



FAQ's for Attendees

MANTS 2021 Updated: August 5, 2020

Is MANTS 2021 going to happen?

Regrettably MANTS is unable to host an in-person tradeshow as planned, January 6-8, 2021, at the Baltimore Convention Center due to COVID-19 concerns, ongoing restrictions on large indoor gatherings, and the unforeseen unavailability at the Baltimore Convention Center.

Instead, we are doubling down and developing alternative plans that includes the launch of an online platform to provide continued networking and business opportunities to connect exhibitors and attendees.

It is only August, why not delay the decision and wait to see what happens?

The decision to pivot from an in-person show was heavily influenced by two main factors. With cases of coronavirus spiking across the country, we must prioritize your health, safety, and well-being above all else. We also recently confirmed that Maryland would continue to utilize the Baltimore Convention Center, home to our show for the last 40 years, as a COVID-19 field hospital through the end of December.

Did you consider other show dates?

Yes, we did and until recently we were optimistic that we would be able to proceed with our plans or modify them to accommodate state and national health recommendations, but we now know that it is not a viable option. We have had many conversations with the team at the Baltimore Convention Center and Visit Baltimore to explore possible alternative dates. While the building will serve as a field hospital through the end of December, when we factored in additional days contracted for cleaning and sanitizing of the building, our dates were no longer available. We next explored later dates in 2021, but none proved feasible to allow for us to provide the large-scale in-person tradeshow that has become the hallmark of MANTS with a timeframe that would be manageable for our industry.

You mention an alternate business platform. What can we expect from that?

Everyone knows that MANTS means business and while we are disappointed not to host our tradeshow in person, we are committed to providing a platform for commerce within our industry that is accessible, alive, and healthy.

MANTS' continued support of your business goals as well as those of our show sponsors, the State Nursery and Landscape Associations of Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia is critical despite the pandemic.

Our industry is not an industry that blinks when challenged, so we are using this as an opportunity for temporary reinvention as we find alternative ways to build meaningful connections between our exhibitors and attendees. MANTS has meant business to the green industry for 50 years, and we plan to continue this tradition into 2021.

When can we expect to learn more about plans for 2021?

We understand the significance of not being able to provide the in-person connections that have become synonymous with MANTS throughout the years. BUT, we recognize that our exhibitors still have products and services to sell and our attendees have inventory and needs to restock and evaluate.

In the coming weeks, we will be putting the plans and resources in place to help ensure that MANTS can continue to serve as a catalyst for connecting those with products to sell with those buyers ready to make purchases.

Thank you for your patience and ongoing support as we pivot strategy and prepare to roll out an alternative MANTS platform that will provide the opportunity to do business for the remainder of 2020 and well into 2021.

And one more thing ...

At MANTS we recognize that you have choices as to where and how you can do business, and as always, we thank you for thinking of MANTS, where your business comes first.

Stay safe, stay well, and stay strong!