



FORKS OF THE WABASH PIONEER FESTIVAL OLDE TOWNE 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

Name of organization or individual: _____

Person in charge of booth: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email:

Fees: Check appropriate line:

1. Booth rental **and** Pioneer Festival structure (canvas tent) limited supplies available – \$55: _____
2. Booth rental with **no** canvas tent (you will not have a structure for shelter) – \$25: _____

Number of passes required for workers for each day: _____

Each vendor is limited to four (4) passes per day

List craft(s) or food(s) demonstrated and/or all items to be sold. ****Describe briefly only if new participant.****

Describe structure if new participant or not using our tent. (Just a reminder that any structure you use must be made of canvas and of a natural color and fire retardant. No plastic please).

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:** _____

Return completed application by **July 10th**, along with your CHECK or MONEY ORDER made payable to: "**FORKS OF THE WARASH PIONEER FESTIVAL**".

MAIL TO:

WPA FEST

Attn: Andrea Thompson

1541 Cherry Street

Huntington, IN 46750

(260) 450-1018

softballat123@yahoo.com

(Revised 2026)

OLDE TOWNE RULES

Exhibitors, demonstrators, and vendors will adhere to a late 1800's time period. We encourage the participation of those who are willing to share pioneer crafts that will fit in with the olde towne theme. **Those selling food must have made contact with the Huntington County Department of Health.**

SCHEDULE:

Exhibits are to be open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday and from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. You are welcome to set up your exhibit on Friday or early Saturday morning. Spaces will be marked. No teardowns are to begin before 6:00 p.m. on Saturday or 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. Vehicles must be removed from the park **one hour before** the festival opens each day. **Absolutely no vehicles will be allowed in the festival area after this time.** No vehicles will be allowed into the park at the close of the festival each day for 15 minutes to allow visitors to exit the park. This will be enforced without exception.

COSTUME:

All participants must be in pioneer costumes during festival hours. We suggest for women a long dress or a long skirt and a blouse of calico, small print, or homespun-look cotton materials. Duster caps, sun bonnets, aprons and shawls are nice accessories. For men we suggest pants of canvas, denim, or homespun-look cotton material. Brown, black and tan are good colors. Shirts of white, calico, or neutral color cotton materials are appropriate. The costuming of "Little House on the Prairie" and clothing worn by the Amish are representative of this era. Clothes can be purchased readymade at www.jastown.com or www.smoke-fire.com. Patterns are also available.

FEES:

Those people who will only be demonstrating pioneer craft will **not** be charged for space. All people selling their craft items, even if they are demonstrating, will be assessed a \$25 fee. All exhibitors are required to submit an application. Those who are using Pioneer Festival structures will be appraised a \$25 handling and maintenance fee.

FOOD:

If selling food, please contact the Huntington County Board of Health for guidelines or our website for their form under "Participation" then "Vendor Applications" and look for "Health Dept. Food Permit".

BOOTH SPACE - STRUCTURES - POLICIES:

Your booth must be as authentic as possible and fit in with the late 1800s olde towne setting. **Only handmade crafts are to be sold:** no kits, greenware, flea market items, silk or plastic flowers, chance or grab bag items, and no advertising signs. Remember, we are a **pioneer** festival. Lean-tos with **canvas** tops are encouraged; however, all canvas must be fire retardant. Tables and metal chairs must be covered with burlap or old-type cloth or quilts. **Plastic covering will not be allowed while the festival is open.** The only exception will be in the case of rain. Trailers must be kept outside the festival fencing. Pioneer Festival policies must be adhered to. Non-compliance with Pioneer Festival policies will result in expulsion from the festival and invitations will not be extended in the future. It is advised that all participants working in your booth be given a copy of these policies.

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 the passes are valid for one day only. Please be sure everyone who works in your booth has information about schedules, admission, and costumes.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Andrea Thompson at (260) 450-1018 or softballat123@yahoo.com

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.

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 and roped off to keep the public from harm and supervised at all times. 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 at 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.