



**North Branford
Potato & Corn Festival**

AUGUST
7-9 2026

NBPOCOFESTIVAL.COM

AUGUST 7-9, 2026 • NBPOCOFESTIVAL.COM

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Platinum Sponsors

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Country Farms II
Augur Farms



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors

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SPECIAL THANKS TO NORTH BRANFORD PUBLIC WORKS, NORTH BRANFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT, NORTH BRANFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT, NORTH BRANFORD PARKS RECREATION, & SENIOR CENTER, AND TOWN HALL DEPARTMENTS. A BIG SHOUT OUT TO OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS, WHO MAKE THIS ALL POSSIBLE!

AUGUST
7-9 2026



#NorthBranfordPoCoFest

AUGUST 7-9, 2026 • NBPOCOFESTIVAL.COM

FROM THE COORDINATORS

Welcome to the 24th Annual North Branford Potato & Corn Festival!

For one incredible weekend, our community comes together to celebrate everything that makes North Branford so special: neighbors becoming friends, traditions being made, and memories that last long after the last firework lights up the sky.

This year's festival is packed with excitement for the whole family! Experience thrilling helicopter rides, cheer on the live armored combat of our Renaissance Faire, be amazed by the all new Aquatic Circus, visit the exotic petting zoo, enjoy contests and field games, live entertainment, our spectacular Saturday night fireworks, and one of New England's largest traveling midways filled with rides and games for all ages. And of course, no trip to PoCo is complete without stopping by our famous PoCo Corn & Potato Booth!

The Coordinator Team would like to extend our sincere thanks to the incredible staff of the North Branford Parks & Recreation Department. A special thank you to Kerry Haynes, Kathy Poston, Sarah Brown, Mar Parsaye, and Jess Cave for your unwavering support, guidance, and countless hours of hard work behind the scenes. We truly couldn't do it without you.

Let's hear it for Team PoCo!

The heart of this festival has always been our volunteers. It is an honor to work alongside such a dedicated, hardworking, and fun-loving group of people. Our volunteers spend countless hours throughout the year planning, organizing, problem-solving, and preparing for this weekend. Then, when festival week arrives, they're here before sunrise and long after sunset making sure every detail comes together.

To our PoCo supervisors, and committee volunteers,

John Opie, Hank Petroskey, Jessica Dellacamera, Kristen & Joe Sicignano, Nick Balletto, Rich DeNardis, Nina Burkhardt, David Sokoloff, Terri Nuzzo, Bill Savastano, Bill Merrick, Mike Prodotti, Anthony Esposito, Dennis Pannone, & Ashley Joiner.

PoCo may last just three days, but it's built on a year of passion, and dedication from all of you. Thank you for being the heart behind the festival. You are an AMAZING team and we simply couldn't pull this off, or imagine PoCo without you!

Whether you volunteered for one four-hour shift or have dedicated all 52 weeks of the year to making this festival possible, please know how deeply grateful we are. Your passion, generosity, and community spirit are what make PoCo such a special tradition.

We also extend our heartfelt thanks to our many sponsors. Your generous donations of funds, goods, and services help make this festival possible year after year. North Branford is fortunate to have so many local businesses and organizations investing in our community. As you browse through our sponsor pages, we hope you'll remember to support them throughout the year and thank them for helping make PoCo possible.

A very special thank you goes to our local farms for providing the fresh, delicious corn that has become one of the festival's most beloved traditions. DeFrancesco Farms, Augur Farms, Country Farm I, Country Farm II, and Ceccarelli Farm... thank you for your continued generosity and support of our community and our festival.

As you enjoy the weekend, we hope you'll take a moment to appreciate the charm of our beautiful town, embrace the small-town agricultural fair atmosphere, spend time with family, reconnect with old friends, and maybe even make a few new ones along the way.

And if you see someone wearing a TEAM PoCo shirt, please give them a smile, a wave, or a heartfelt "thank you." Behind every ride, every concert, every ear of corn, every vendor, and every firework is a volunteer who helped make it happen.

Thank you for celebrating with us. We hope you have an unforgettable weekend, and we'll see you around the festival!

See you at the Fest!

