

As many of you may know, the Kent County Youth Fair fairground – which has been on South Hudson Street in Lowell, MI for decades – has moved to a new location.

The City of Lowell and King Milling have assumed ownership of the old fairground site, and many of the buildings have been torn down, and the electrical and plumbing infrastructure removed. As such, that site is not an option for any future West Michigan Bluegrass Music Association events.

The <u>new</u> Fairgrounds are still under construction. While there are some aggressive target dates for completion of the various buildings/barns, electrical and plumbing infrastructure, campground infrastructure, an RV dump station and so on, there is no assurance they will be ready for our FallFest event in September, let alone our Camp & Jam in July. With that uncertainty, we couldn't plan on that venue as being a firm option.

As such, the WMBMA Board – after doing research on alternative venues – has unanimously decided to move our 2024 events to the St. Louis Church of God Campground in St. Louis, MI. This is north and east of Grand Rapids – basically straight east on M-46 from US 131. The campground has many amenities necessary for our events, including an indoor venue for our performances.

Also included (in addition to regular campsites) are options to rent rustic cabins, a Duplex, or Dorm rooms. Rates are reasonable and proportionate to the type of accommodation desired.

If WMBMA gets 10 or more RV units to either event, we get a discount on the camping rates. More information will be forthcoming, but we wanted to be sure to get the word out! Please feel free to pass this along!