

Dear NARRC Members,

We are so honored to host the 46th annual NARRC Conference in Fort Collins in September. This will be Colorado's third time to host the National Meeting. We originally hosted in Denver in 1975, then again in Colorado Springs in 1998. But, this is going to be a great and exciting meeting.

The optional tour will begin on September 16, taking those who attend up to Rocky Mountain National Park. We plan to visit the historic Stanley Hotel, have lunch at a local brewery and finish the day with shopping in Estes Park. The conference will officially get going September 17. We have a packed schedule with speakers and delegate and spouse tours that will be second to none. The conference will get wrapped up around 10:00 a.m. after our annual business meeting on Wednesday, September 20th.

Just a few Ag highlights for Colorado. We are headwaters to 7 major rivers, 1st in the nation to raise Proso Millet, 3rd in the nation to raise sheep and lambs and also summer potatoes. We are also 4th in the nation for fed cattle marketings, sunflowers, winter wheat and wool production.

The weather in Fort Collins will likely have highs in the 70's and lows in the 40's during our conference. We plan to run the typical NARRC attire for our conference with business/casual for all of our events. A light jacket is recommended for those who plan to just attend the conference. A medium weight coat would be necessary for those who would like to attend the optional tour. Our weather can change in just a few minutes; and at that time of the year a monsoon may be possible. One thing that sets Colorado apart from other states will be the risk of altitude sickness. Altitude sickness is common and not to be taken lightly. Fort Collins altitude is at 5,000 feet. For those who plan to attend the optional tour there will be an option to visit the Alpine Visitor Center at 11,796 feet. We plan to have an extra vehicle to follow for anyone that may experience symptoms of altitude sickness. It is suggested that if you plan to spend some extra time in Colorado you may want to do it prior to our meeting to get yourself acclimated.

For anyone that is planning to fly to Denver and not rent a car, CRRC has made an agreement with a Shuttle Service called "Green Ride." Green Ride will also be handling our transportation for our conference tours. You will need to book ahead if you'd like to use their shuttle service from Denver International Airport to the Hilton in Fort Collins. Be sure to mention NARRC when asked for discounted rates. The website for Green Ride is www.greenride.com. You can also call twenty-four hours local reservation agents. To do so, please call 970-226-5533. You will also need to make reservations at the Hilton their website www.hilton.com or by calling 970-482-2626 by August 17, 2017. When booking by telephone, you will need to mention NARRC Conference. You can also go to the National Association of Rural Rehabilitation Corporations reservations site once you are on the Hilton.com website. The Hilton is located at 425 West Prospect Road.

We are looking forward to seeing you all in September!

Respectfully,

Tate Rusk
President
Colorado Rural Rehabilitation Corporation