

THE WILDS COOPERATIVE OF PENNSYLVANIA

Growing and connecting unique small businesses in the Pennsylvania Wilds

Membership Category	Membership Types	Membership Opportunities		Investment	Submission Process
 <p>Creative Makers (You work in a creative industry producing things and providing services!)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Juried Artisans: Food, Craft + Visual Artisans <i>(There are two levels for this membership type; determined by jury score: Basic + Professional)</i> Creative Industries Partners: Writers, Graphic Designers, Musicians, Filmographers, Web Developers + Designers, Photographers, Screen Printers, Public Relations Professionals, Architects, Print Shops, Sound/Lighting Design, Sign Makers, Furniture Design, Production Publishing + Distribution of Literature, Blogging + Social Media Content, Embroidery Services, Engravers, Landscaping, Manufacturer of Soft Goods + More 	<p>We're looking for individual artisans and companies in creative industries that produce original art, designs and products. <i>(Note: appropriated images, such as clip art, are prohibited)</i></p> <p>Allows consumers to look for products and services Proudly Made in the Pennsylvania Wilds. <i>(Online directory and Buyer's Guide are easy-to-use resources for consumers.)</i></p>	<p>Harness the power around the PA Wilds lifestyle brand and use it to help grow your business.</p> <p>Approved members are able to apply to license the PA Wilds logo for use on their own products and original designs.</p> <p>This network provides opportunities to connect with other creative makers around products and services, experience makers around</p>	<p>Free to join</p> <p>Jury fee: \$20 Non-refundable fee allows for up to three (3) different mediums/ products or services to be reviewed</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visit WildsCoPA.org/join-us 2. Select "Creative Makers" 3. Choose your "Membership Type" 4. Complete the application <p>Minimum info needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Name/Title - Physical location <i>(if your business is open to the public)</i> - Description - Website URL - Profile image - Link to a digital portfolio - Hours of operation <i>(if your business is open to the public)</i> - Social media handles <p>See additional information about the jury process for Creative Makers here.</p>
 <p>Experience Makers (You provide an establishment / experience!)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host Sites: Restaurants, Lodging, Breweries, Wineries, Theaters, Museums, State Parks, Events + Festivals, Public Art + Area Attractions Field Guides: Outfitters, Guide Services + Visitors Bureaus Trading Posts: Retail locations, Specialty + Boutique Shops Community Partners: Conservation Groups, Libraries, Community Centers, Governments, Educational Institutions, Cultural Organizations, Hospitals, Health + Wellness Centers, Realtors, Chambers of Commerce, Heritage Regions, Business Development Centers, Industry Groups and Associations, Community Revitalization Organizations + Industrial Development Groups 	<p>We're looking for small, place-based businesses and events that are unique to the Pennsylvania Wilds.</p> <p>Allows travelers to look for curated experiences in the Pennsylvania Wilds, including places to dine, lodge, visit, shop, learn and more! <i>(Online directory and Buyer's Guide are easy-to-use resources for consumers.)</i></p>	<p>market opportunities, and regional resources around business growth.</p> <p>Tap into professional development opportunities focused on growing our rural communities.</p> <p>See additional benefits here.</p>	<p>Free to join</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visit WildsCoPA.org/join-us 2. Select "Experience Makers" 3. Choose your "Membership Type" 4. Complete the application <p>Minimum info needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Name/Title - Physical location - Hours of operation (if applicable) - Description - Website URL - Profile image - Social media handles

MEMBER REQUIREMENTS, RESPONSIBILITIES + OTHER FINE PRINT

The Wilds Cooperative of Pennsylvania (WCO) is an entrepreneurial ecosystem tied to the PA Wilds brand and managed by the PA Wilds Center for Entrepreneurship, Inc. Covering a quarter of the Commonwealth, the WCO is focused on growing and connecting unique place-based businesses, which are vital to creating vibrant, sustainable communities. To learn more about The Wilds Cooperative of Pennsylvania effort, go to WildsCoPa.org/about-us.

RESIDENCY + ELIGIBILITY

There are ineligible business types. Members of the Wilds Cooperative are those place-based businesses that are in line with the Pennsylvania Wilds lifestyle brand. View more information at WildsCoPa.org/member-benefits-and-responsibilities.

Businesses applying must demonstrate that their organization is based in the Pennsylvania Wilds region by supplying a physical billing address at the time of application and throughout membership period. Further proof of residency may be requested. Individuals applying as Juried Artisans must be full-time Pennsylvania Wilds residents at the time of application. To actively produce and sell juried work under program membership, Juried Artisan members must remain PA Wilds residents. The 12.5-county region includes Cameron, Centre (northern), Clarion, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk, Forest, Jefferson, Lycoming, McKean, Potter, Tioga and Warren.

BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS: STATE + FEDERAL

The Wilds Cooperative of Pennsylvania requires all listed partners to comply with the permitting and licensing requirements enforced by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as well as the federal government pertaining to their specific business. By submitting your application you are acknowledging your compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

It is your responsibility to inform yourself about doing business in Pennsylvania. If you make taxable sales, you are required to obtain a PA Sales Tax License. Visit pa.gov or revenue.pa.gov and search “rev-717” for details.

Entrepreneurs who operate under their own given name as Sole Proprietors, with zero employees, and use their Social Security Number for tax filing are not required to register their businesses with the PA Department of State. All others must register. Business establishments with paid employees must register with the state. Lodging properties must be located in the Pennsylvania Wilds and pay the state lodging tax (the Hotel Occupancy Tax) to qualify, as indicated by the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue. More information on member requirements + responsibilities can be found at WildsCoPa.org/member-benefits-and-responsibilities.

MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

The program works best for those who make it work for them. You will need to be proactive about promoting your status and selling the unique products and experiences you're known for. We're here to help. Keeping your profile information current will help with your business promotion, and we will ask you to “review” their profile on an annual basis for renewal. Inactive or inaccurate profiles are subject to suspension. Learn more about member profiles at WildsCoPa.org/member-benefits-and-responsibilities.

NEED HELP?

For more information on the complete list of rules and regulations for participation in this program, visit WildsCoPa.org/faqs.

If you have any questions, or need assistance, our administrative support at the Elk County Council on the Arts (ECCOTA) is always happy to help.

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