Steve Torino, Mary-Elissa Giovanni, Elisa Pannone, Rose Angeloni
The North Branford Potato & Corn Festival Coordinator Team



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FESTIVAL INFO

NORTH BRANFORD POTATO & CORN FESTIVAL **AUGUR PARK, 290 FOREST ROAD, NORTHFORD**

FESTIVAL HOURS OF OPERATION

Friday 5pm-10pm	Saturday 11am-11pm	Sunday 11am-6pm
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SHUTTLE BUSES:

North Branford Poco Festival offers \$2 round trip shuttle services to and from the event on Friday and Saturday, FREE on Sunday this year to celebrate our North Branford Community

Northford Side:

Shuttle buses will pick up at Stanley T. Williams Community Center at 1332 Middletown Ave, Northford CT. ADA shuttle available at the top of the hour from this location only.

North Branford Side:

Shuttle buses will pick up at North Branford Intermediate School/North Branford High School 654 Foxon Road (RT80), North Branford, CT

PARKING:

\$25 onsite general parking will be located at Augur Valley entrance on Totoket Road. Please refer to the parking map for exact directions from I-91N, I-91S, or I-95N.

\$25 Handicap parking will be located at the main festival entrance 260 Forest Rd (Rt 22). Valid handicap parking permits will be required to be displayed. Handicap parking is on a first come basis.

STUDENT DROP OFF / PICKUP:

The designated student drop off/pick up will be at the Augur House. 298 Forest Rd (Rt 22). The entrance is located just north of the main entrance traveling north on Rt. 22. For everyone's safety and to help the flow of traffic, student drop off/pick up WILL NOT be allowed in the shuttle bus area of the main entrance. We strongly recommend students using the shuttle buses and parents picking them up at the shuttle parking lots.



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM TEAM POCO

- *HELICOPTER RIDES ARE BACK!!**
- *LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**
- *BEST FIREWORKS AROUND**
- *KNIGHTS OF GORE MEDIEVAL ENTERTAINMENT ALL WEEKEND!**
- *THE LARGEST TRAVELLING EXOTIC PETTING ZOO IN THE COUNTRY!**
- *AND AQUA LIVE SPECTACULAR MAKING ITS POCO DEBUT!!**

Only handicap parking will be at 260 Forest Rd.
All general parking is located at
641 Totoket Rd, Northford, CT 06472

FESTIVAL POLICY:

Please be advised weapons, fireworks, electric stun guns, replica guns, ammunition, mace, and pepper spray are prohibited from the Festival grounds. Backpacks, bags, and containers are subject to visual search. Bicycles, skateboards, and personal motorized vehicles including golf carts are prohibited from the Festival grounds. Drones are strictly prohibited. Smoking (Including electronic cigarettes or 'vaping') is prohibited on the Festival grounds. Personal pets are not allowed; service animals are welcome. By entering the Festival grounds, you are consenting to the use of your image in photographic, video, and digital media for the purposes of publicity by the Town of North Branford and the Potato and Corn Festival.

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ATTRACTIONS

HTX HELICOPTER TOURS

Back by popular demand, HTX Helicopter Tours returns to the 2026 North Branford Potato & Corn Festival, offering an unforgettable bird's-eye view of some of our area's most breathtaking scenery.

Lift off right from the festival grounds and soar over Tilcon Quarry, Lake Gaillard, the beautiful landscapes of North Branford and Northford, and,

on clear days, enjoy stunning views stretching all the way to Long Island Sound. It's a one of a kind opportunity to see our community from an entirely new perspective.

Flights will be available Friday, Saturday, and Sunday during daylight from open til 8pm, weather & conditions permitting

\$55 per person



RIDES AND AMUSEMENTS PROVIDED BY FIESTA SHOWS

Fiesta Shows is New England's largest traveling amusement provider. The mission of Fiesta Shows is one thing - to provide the community the opportunity to make memories and enjoy good old fashioned family fun!

Fiesta will be bringing a variety of rides for all ages (the most we have ever had!), games, amusements, carnival treats, and New England's LARGEST portable Ferris wheel (the 3rd LARGEST nationwide!)



THE POCO BEER & WINE GARDEN

The PoCo Beer & Wine Garden, proudly hosted in partnership with North Branford's own Central Cafe, is the perfect place to relax between adventures. Conveniently located next to the main stage & the PoCo Corn and Potato Booth. **New for 2026**, we're excited to feature Kent Falls Brewing's Maizey Days Cream Ale, brewed in anticipation of the 2026 PoCo with Connecticut grown corn from Thrall Family Malt. This crisp, refreshing cream ale offers a light natural sweetness, a touch of Saaz hops, and a clean finish, making

it the perfect way to toast another unforgettable PoCo weekend.

