For a weekend full of winter excitement, family fun and friendly competition, Squirrel Hill Nordic Weekend is one to mark on the calendar. Skiers can take part in various competitions as individuals or teams of two. There are also youth divisions, so that athletes of all ages and abilities are invited to hit the slopes and join in on the friendly competition.

715- 356-3309; [www.minocquawinterpark.org](http://www.minocquawinterpark.org)

### **Green Bay Film Festival – Green Bay – March 3-6, 2016**

The Green Bay Film Festival has grown tremendously over the last few years, and it will now be hosted at St. Norbert College, the festival's new partner. This new venue and partnership will allow for more seminars throughout the weekend and better seating for viewing films. The event will also be prefaced with a “Festival Around Town” screening of films in the Green Bay area, starting weeks before the big weekend. You'll want to check out this exciting and growing festival.

920-265-0333; [www.gbfilmfestival.org](http://www.gbfilmfestival.org)

### **Bayfield Winter Festival – Bayfield – March 4-6, 2016**

As winter comes to an end, it's time to celebrate snow, ice and cabin fever at the annual Bayfield Winter Festival. Throughout the weekend, festival goers can partake in a variety of winter activities such as ice golf, softball on ice and nighttime disc golf. Attendees who are up for the challenge can sign up for the WinterDASH, a 5k run and obstacle course, or the Polar Bear Plunge into freezing Lake Superior. The festival wraps up with the WinterBASH, an evening dedicated to live music, dancing and Wisconsin fun.



*Bayfield Winter Festival*

*Photo Courtesy of Bayfield Chamber and Visitors Bureau*

715-779-5408; [www.bayfieldwinterfestival.com](http://www.bayfieldwinterfestival.com)



*Arti Gras*

*Photo Courtesy of Arti Gras*

### **Arti Gras – Green Bay – March 5-6, 2016**

This weekend-long festival is dedicated to celebrating the fine arts and showcases the works of 100 artists and craftsmen from throughout the Midwest. Attendees can purchase original pieces of art, enjoy artist demonstrations and see outstanding performances including classical music, jazz and dance. Children can participate in hands-on fine arts, including creative and musical activities.

920-435-5220; [www.mosaicartsinc.org/artigras/](http://www.mosaicartsinc.org/artigras/)

### **Canoecopia – Madison – March 11-13, 2016**

It's time to harness your inner paddler enthusiast and mark your calendar for the world's largest canoe, kayak and stand-up paddle expo: Canoecopia. The show features world-class paddlesports speakers and vendors from which attendees can learn tips and purchase products to better their life on the water.

608-310-3850; [www.canoecopia.com](http://www.canoecopia.com)

### **Maple Syrup Sunday – Chilton – March 20, 2016**

It's time to celebrate one of Wisconsin's sweetest products: maple syrup! Head to Ledge View Nature Center for a pancake breakfast and a hands-on lesson in syrup making. Help tap a tree, collect sap and learn about how pioneers created syrup history in Wisconsin.

920-849-7094; [www.travelcalumet.com](http://www.travelcalumet.com)

**MapleFest 2016 – Amery – April 2-3, 2016**

Spring in Wisconsin means maple syrup season, and there's no better way to enjoy this sweet classic than with pancakes. Come to Glenna Farms for the 16<sup>th</sup> annual MapleFest featuring a free pancake breakfast, "sap to syrup" farm tour and hayride. Food shelf donations will be collected during the event.

715-268-4702; [www.glennafarms.com](http://www.glennafarms.com)

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