



Forks of the Wabash Pioneer Festival Pioneer Village Application

DATES OF THE FESTIVAL: Our 50th Pioneer Festival – September 26, 2026 and September 27, 2026

FESTIVAL TIMES: Saturday, 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. Sunday, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

PLACE: Huntington County Fairgrounds, 631 East Taylor Street, Huntington, Indiana 46750

I WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE FESTIVAL THIS YEAR: YES NO

NAME OF ORGANIZATION OR INDIVIDUAL: _____

PIONEER CRAFT BEING DEMONSTRATED: _____

CONTACT PERSON FOR EXHIBIT:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

NUMBER OF YEARS YOU HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE FESTIVAL: _____

FEES: \$25.00 to demonstrate and sell your items (if you are demonstrating **ONLY**, fee does not apply)

NUMBER OF EXHIBITOR PASSES NEEDED (one day passes) _____

Please request only enough tickets for those who will be working at your exhibit on a full-time basis.

REQUEST PARKING PASS: YES NO (One per booth)

I HAVE READ THE **FESTIVAL REQUIREMENTS AND RULES** (BOTH LISTED BELOW) FOR PARTICIPATION AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE POLICIES AS STATED. I AGREE THAT I AM LIABLE FOR LOSS, DAMAGE OR INJURY TO MYSELF OR MY PROPERTY DURING THE COURSE OF THE FESTIVAL.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Please send this page in with your fee (if applies) no later than August 1st. Make checks or money order payable to Forks of the Wabash Pioneer Festival. You will receive confirmation and your passes by mail in September.

Please mail to Andrea Osterman:

Andrea Osterman

6333 W 200 N

Andrews, IN 46702

Email: 44bnak@gmail.com

(Revised 2026)

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Pioneer Village Rules

FIRE CODE:

If you need a fire for your demonstration, the tent needs to be fireproofed, and a small label attached stating such. Also, if you do your own fireproofing, you need to have the bottle there for the fire chief to see. You must have a fire extinguisher, and your fire must be at least 10 feet away from your tent. Remember, all trash, including all corn stalks, straw bales, and weeds, etc. must be removed from the park. You can use straw for decorations if you have no fire, but straw cannot be used under a roof. **You must bring your own straw for your booth for decorations;** the festival **DOES NOT** provide you with straw. There are dumpsters near the cattle barn (SE corner of park) to put your cardboard in.

SETUP:

You can set up your exhibit on Friday afternoon, or you can begin at 7:00 a.m. Saturday. No tear downs can begin before closing time on Sunday. Exhibits will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. till 5:00 p.m. All vehicles are to be out of the area by 9:45 a.m. each day of the festival. No vehicles will be allowed back into the park until 15 minutes after the festival closes each day.

PARKING:

Parking is available in any festival parking area. A limited number of passes are available for vendors to park in the Swindler lot area off Evergreen Road by the cattle barns or the corner of Taylor and Evergreen. Please indicate interest for this pass on your application form (a maximum of one vendor parking pass will be given out to each exhibit).

COSTUMES:

All Participants must be dressed in Pioneer costumes (1890 era). We suggest a long dress or skirt and calico blouse, small print, or homespun-looking cotton material. Duster caps, sun bonnets, aprons and shawls are nice accessories for the women. Pants of canvas, denim overalls or cotton material are suggested for the men. Good colors would be brown, black, or tan. Shirts of white, calico, or neutral color cotton are also appropriate to wear. PLEASE, NO ALUMINUM CHAIRS in the park. A small wooden chair would be in better taste. Try to be as AUTHENTIC as possible with your display.

FEES:

Those people who will be demonstrating a pioneer craft will not be charged to participate. Those of you who will be selling your items will be assessed a \$25.00 fee by the festival. If you are selling items, you must have a sales tax number and submit the 7% tax on your sales to the state.

ADMISSION:

Four (4) exhibitor tickets will be included with your confirmation letter. These tickets will be your admission tickets to the festival and must be turned in at the gates as you enter the fairgrounds each day. Give the gate workers your pass **EACH day** and they will stamp your hand, which allows you to leave the park and return all day. On your application form, please indicate how many you will need, keeping in mind that passes are valid for one day only.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Andrea Osterman at (260) 755-8146 or email 44bnak@gmail.com. The Pioneer Village registration DEADLINE will be on August 1st. We appreciate your cooperation, and we are pleased that you will be participating in helping to make the Pioneer Festival one of the finest in the state of Indiana.

KEEP THIS PAGE FOR YOUR REFERENCE

FESTIVAL REQUIREMENTS

Please carefully read the festival requirements. By signing your application, you agree to follow these requirements as well as any others stated by the committee.

(Revised 2026)

Festival Requirements for Participants

TIMES: All booths must be open between 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 10:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.

BOOTH SET UP & TEAR DOWN: Booth set up may begin Thursday evening, Friday after 7:00 a.m. and on Saturday morning and must be completed with vehicles out of the park by 9:30 a.m. Any booth tear down may not begin before 5:00 p.m. Sunday. Vehicles will **not** be permitted back into the park until 6:15 p.m. on Saturday and 5:15 p.m. Sunday to allow visitors to leave the park.