***Strollers are not allowed inside the Beer and Wine Garden.**

Please park your strollers against the outside of the fence.*

Beer & Wine Garden Hours

- Friday: 5:00 PM to 9:30 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 PM to 10:30 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 PM to 5:30 PM

Please drink responsibly. Cheers to another amazing PoCo Festival!

AQUA LIVE SPECTACULAR

Presented by the renowned Murcia Family, whose entertainment legacy spans 10 generations, this one-of-a-kind production features breathtaking aerial acrobatics, dazzling hula hoop performances, laugh-out-loud comedy, graceful live mermaids, and stunning water-themed entertainment the whole family will enjoy.

The excitement builds to the spectacular grand finale, "The Hurricane," where daring aerialists perform incredible

acrobatics while soaring above a spinning wave runner in a thrilling display unlike anything you've seen before.

Complete with immersive lighting, music, and special effects, the Aqua Live Spectacular delivers an action-packed performance that will leave audiences cheering for more.

Shows will take place throughout the festival weekend. Be sure to catch this exciting new attraction while you're at PoCo. It's a splash you'll never forget!

KNIGHTS OF GORE

Welcome the Knights of Gore, making their North Branford Potato & Corn Festival debut and bringing an unforgettable medieval experience to all THREE DAYS of the festival! Forget everything you think you know about staged sword fights. These warriors don't follow a script. Armed with real steel weapons, they step into the arena for live armored combat that is fast, fierce, and guaranteed to keep you on the edge of your seat. Watch knights clash in epic battles. Cheer for your favorite champion. *Located at the tractor pull area*

BURPEE EXOTIC PETTING ZOO

A longtime PoCo favorite, Burpee & Records Exotic Petting Zoo returns with an amazing collection of fascinating animals that are sure to delight guests of all ages. Stroll through the exhibit and come face to face with kangaroos, colorful parrots, gant tortoise, an alligator, an adorable capybara, and a variety of other amazing animal friends.

Looking for a hands-on experience? Visitors can meet and pet the friendly barnyard animals and the gentle giant tortoise, creating unforgettable

memories for children and adults. Founded in 1987 by husband and wife team Lawrence Records and Alexandra Burpee, this family run organization has been caring for, training, and educating the public about animals for more than five decades. Today, alongside their sons Ben and Harrison, they continue their mission of inspiring curiosity, respect, and appreciation for wildlife through fun, interactive, and educational experiences.



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SCHEDULE

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

ALL WEEKEND ATTRACTIONS

Amusement Rides & Games in our midway brought to us by Fiesta Shows.

Burpee Exotic Petting Zoo

More than 40 exotic and unusual domesticated animals in "America's brightest, cleanest, friendliest, petting zoo". The zoo is housed under their own colorful big top.

PoCo Beer & Wine Garden

In partnership with North Branford's very own, Central Cafe!

Aqua Live Spectacular

Making its PoCo debut in 2026!

Friday - 6:30 PM and 8:30 PM

Saturday - 2:30 PM, 4:30 PM 6:30 PM 8:30 PM

Sunday - 1:00 PM, 3:00 PM, & 5:00 PM

HTX Helicopter tours

Flights will be available Friday, Saturday, and Sunday during daylight from open til 8pm, weather & conditions permitting

Knights of Gore

Interactive events all day!

Saturday - 1:30 PM, 4:00 PM 7:00 pm

Sunday - 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM

Character Meet & Greets

In partnership with the North Branford Police Department and the North Branford Fire Department, some of your favorite children's characters will be making appearances throughout the festival grounds for smiles, hugs, high-fives, and unforgettable photo opportunities

Saturday 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM **Sunday** 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Bluey
Chase (PAW Patrol)
Marshall (PAW Patrol)

Bluey
Skye (PAW Patrol)

Contests

Pie eating, corn husking & eating, potato peeling, mashed potato making. (In front of the Mainstage)

Games

3-legged race, wheelbarrow race, crab walk race, potato sack race, jump rope run, sponge bucket game, mashed Potato toss, hula hoop contest, & potato toss at Mr. Potato Head! (Field area before the hill)

STAGE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 8/7

5:00 pm Opening Ceremony

Evyn Aguiar singing the National Anthem.

8:00 pm The Wag's Beatles Spectacular

We Kick off PoCo "with a little help from our friends" The Wag!

Get ready to twist, shout, sing, and dance!

