

AGENDA

PADUCAH AREA CHAMBER *of* COMMERCE

WASHINGTON DC 2026 FLY-IN



Presenting Sponsor



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Agenda

Monday, September 21

All times are Eastern

Optional:

5:00 p.m.

“Welcome to DC Meet & Greet” at Scarlet Oak (909 New Jersey Ave SE), located in the Navy Yard, for a complimentary beverage and light refreshments networking opportunity. Dinner on your own.

Tuesday, September 22

All times are Eastern

6:30 a.m.

Optional - DC Morning Run – approx. 2.5 mi. each way passing Ford Theatre to the National Mall and around the Lincoln Monument; Hosted by Cory Hicks, CEO Paducah Power System. Meet in the hotel lobby at 6:30 a.m.

8:45 a.m.

Attendees will meet in lobby of the Grand Hyatt Washington, to meet and depart for the U.S. Department of Energy.

9:15 a.m.

Arrive at the U.S. Department of Energy, Forrestall Building (1000 Independence Ave. SW).

9:30 a.m.

U.S. Department of Energy

Paducah Site Update: Cleanup, Reindustrialization & American Energy Dominance

Discussion of ongoing cleanup, site reindustrialization, infrastructure, and opportunities to position the Paducah Site as a national model for transitioning former nuclear sites to support American energy dominance, advanced nuclear development, AI and economic growth.

Tim Walsh, Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy Office of Environmental Management

Joel Bradburne, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy Office of Environmental Management

Erik Olds, Manager for the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Environmental Management (EM) for the Oak Ridge Office and Acting Manager of the Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office (PPPO)

Visit the Wall Display of Paducah’s DOE site.

11:00 a.m.

Depart for lunch at Carmine’s; **FULL GROUP LUNCHEON** – Carmine’s Italian Restaurant, 425 7th Street NW.

12:45 p.m.

Depart Carmine’s for US Capitol Visitor Center; **Request to be dropped off at Independence Ave SE & S Capitol Street SE**; across from the Rayburn House Office Building; walk to Capitol East Front Steps.

1:15 p.m.

Group photo on the steps of the Capitol; We will be escorted together by Cong. Comer’s staff through the security entrance to CVC. Meeting Location: Congressional Meeting Room HVC-201A&B, Lower Level.

2 p.m.

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Chad Whiteman, Vice President, Environment and Regulatory Affairs, Global Energy Institute

Discussion of data center development, regulatory policy, energy and infrastructure needs, and related issues impacting U.S. businesses and economic competitiveness.

3:15 p.m.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Cleanup, Reuse & Reindustrialization

Steven Cook, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Land and Emergency Management, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

4 p.m.

Adjourn/Depart for hotel

6 p.m.

FULL GROUP RECEPTION—U.S. Botanic Garden (100 Maryland Ave SW)

Established by Congress in 1820 and the oldest continuously operating public garden in the United States. Located at the foot of the U.S. Capitol, the Garden is a living plant museum showcasing plants from across the United States and around the world.

Join fellow delegation members, congressional staff, federal partners and invited guests for an evening of networking in one of Washington’s most distinctive settings.

Photography Reminder: Guests are welcome to take personal photos; however, please do not tag the U.S. Botanic Garden or identify the Garden as the event location on social media. When sharing photos, please identify the location simply as Washington, D.C.

Sponsored by: GEO Consultants

Evening Sponsor



Agenda

Wednesday, September 23

All times are Eastern

- 8:00 a.m. Attendees will meet in lobby of the Grand Hyatt Washington, to meet and depart for the US Capitol Visitor Center - Drop-Off: First Street NE at East Capitol Street NE, between the U.S. Supreme Court and the Library of Congress Thomas Jefferson Building. From the drop-off point, we will walk to the Capitol Visitor Center lower level entrances. Please stay with the group and follow Congressmen Comer's staff instructions.
- 8:30 a.m. Arrive at the US Capitol Visitor Center; Meeting Location: Congressional Meeting Room HVC-201AB, Lower Level.
- 9:00 a.m. U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD); Dr. William "Bill" Paape, Deputy Associate Administrator for Industry Support, U.S. Department of Transportation; Maritime Transportation and Inland Waterways Update; Discussion of federal maritime priorities and issues impacting ports, waterways and the transportation industry.
- 10:00 a.m. U.S. Department of Energy: Genesis Mission; Kristen Ellis, Associate Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Office of the Under Secretary for Science; Update on the Genesis Mission and opportunities connecting advanced technology, energy innovation and reindustrialization.
- 10:30 a.m. Brand USA; Peter Dodge, Senior Director of Public Affairs; Update and discussion of federal tourism priorities, international travel and destination marketing efforts impacting Paducah, western Kentucky and the Commonwealth.
- 11:00 a.m. U.S. Senator Rand Paul; Congressional update and discussion of federal priorities.
- 11:30 a.m. Depart for Library of Congress Luncheon; *Walk via the Library of Congress Tunnel connecting the Capitol Visitor Center to the Thomas Jefferson Building.*
- 12 p.m. Luncheon at the Library of Congress; Featured Speaker: U.S. Congressman James Comer (R-KY-1) Congressional update and discussion of federal priorities impacting Paducah, western Kentucky and the Commonwealth.
- 1:15 p.m. Return to the Capitol Visitor Center.
- 1:30 p.m. U.S. Department of Commerce; Jackson Suarez, Legislative Advisor, Office of the Secretary Update and discussion of U.S. Department of Commerce priorities, economic development and federal initiatives supporting business growth and competitiveness.
- 2:00 p.m. Americans for the Arts; Jay Dick, Senior Director of Advocacy and Partnerships, Government Affairs Federal Arts Policy and the Creative Economy; Discussion of federal arts policy and the role of arts and culture in workforce, tourism and economic development.
- 2:30 p.m. Ian Merrit, Legislative Director from U.S. Congressman Chuck Fleischmann's Office (R-TN-3); Federal Energy and Nuclear Policy Update; Discussion of national energy priorities, nuclear energy and issues relevant to the Paducah, Portsmouth (OH) and Oak Ridge (TN) DOE sites.
- 3:00 p.m. U.S. Congressman Brett Guthrie (R-KY-2); Congressional Update; Discussion of federal policy priorities impacting Kentucky businesses and communities.
- 3:30 p.m. Wrap-up
- 4 p.m. Depart CVC with escorts to Russell Senate Office Building for reception with Senator Mitch McConnell.
- 4:30 p.m. -
6:30 p.m. Congressional Reception
Russell 301, Russell Senate Office Building
Sponsored by Four Rivers Nuclear Partnership
Featured Guest: U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY)
Closing reception with members of Congress, congressional staff, federal partners and the Paducah delegation.

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Enjoy the evening on your own or with other small groups

*Transportation is on your own while in DC. Cabs, Uber or Lyft are usually plentiful and easy to use.

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