



# "Gathering of the Green"

A special conference for John Deere Collectors, Restorers, & Enthusiasts  
RiverCenter, Davenport, Iowa  
March 21-24 2018

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**  
Save and bring this  
invitation/information piece  
with you.

## Vendor Invitation and Information

The "Gathering of the Green" cordially invites you to submit a **Vendor Application** for the upcoming conference to be held on **March 21, 21, 23 & 24, 2018 in Davenport, Iowa**. This being the Tenth "Gathering," we are looking forward to an even better conference. We have had people all over the world attend this amazing meeting of John Deere Enthusiasts and are looking forward to bring you another great conference. This upcoming "Gathering" theme will be "*Legend, Made Legacy*". We are looking forward to having John Deere collectors from all over the United States, as well as World Wide.

**Location of 2018 Gathering: RiverCenter, 136 East Third Street, Davenport, IA 52801.** This is the same location we have had for the past few "Gatherings." The RiverCenter Vendor Hall, "**Great River Hall,**" is located in downtown Davenport, IA with 3<sup>rd</sup> street on the north, 2<sup>nd</sup> street on the south, Pershing Ave. on the east and Brady St. on the west. (see enclosed Davenport Downtown Parking Map)

**RiverCenter Description/Vendor Information:** The RiverCenter is comprised of two buildings connected via skywalk and features a large vendor hall, "**Great River Hall,**" with over 33,000 sq. feet of column-free space, a separate banquet hall, and spacious meeting rooms for workshop and drop-in sessions and other "Gathering" activities. (See enclosed floor plan)

- **TABLE AVAILABILITY:** You may rent tables up to a maximum of 10 (see Vendor Application). Table size: 6 ft X 2 ½ ft wide.
- **OPTION—TRAILERS IN VENDOR HALL:** Again, vendors have the option of bringing trailers into the vendor hall and selling directly from trailers. Because of life safety issues, it is important and mandated by the City of Davenport that unobstructed walkways in the vendor hall be clearly established and maintained. Considering this, any tables used in conjunction with your merchandise displayed on the floor must not be spread beyond the 20x20 or 20x40 footprint of your spot. If your footprint goes beyond these dimensions, it will be important to reserve additional tables on the application form.

**ARRIVAL TIME & SET UP—Wed. March 21, 2018.** Plan to arrive and set up on Wednesday, March 21, 2018. The hall will open for set-up at 8:00 a.m. and it is hoped that vendors will arrive by noon. In any case, please allow sufficient time so that your operation will be up and ready by 6:00 p.m. The vendor hall will be opened at that hour to coincide with the hospitality reception planned for that evening.

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**IMPORTANT!—ASSISTANCE UPON ARRIVAL:** Upon arrival and BEFORE unloading, please see one of the “Gathering” workers, **who will be in reflective vests**, in the Loading Dock/Service Area for details. We anticipate some congestion in the Service Area on arrival day. We are hoping to alleviate some with move-in times, but your patience is requested. “Gathering” staff will assist you in accessing your vendor space in the Great River Hall as quickly as possible.

**VENDOR UNLOADING/ACCESS TO RIVERCENTER:** Most vendors will unload their wares at the Loading Dock/Service Area of the RiverCenter located on Pershing Ave. between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> street (see Davenport Downtown Parking Map and RiverCenter floor plan). Vendors with smaller items will also be able to unload on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street at the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Concourse entrance in the designated 2 Hour Parking Loading Zone (see floor plan). Do not unload until you contact a “Gathering” worker at the Loading Dock/Service Area.

**VENDOR PARKING:** Vendor parking information will be available upon arrival at the RiverCenter.

<b>VENDOR HOURS:</b>	Wednesday, March 21, 2018	6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.*
	Thursday, March 22, 2018	8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.*
	<b>Friday, March 23, 2018</b>	<b>Vendor meeting 7 a.m. in Platte room. Coffee and donuts will be provided. This is your chance to talk with planners and improve the vendor area.</b>
	Friday, March 23, 2018	8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.*
	Saturday, March 24, 2018	8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

\*Please know vendors can close their area earlier if desired to attend other “Gathering” activities.

#### **VENDOR FEES:**

Tables: Table fee is \$50 each with a maximum of ten tables.

*Note: We will offer the vendor tables around the perimeter hall first. Some vendors require a wall as a backdrop for their booth, so these spots will be offered on a “first-come, first-served” basis. Also, if you need to set up near another vendor, contact Dan Misener and he will work with you.*

Trailers/Vendor booth: The fee is \$200 for a 20x20 spot which will be for trailers 18’ or less\*\*

The fee is \$300 for a 20x40 spot which will be for trailers longer than 20’. \*\*

**\*\*PLEASE READ CAREFULLY\*\*:** When selecting one of the two trailer size options, please calculate the trailer length including the tables and merchandise. We need the total space you intend to use. If your trailer exceeds 40’ in length, please contact Dan Misener.