SATURDAY 8/8

1:00 pm Find Your Voice with Jacqueline

Join us as Find Your Voice with Jacqueline LLC takes the PoCo stage, showcasing the incredible talents of 18 local vocal students in a heartwarming performance filled with music, confidence, and community spirit.

3:00 pm Evyn Aguiar

North Branford's own Evyn Aguiar is taking the PoCo stage with a voice that has been turning heads and winning hearts. Blending heartfelt emotion with incredible vocal talent, Evyn delivers an unforgettable performance featuring songs by Coldplay, Radiohead, Oasis, Tom Odell, Calum Scott, Snow Patrol, and more.

7:30 pm "1 Wild Night" Bonjovi Tribute Band

Get ready for an evening packed with Bon Jovi's biggest hits, incredible energy, and an atmosphere that's guaranteed to have you singing along. Then stick around as the music gives way to one of Connecticut's favorite fireworks shows!

FIREWORKS!!!!

Thanks to International award-winning provider Atlas Pyrovision, we have one of the BEST fireworks shows in Connecticut!! You don't want to miss this!!

Show starts at the conclusion of our Saturday night headlining band "1 Wild Night", with a rain date of Sunday, August 9th

SUNDAY 8/9

12:00 pm Victor Roland

Spend your Sunday afternoon with one of North Branford's own! Local musician Victor Roland brings a unique acoustic performance to the PoCo stage, breathing new life into the classic rock hits you know and love. Performing on a rich-sounding 12-string acoustic guitar, Victor takes audiences on a musical journey from the 1960s through the 1990s, featuring favorites from The Beatles, the British Invasion, Elton John, Billy Joel, and many more timeless artists.

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POCO FESTIVAL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

1. HOW MUCH IS THE ENTRANCE FEE?

A. There is no entrance fee. The entire event and all entertainment is free. However, the food, craft and business vendors throughout the weekend charge for their product. **On-site parking fee is \$25**

2. IF IT RAINS, IS THERE A RAIN DATE?

A. ***This event is held rain or shine.*** There is no rain date. The only rain date is for the Fireworks scheduled for Saturday night. The rain date for fireworks only is Sun., Aug. 9th

3. ARE PETS ALLOWED?

A. Only service animals are allowed on the Festival grounds. Pets are not otherwise permitted.

4. IS THERE HANDICAPPED PARKING?

A. There is handicapped parking next to the main entrance gate. You must have a valid handicap placard displayed. There is a \$25 parking fee.

5. IS THERE PARKING ON-SITE?

A. There is ample parking available at Augur Valley - 641 Totoket Rd. On-site parking is \$25.00. Money generated from our festival goes back to the community and Student Athletes. There is also designated motorcycle parking available.

6. ARE THERE DIRECTIONS AVAILABLE?

A. Directions can be found under the information tab on our website. Please use 641 Totoket Road, Northford, CT for GPS directions for general parking.

7. WHAT ABOUT THE FANTASTIC FIREWORKS I KEEP HEARING SO MUCH ABOUT?

A. The firework show begins after 9pm. on Saturday night. In the event of inclement weather, the fireworks show will be postponed to Sunday night around 9pm. The information will be posted on this website.

8. HOW CAN I GET REAL-TIME INFORMATION REGARDING THIS EVENT?

A. Both our website, Instagram, and Facebook page are updated throughout the weekend with details on weather, cancellations, and other information. We STRONGLY encourage you to "like" our Facebook page. (North-Branford-Potato-and-Corn-Festival) in order to receive information as opposed to phoning the Recreation Department which has limited hours over the weekend. You can also follow us on Facebook & Instagram.

9. CAN WE BRING IN OUR OWN FOOD/DRINK/COOLERS?

A. NO coolers, outside food, or drinks are allowed.

10. ARE DRONES ALLOWED?

A. Please, NO DRONES! They are extremely dangerous with the large crowds we expect.

11. ARE THE SHUTTLES FREE?

A. No, we offer \$2 shuttles to and from the event. One lot in Northford and one lot in North Branford. Check our online site for specific locations. *Sunday is North Branford Day! Shuttles are free today as part of the celebration!!

12. WHERE IS PARENT DROP OFF?

A. Parent drop off and pick is located at the Augur House, 298 Forest Rd. There will be fire police and security at that designated spot.

13. WHERE DOES THE MONEY EARNED BY THE FESTIVAL GO?

A. We are a committee made up of Volunteers and the Festival itself is self-sustaining. The NET PROCEEDS from the festival provide the teams sports incentives, Scholarships, local organization donations, supporting a holiday dinner for the NB Senior Center, and to fund the following year's festival. We take pride in a free festival and \$2 shuttles.