BOOTH APPEARANCE: The booth display and quality requirements are consistent throughout the festival. We are striving to maintain an "old fashioned" décor. The time period is 1800-early 1900's. Trailers will not be permitted unless approved by the festival committee. All modern supplies must be screened from public view and tables must be skirted to the ground with appropriate materials. The Pioneer Festival reserves the right to require vendors to remove any items not appropriate to the festival.

DELIVERIES: All deliveries after 9:30 a.m. on Saturday and 9:00 a.m. on Sunday will have to be made on foot since no vehicles are allowed in the park after that time.

TARP – TENT POLICY: No poly tarps can be visible! Poly may be used if masked appropriately with burlap or other pre-1900 materials. Tents should be khaki, tan, brown, gray, or white. Aluminum tent poles must be disguised.

COVERINGS: drop clothes, oilcloth, burlap sacks, quilts or blankets may be used to cover unacceptable items.

COOLERS: All coolers cannot be visible to the public; they can be stored under covered tables or have a covering over them (see COVERINGS for details).

TABLES: Tables must be covered to the ground on all four sides. Suggested fabrics include broadcloth, calico, gingham, burlap, muslin, canvas, chambray or quilts.

FIRE: All fires must be contained, roped off, and supervised at all times to protect the public. NO OPEN FLAMES are allowed under a tent of any kind. All fires must burn wood, coal, or charcoal only. Smoking shall not be permitted in any tent, canopy, or temporary membrane structure or in any adjacent areas where hay, straw, sawdust, or any other combustible materials are stored or used. All booths must have an approved fire extinguisher. Fire pits are to be filled and re-sod after the festival. All remaining ashes, coal, partially burned wood or briquettes must be removed from the festival grounds. DO NOT dispose of these materials in dumpsters or trash barrels.

STRAW BALES: Individual and group participants are responsible for straw clean-up if the bales are broken. Bales placed on our stage and storytelling areas ARE NOT FOR YOUR USE. They are for the visitors to use as seating. The removal of these bales for use in your booth could cause for a fine in the amount of double the rate currently being offered by our straw vendor, and ejection from the festival or not being invited to return.

SIGNS: Signs should be made of wood, tin brass or other period materials. Cardboard is not acceptable. Signs may be placed on your countertop or nailed to a pole you bring for your set-up. No signs of any type are to be nailed to trees or tent piles or attached to a campground post. These will be promptly removed by the festival committee.

CRAFT ITEMS: Exhibited items must be handmade by the person or person participating. Mass produced items are not acceptable, including books, tapes, and compact discs.

ANIMALS: Please leave pets at home.

CLEAN UP: Each vendor is responsible for leaving his/her booth area as it was found upon arrival. The areas should be cleared of all trash, corn stalks and any straw. If you cook with grease, you are required to remove the grease from the grounds. All cardboard boxes must be broken down flat and taken to the dumpsters along with your trash.

LIABILITY INSURANCE: Our insurance carrier requires that all food vendors, motorcars, engines & tractor and various other activities must provide us with a Certificate of Insurance. Vendor agrees to hold harmless and indemnify the Forks of the Wabash Pioneer Festival from any claim made or liability made as a result of merchandise or products sold at the festival.

TAXES: All State and Federal taxes are the responsibility of the vendors.

PARKING: There will be a designated parking lot for "vendors only" located behind the cattle barns (off Evergreen Road) and on the corner of Taylor and Evergreen. Please refer to the map to locate. Each vendor will receive only one vendor parking pass that allows one vehicle to park in the lot.

FIRST AID: First aid service will be located at the information booth.

COSTUMES: Pioneer style clothing is required of ALL BOOTH WORKERS including children at all times. This includes those who will be working in booths even for only short periods of time. No tank tops, shirts with writing, shorts, t-shirts, or capri's will be allowed.

Fabrics commonly used by pioneers include:

Flannel (even red), Muslin (bleached/unbleached), Wool, Calico, Gingham checked, Denim, Cotton, Linsey-woolsey, Lines, Tow cloth or burlap, Fustian (50% cotton/50% linen)

RAIN POLICY: In the event of rain, goods may be protected by plastic or similar material. Rain gear is acceptable. Under wet conditions, it is acceptable to spread straw in your area (but must be cleaned up on Sunday at the end of the day). Plastic tarps are to be removed when the rain ends or at the request of your area representative or festival official. In the event of rain, there are no gate (admission to festival) refunds or booth rental refunds.

MUSIC: No personal modern music will be allowed in the booths/areas at any time during the festival hours.

FENCING: **At no time is any vendor to cut the fencing.** There are ample entrance gates to the park for vendors to enter with their supplies. If you cut the fence, you will be required to pay a fine of \$100.00 for each occurrence.

SOLICITING: There will be no one on festival grounds handing out propaganda, fliers, religious materials, or any political materials at any time to anyone. If you are on festival grounds soliciting, you will be asked to remove any items you have and if you refuse to do so you will be asked to leave the festival grounds.

All the above policies are to protect the quality of the festival. Please read the requirements carefully. Your signature on the application confirms your acceptance of the requirements, and it is understood that failure to comply with said policies may result in termination of your opportunity to participate in future festivals.