MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

NEWS RELEASE

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2025 Minnesota Beef Expo Cancelled Due to Construction

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St. Paul, Minn. – For the first time in its 75-year history, the Minnesota State Fair will make a multimilliondollar investment to significantly update the historic and iconic Lee & Rose Warner Coliseum, the home of the Minnesota Beef Expo. The safest and most efficient way to tackle this much-needed work is to close the Warner Coliseum and livestock area for approximately one year beginning April 2025. Due to this closure, there will not be a Minnesota Beef Expo in 2025. We will pause construction so shows and exhibitions can take place during the State Fair, but the Coliseum and livestock area will not be hosting any events until April 2026.

The biggest part of the project will be the replacement of the roof on the Warner Coliseum. Looking at the magnitude of this structure inside and out, we're sure you'll agree this is not a small task. Equally important are mechanical and electrical upgrades that can only be done when the roof is under construction. We are also taking the opportunity to do additional maintenance and improvement work in the Coliseum as well as other livestock buildings. The Minnesota State Fair's website contains <u>more information about the projects</u>.

Due to the unique nature of the Minnesota Beef Expo, we do not have an alternate location to accommodate it, ultimately leading to the decision to cancel the event in 2025. We plan to use this time to develop new ideas and make improvements to the Expo that will continue to elevate the exhibitor and attendee experience in the years to come.

Although we are disappointed to have to share this news, we are excited and optimistic about the future of a revitalized Warner Coliseum once the construction and upgrades are complete. We appreciate your understanding as we make the most of this moment to dedicate the necessary resources to maintaining and preserving this historic and significant facility. We look forward to welcoming you back to the Minnesota Beef Expo in 2026!

For further information on the Minnesota Beef Expo and MYBEP visit mnbeefexpo.com or contact Karmen Sperr at <u>karmen.sperr@mnstatefair.org</u>.

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