14. DO YOU NEED CASH?

A. We have ATMs on-site and most vendors accept credit/debit cards.

15. HOW DOES THE WRISTBAND WORK FOR RIDES?

A. We offer discount coupons online and that coupon expires prior to the festival. However, you are able to continue to purchase full price wristbands all the way through the weekend online to save time standing in line during the festival.

B. The Amusement company offers one day Saturday, and individual limited time tickets online and on site. The festival receives a percent of ticket sales revenue. The wristband fee is not set by the festival.

16. CAN I ENJOY BEVERAGES FROM THE BEER AND WINE GARDEN IN ALL AREAS OF THE FESTIVAL?

A NO. All beer and wine must be consumed within the Beer & Wine Garden and cannot leave the designated tent area. Stroller parking is outside the Beer & Wine Garden against the fence.



VENDORS



FRIDAY

- 5:30 Jump Rope Run (all ages) field
- 5:35 Hula Hoop (all ages) field
- 5:40 Potato Sack (all ages) field
- 5:45 Crabwalk Race (all ages) field
- 6:00 Potato Peeling (adult) stage
- 6:15 Corn Husking / Eating (all ages) stage
- 6:30 Pie Eating Contest -all ages (stage area)

SATURDAY

- 1:00 Sponge Bucket (5 under) field
- 2:55 Potato Sack race (all ages) field
- 3:00 3-legged race (all/partner) field
- 3:05 Wheelbarrow race (all/partner) field
- 3:10 Crabwalk Race (all ages) field
- 5:00 Pie Eating Contest (all ages) stage
- 5:20 Potato Peeling Contest (adults) stage
- 5:30 Jump Rope Run (all ages) field
- 5:35 Hula Hoop Contest (all ages) field
- 5:35 Toss a Potato at Mr. Potato Head (all ages) field

SUNDAY

- 11:30 Jump Rope Run (all ages) field
- 11:35 Hula Hoop (all ages) field
- 1:00 Sponge Bucket (5 under) field
- 2:00 Corn Husking / Eating (all ages) stage
- 2:15 Mashed Potato Making (adult) stage
- 3:00 Mashed Potato Toss (all/partner) field
- 3:30 Pie Eating Contest (all ages) stage



VENDORS

PoCo's very own, local farm Fresh Roasted Corn, & Loaded Baked Potato FOOD Tent located right next to the Mainstage!

California Curly Fries

Get Roasted

J'scrabshack

JAS

Keifers

Polish Plate

Prime Concessions

Textmex Fusion Food Truck

Thai Taste

Ultimate BBQ

VFW

Sultan Kebab

Paradise Island

Arts French fries

Dougboy Mini Donuts

Sweet Creams

Taste of Grill

Fiesta Shows

Bubble Tea

Dirty Pop

Christiano's

Brew Haus

Nutmeg Concessions

Flavors Food Truck

Makin Bacon Heaven

Taste House

CRAFT, BUSINESS, & NON-PROFIT VENDORS

The Hidden Gem
Casanova Remodeling Company
Leafguard
Pristine Exteriors
Nightmare's Gate
Kwc Marketting, Llc
Senior Health & Retirement Services
New York Life
Five Star Bath Solutions
Puzzles And Games
Nico's Novelties
Soldier Solutions
Total Remodeling & Repair
Inaugural Home Improvement
Goldfish Swim School - Hamden
The Crafty Cat
Honey Bunch Face Painting
Lighthouse Candles & Crafts

Interlinked
Constellation Creations
Blissful Bee Creations, Llc
The Tasty Sprinkle
Divine Solstice
Psychic Jennifer
AKhomesigns
North Branford Republican
Committee
Northford Congregational Church
Five Star Bath Solutions
North Branford Community Lens
TD Bank
East Shoreline Health Department
WPLR
North Branford Community Lens
New Haven Register



AUGUR PARK

298 Forest Road, Rt. 22, Northford, CT

**Handicap
Parking
Enters Here**

Driveway by
the Food Pantry

All On-Site Parking

\$25 per vehicle

641 Totoket Rd,
Northford, CT 06472

HANDICAP PARKING ONLY

 **\$25 per vehicle**

260 Forest Rd
Northford, CT 06472

Helicopter Rides

**Shuttle Parking
NBHS & NBHS**

INFO
BOOTH

Food Craft &
Business Vendors

Potato and
Corn Booth

STAGE

**SAND
TABLE
& SEAT**

GAMES

TENT

**Knights of Gore
Medieval Entertainment**

Carnival

Carnival

**PARENT
DROP-OFF
& PICKUP**



SHUTTLES - \$2 per rider
Ages 10 & under **FREE**
Cash and card accepted!

