

IPPS Eastern Region Conference Tour: Thursday, October 17th ***Enjoy an amazing corporate campus and some of the university's delights!***

Thursday's conference tours will begin with an exceptional tour at one of the largest company campuses in the area, Epic Systems in Verona, WI led by local landscaper Jeff Epping. Epic has changed the landscape of not only its campus but the surrounding area with over 9000 employees living and working in southern Wisconsin. Epic Campus' landscaping is known for remarkable creativity and whimsical themes. We will explore a wide variety of playful settings, featuring lush, native plantings, a stream, waterfalls, pond, and themed outdoor gathering spaces. Sustainability is woven into three distinct but integrated campuses. This includes more than eight acres of intensive green roof over underground parking and one of the world's largest gravel gardens.



Back in Madison, we will visit the University of Wisconsin Arboretum which features distinct ecological communities, horticultural collections, effigy mounds, more than 17 miles of trails, with a Visitor Center. The Arboretum has three distinct garden collections that provide sensory delights, educational opportunities, and practitioner resources. They include Wisconsin's premier collection of hardy trees, shrubs and vines, as well as a unique native plant garden representing native plant communities of southern Wisconsin.

Nestled next to lake Mendota, our last stop is the Allen Centennial Garden. We will get a real feel for the campus as this garden is the artful living laboratory and public botanical garden of the Horticulture Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The Garden occupies 2.5 acres surrounding the historic Dean's Residence and was designed to complement the home and its existing plantings. The Garden serves as an outdoor classroom for UW-Madison students and the surrounding communities, providing meaningful learning opportunities for visitors of all ages. While there we will enjoy Babcock ice cream made a few blocks away. Babcock produces signature products for the university and community, the Plant and Dairy Store help support the UW Food Science Department's mission of research, teaching and outreach. Bring the family to Madison and have them join us at this stop, it's very close to the conference hotel!