**IMPORTANT:** Within your vendor spot you must leave space for an aisle. We would like to know how you would like to park your trailer or arrange your booth so we can best arrange the hall. Remember, if you need your trailer in the hall and require more space than your spot provides, you need to sign up for vendor tables, as well. You will be guaranteed one long side of your trailer to be open to the aisle.

**ELECTRICITY:** If you wish to have electricity at your table(s) or trailer, please complete the enclosed form and return it to the address on the form along with payment. If you have questions about electricity, please call Brad Curry, RiverCenter Event Coordinator at 563-328-6720.

**BREAKDOWN OF VENDOR SPOTS ON SATURDAY:** Breakdown of the vendor hall will begin at 3:00 p.m. sharp on Saturday. This will permit an orderly dismantling of the vendor area and allow sufficient preparation time for those attending the banquet.

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**APPLICATION:** Please complete and return the attached application by January 31, 2018. A separate document shows the floor plan of the RiverCenter vendor area. If you have any questions, call Dan Misener at 918-325-0849, or email him at [johndeereharvester@gmail.com](mailto:johndeereharvester@gmail.com). Your application can be emailed, as well.

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION:** The vendor fee includes conference registration for two individuals. If there are additional members in your party, please indicate their full names on the attached application and include the additional \$40 per person registration fee.

**BANQUET:** if you and members of your party would like to attend the banquet on Saturday evening, March 24, please be sure to include the appropriate fee with the Vendor Application Form.

**ITEMS FOR SALE:** Please limit your goods to John Deere and farm-related items that focus on the two-cylinder and New Generation eras.

**FUN AUCTION DONATION:** As you will note, the conference registration and vendor fees are very reasonable. The "Gathering" organizers have worked diligently to keep the event very affordable and thus available to all those desiring to attend. By keeping the costs low, we have to look at other sources of financial support. As was the case in all previous conferences, a **FUN AUCTION** is planned for the 2018 conference. In addition to being a source of revenue, it has been one of the most popular activities offered. **We are requesting that one or two items related to your business be donated for the auction.** It is understood that each vendor will make this donation as part of his or her participation in the "Gathering".

**REFUNDS:** Refunds will NOT be available after January 31, 2018.

**SERVICE MARK:** The phrase "Gathering of the Green" has been Service Marked. If you wish to offer merchandise with this phrase, please contact Tony Knobbe at 563-570-2704.

**TRIPS AND TOURS:** The trips and tours to be offered during the 2018 "Gathering" will be detailed on the "Gathering" website trips and tours page ([www.gatheringofthegreen.com](http://www.gatheringofthegreen.com).) If you or a member of your party would like to sign-up for any of the activities listed, please call Bill Cunningham at 815-943-4321 or e-mail him at [deerebill@live.com](mailto:deerebill@live.com). He will assist you with the sign-up process.

**GATHERING MERCHANDISE FOR SALE:** Hats, pins and belt buckles can be preordered on the Vendor Application.

**DRIVING DIRECTIONS:** Go to <http://riverctr.com/about/directions-parking> for driving directions to the RiverCenter.

**HOTEL INFORMATION:** Please call the **Hotel Blackhawk**, [200 E 3<sup>rd</sup> Street \(888-525-4455\)](http://www.hotelblackhawk.com), **Quality Inn**, 6605 Brady Street  [\(563-386-8336\)](http://www.qualityinn.com), **Rhythm City Casino Resort**, 7077 Elmore Ave.  [\(563-328-8000\)](http://www.rhythmcity.com) and **The Current Iowa**, 215 North Main  [\(563-231-9572\)](http://www.currentiowa.com). When calling for reservations, be sure to mention you will be attending the "Gathering". Note that ample parking will be available in three parking garages; one located adjacent to the RiverCenter; one located about one block away and another about two blocks away. You can also go to [Gathering of the Green Hotel Accommodations](http://www.gatheringofthegreen.com/hotel).

**QUESTIONS:** Should you have questions, please feel free to contact Dan Misener at 918-325-0849 or e-mail him at [johndeereharvester@gmail.com](mailto:johndeereharvester@gmail.com)

We hope you will consider submitting a vendor application for the 2018 “Gathering of the Green.” Everyone is working hard to make the event as enjoyable and successful as the previous conferences!

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**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Your Vendor Application must be received by January 31, 2018.

**WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGE:** For an overview of the conference plus detailed information, please go to the website: [www.gatheringofthegreen.com](http://www.gatheringofthegreen.com) and/or see the “Gathering” Facebook page [Gathering of the Green](#)