

New Hampshire  
Department of Agriculture,  
Markets & Food



Immediate Release

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**102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Big E Starts Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>**  
***NH Day is Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>; Visit the NH Building throughout the Fair***

The 2018 Eastern States Exposition (the Big E!) opens in West Springfield, Massachusetts on Sept. 14th and continues through Sept. 30th. Last year, nearly 1.5 million people visited the Big E to learn about the New England states and experience regional agriculture, hands-on living history, music and performances from national and regional entertainers, great food, demonstrations and exhibits, animals, exciting rides and games!

New Hampshire has been a part of the Big E's Avenue of States since 1930 with its own state building. All of the New England States have a pavilion on the Avenue where fair-goers can experience each New England state in an afternoon! Generations of Big E attendees have enjoyed an annual taste of New Hampshire at the Big E New Hampshire Building.

Visitors to this year's New Hampshire Building will find an impressive gathering of businesses, products and entertainers, each sharing their own story, highlighting New Hampshire craftsmanship, food and the arts. Guests are greeted by a state information welcome center as they enter the building where they can find answers to specific questions about New Hampshire offerings and get help in planning a trip to the Granite State.

New Hampshire food and agriculture are also showcased at the Building with special exhibits and demonstrations by the New Hampshire maple and Christmas tree associations. There will be plenty of the famous New Hampshire Mac & Cheese along with favorites, blueberry pie and ice cream, homemade broccoli & cheddar cheese soup, plus the ever popular butter-dipped New Hampshire corn-on-the-cob. Everything is served fresh at the New Hampshire Building!

Special demonstrations have been scheduled each day of the fair featuring New Hampshire crafters at work. Fair-goers will be able to see chair caning, wood carving, basket making, Shaker box making, Russian doll making, weaving and more. Musical entertainment is planned for each Friday-Sunday in the New Hampshire Building, showcasing local New Hampshire musicians. This year's line up includes New Hampshire favorites the Michael Vincent Band of Gilford, Slack Tide Trio from Newmarket, Slattery & Stewart of Enfield, Oxford & Clark of Grantham, Cardigan Mountain Tradition Band of Enfield, Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki Trio from Newmarket, On Air Barbershop Singers of Nashua and the Mink Hills Band from Warner. New Hampshire Day at the Big E is Sept. 21st. Additional activities and events have been set for this special day, featuring New Hampshire performers Lucie Therrien Franco American music, the Joan Watson Jones jazz band, the Keene Cheshiremen barbershop singers, and Lindsay and her Puppet Pals. Also on New Hampshire Day, a fine woodworking demonstration by Tom McLaughlin, A square dance demonstration by members of the New England Square Dance Foundation and the Redneck Warrior Hatchet Toss where you can test your skill!

There will be lots to see and do during the 2018 Big E and plenty of good old fun for the whole family. The New Hampshire Building is managed by the New Hampshire Dept. of Agriculture, Markets & Food. For more information call tel. 271-3788, or visit [www.agriculture.nh.gov](http://www.agriculture.nh.gov) for a more detailed program. For more information about the Big E, log on to [www.thebige.com](http://www.thebige.com)

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