

## **Adult Delegates**

Nearly 200 adult delegates participate in Superior Days from all over Northwestern Wisconsin. They represent local government, businesses, organizations, and local interests. They participate in all aspects of Superior Days. They also have their own Hospitality Room and Reception.

## **Agency Issue**

An idea, concern, or situation that Superior Days delegates bring to the attention of state departments or agencies. The issue may or may not require the State to allocate money, resources, or other types of aid to meet the request. In 2008, there were 34 issues taken to 13 state departments or agencies.

## **Agency Meeting**

Superior Days delegates meet with representatives from an agency or department to discuss all identified issues. Most meetings take place at the State Capitol. All delegates are encouraged to attend. A member of the Superior Days delegation serves as the facilitator of the meeting, and other delegates serve as the spokesperson for the selected issues. Agency meetings generally last about one hour each.

## **Inn on the Park**

The hotel that is utilized by Superior Days. Nearly all delegates stay at the hotel. Registration, reception, meals, and hospitality rooms are all located in the hotel. It is conveniently located across the street for the State Capital and two blocks away from Madison's State Street.

## **Issues Identification Process**

Every delegate has the opportunity to bring forth an issue for Superior Days. The general Issues Identification meeting is held in October or November. Delegates form small groups to identify and compile a list of issues. The Superior Days "Issues Committee" will then sort through all the issues submitted and assign them as a Legislative Issue or to the appropriate state agencies. Four focus groups have been formed to begin studying the major concerns and problems for Northwest Wisconsin. Everyone is welcome to join a group.

## **Job Shadowing**

While in Madison, each youth delegate has the opportunity to "shadow" an official working at the State Capitol, State Agency, or UW-Madison. This job shadowing allows youth to spend two hours on Wednesday afternoon observing various officials at work. Youth delegates have the option to request a certain career or agency for their shadowing experience. In the past, youth delegates have shadowed individuals from the Governor's Office, State Representatives and Senators, the DNR, the Attorney General, UW-Madison, and the Wisconsin Arts Board.

## **Legislative Issue**

An idea, concern, or situation that Superior Days delegates bring to the attention of state legislators. The issue may or may not require the Legislature to allocate money, resources, or other types of aid to meet the request. The issues must meet three criteria: 1) must have major impact or unique implications to Northwest Wisconsin, 2) local resources are exhausted or not available to address the issue, and 3) have community wide support/agreement (consensus). The Legislative Issues in 2008 were: UW-Superior Academic Building Thank You, Superior Refinery Expansion, Leah's Law, Illegalize the Transport & Launch of Prohibited Aquatic Invasive Species, and US Highway 2 Expansion Study.

## **Lobby Teams**

Every adult and youth delegate is assigned to a lobby team. Each team of four to six delegates will spend Wednesday morning meeting with and lobbying three or four state representatives and/or senators. Each lobby team has a captain who serves as the team's facilitator. Each person on the team is given (or chooses) one of the current year's legislative issues to discuss. Each lobby team member briefly (1-3 minutes) "lobbies" and talks to the legislator about their issue. <See also "Mentoring Session">

## **Lobby, Lobbyist**

Webster defines "LOBBY" as a group of lobbyists representing the same interests. A "LOBBYIST" is defined as one who tries to get legislators to support certain measures.

## **Mentoring Session**

All youth delegates participate in a lobby mentoring session on Tuesday in Madison, which is coordinated by WITC or UW-Superior students. Adult volunteers serve as mock legislators, so youth delegates can practice their lobbying presentations live. Each youth delegate receives feedback to help make with their lobbying presentation the best it can be.

## **Parade of Products**

A series of booths promoting businesses and community organizations that are advertising their products or services to representatives of government or related agencies. Guests walk through a portion of the adult banquet room where the displays are set up. It provides an opportunity to showcase various products and services from Northwest Wisconsin.

## **Professional Dress (Attire)**

All members of the youth delegation are expected to dress in a professional manner during all Superior Days functions. Jeans, t-shirts, and other casual clothing are unacceptable; except during free time.

## **State Assembly**

There are 99 members of the assembly with each of the 33 senate districts encompassing three assembly districts. At the general election on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of even-numbered years, the voters of Wisconsin elect all members of the assembly for two-year terms. These legislators-elect assume office in January of the following odd-numbered year when they convene to open the legislative session at the State Capitol. The districts involved in Superior Days are Senate District 10 and Senate District 25.

## State Senate

The 33 senators are elected for four-year terms from districts numbered 1 through 33. The 16 senators representing even-numbered districts are elected in the years in which a presidential election occurs. The 17 senators who represent odd-numbered districts are elected in the years in which a gubernatorial election is held. The Senate Districts involved in Superior Days are District 10 and District 33.

## superiordays.com

Superior Days has its own official website where delegates can find current information on all aspects of its operation. Visit <http://superiordays.com> and you'll see a button for youth delegate information. Delegates can also register for the event, access training resources, and view updates on legislative and agency issues online.

## Wisconsin Legislature

The legislative branch consists of the bicameral Wisconsin Legislature, made up of the senate with 33 members and the assembly with 99 members, together with the service agencies created by the legislature and the staff employed by each house. The legislature's main responsibility is to make policy by enacting state laws. Its service agencies assist it by performing fiscal analysis, research, bill drafting, auditing, statute editing, and information technology functions. A new legislature is sworn into office in January of each odd-numbered year, and it meets in continuous biennial session until its successor is sworn in. The 2009 Legislature is the 99<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Legislature. It convened on January 3, 2009 and will continue until January 3, 2011.

## Youth Delegate Bus

A coach bus travels from Superior to Madison and back for youth delegates and chaperones who wish to ride it. The bus leaves early Tuesday from Superior Senior High, making pick ups along the way, and returns on Thursday morning. There is no cost to ride this bus.

## Youth Delegates

Students in grades 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> from counties throughout Northwest Wisconsin participate. They are involved in all aspects of Superior Days and serve as the voice of youth for our region. Many youth delegates are sponsored by their school, youth organizations, or local government. Approximately 35-50 youth delegates partake each year.

## Youth Delegation Meetings

Youth delegates are required to attend four youth meetings prior to the Superior Days event. The meetings are generally held in October, November, January, and February. These meetings address topics such as orientation, choosing youth agency issues, planning the Youth Reception, participating in the legislative issues identification process, deciding job shadowing options, and much more. All four meetings are held in various locations in Superior, WI.

## Youth Hospitality Room

A room on the lower level of the Inn on the Park Hotel for youth to use during their free time in the evenings. Youth will find free food, snacks, water, and pop. Youth, chaperones, and others can play cards, games, read, or watch movies. It is a place to hang out with others. It is open on Tuesday and Wednesday night. Several counties take turns hosting the Hospitality Room.

## Youth Reception

A reception for legislators, staff, and other Superior Days delegates. It is held on Wednesday night after the banquet and lasts for about 1½ hours. It is an opportunity to meet and network with officials from many sectors of government. A speaker is also invited to provide a keynote address. Supreme Court Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson was the keynote speaker in 2008.

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# Glossary of Terms

A summary of frequently used terms by the Superior Days delegation.