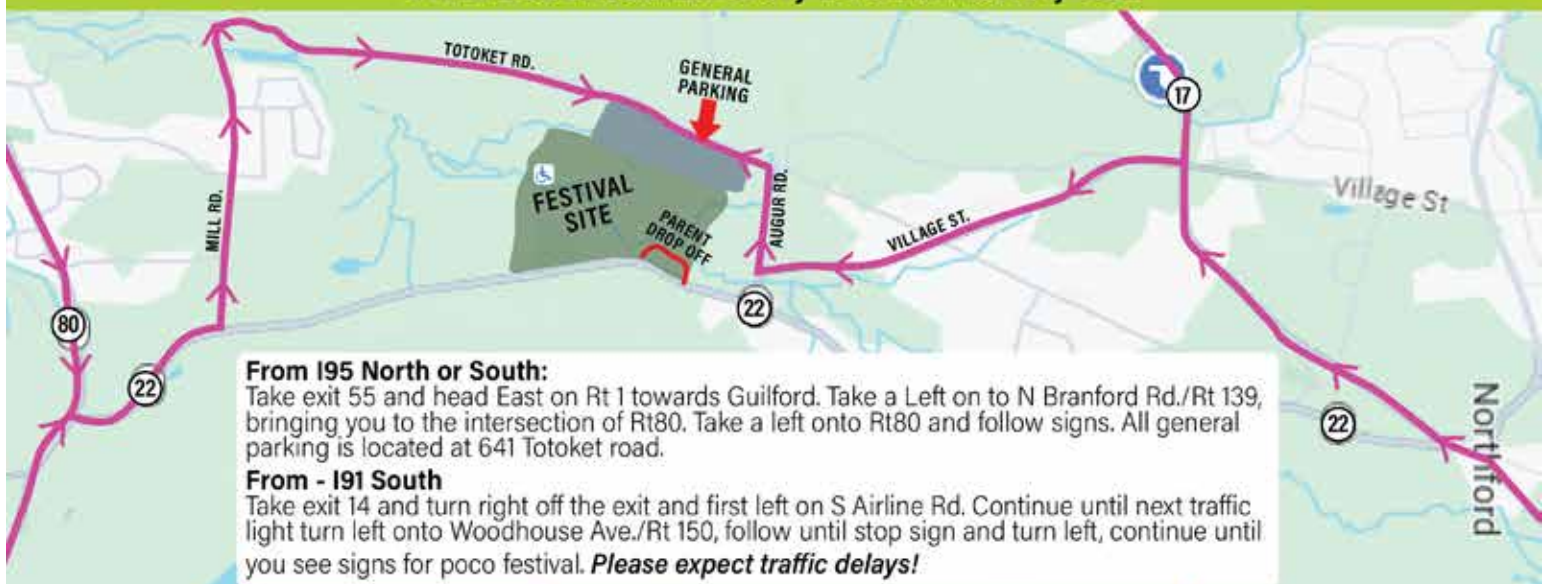
NORTHFORD SIDE:
STW Community Center
1332 Middletown Ave,
Northford, CT 06472
ADA Shuttle - (Top of the
Hour) Available at STW ONLY

NORTH BRANFORD SIDE:
North Branford High School/
Intermediate School
654 Foxon Rd,
North Branford, CT 06471

SUNDAY IS NORTH BRANFORD DAY!
FREE SHUTTLES FOR EVERYONE!

GENERAL ON-SITE PARKING - \$25

641 Totoket Road, Northford, CT



From I95 North or South:

Take exit 55 and head East on Rt 1 towards Guilford. Take a Left on to N Branford Rd./Rt 139, bringing you to the intersection of Rt80. Take a left onto Rt80 and follow signs. All general parking is located at 641 Totoket road.

From - I91 South

Take exit 14 and turn right off the exit and first left on S Airline Rd. Continue until next traffic light turn left onto Woodhouse Ave./Rt 150, follow until stop sign and turn left, continue until you see signs for poc festival. **Please expect traffic delays!**