IPPS Eastern Region of North America

Sharing Plant Production Knowledge Globally

2026 IPPS Eastern Region Conference

September 22 - 25, 2026 | Amway Grand Plaza Hotel | Grand Rapids, MI

The IPPS Eastern Region 2026 Conference is coming up next week at The Amway Grand Plaza Hotel (187 Monroe Ave NW or 225 Pearl Street NW for GPS) in Grand Rapids! This message contains important information related to planning your attendance at the conference. **Questions?** Contact Leslie Pelch, Conference Support at leslie@delaneymeetingevent.com.

Conference Agenda & Registration Check in –

- The updated schedule is posted on the conference Website
- We will provide a one-page agenda onsite as well as a tiny version tucked in your name badge.
- Conference Registration will be located in the North Concourse on the 2nd floor.
- **NOTE:** You can check in and pick up your name badge & agenda as early Monday, Sept. 21 between 7 & 9
- PM!
- Registration will also be open between 7 & 8 AM Tuesday as Pre-Conference Tour Participants will need to be ready to board buses by 7:45 AM.

Tuesday and/or Thursday Tour Participants –

- Please wear comfortable shoes for walking and bring a rain jacket!
- Bring your re-fillable water bottle and fill it before boarding the bus.
- We will be providing additional beverages and lunch (dietary restrictions have been taken into account).
- Note that the Thursday Tour will end at Spring Meadow Nursery where that night's banquet and auction will take place (i.e. we aren't returning to the hotel between the Tour and Dinner). Buses will head back to the hotel in a staggered time frame starting at 7 PM.

Coffee/Meals/Receptions -

- Lunch – Tuesday (for Pre-Conference Tour Participants)
- Welcome Reception (ALL are welcome!) – Tuesday, 5:30 – 7 PM in the Imperial Ballroom (1st Floor) –appetizers and bar provided (everyone gets one drink ticket!)
    - NOTE that the Amway's reception bars will only accept Credit Cards – no Cash!
    - Immediately following the Welcome Reception, Student Conference Scholarship Recipients are invited to a Scholar Dinner at location TBD.
- Morning Break with Coffee and Snacks – Wednesday, Mid-Morning
- Lunch - Wednesday
- Afternoon Break with Coffee and Snacks – Wednesday, Mid-Afternoon
- Silent Auction Cash Bar (remember, this is really a Credit Card bar, no Cash!) - Wednesday 5-6 PM (last chance to bid!)
- Lunch - Thursday (for Tour Participants)
- Dinner & Live Auction – Thursday (Spring Meadow Nurseries, offsite, Tour Buses will bring participants there).
- Morning Break with Coffee and Snacks – Friday, Mid-Morning

Transportation & Parking –

- Getting to the Hotel (no shuttle): Check out the directions and information provided by the hotel.
- Parking: Available for overnight guests of the Amway Grand Plaza in our adjacent parking ramp at the current rates ($45 for self-parking and $49 for valet parking as of 6/25/26). Overnight parking does have unlimited in and out privileges, but parking in the hotel ramp is not guaranteed.

Auction Donations -

- It is not too late to bring an auction donation! We welcome items brought to the conference. Please do complete this online form, which will also provide additional information.

Weather in Grand Rapids –

- The weather next week looks variable: some showers, some sun, and temperatures in the 60's during the day, 50's at night. Please bring layers and rain jackets!