

Trout Fest '26 LOAD-IN/LOAD-OUT Instructions



The 2026 Blue Ridge Trout & Outdoor Adventures Festival looks forward to a very successful 8th-year event. All vendors are a critical part of making that happen, and we look forward to meeting you on day of event in Blue Ridge.

Please read the following information carefully. With your help, Trout Fest will operate smoothly and efficiently during load-in, event hours, and load-out.

Ask for help as needed or if you are unclear about any policy or practice of Trout Fest. Trout Fest STAFF (15 members) will be wearing yellow event T-shirts with the word "STAFF" on the back. About 60 Trout Fest volunteers also are on hand throughout the day of event to help you with any need.



WHEN YOU CHECK IN AT EVENT HEADQUARTERS, YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR VENDOR'S PACKET, WHICH WILL INCLUDE:

- YOUR LANYARDS with four (4) Vendor ID Badges
- YOUR LOCATION along with an event site map/program -- Vendor locations are determined by sponsorships, electrical needs, water needs, vendor equipment and vendor requests. PRIMARY POWER/WATER SOURCES ARE PROVIDED, BASED ON EARLY REQUEST ON THE EXHIBITOR'S APPLICATION. BRING YOUR EXTENSION CORD/HOSES (50 feet) FOR CONNECTING TO LOCAL POWER/WATER NEEDS.

• EVENT EXHIBITOR'S SURVEY -- We really appreciate your feedback. Please complete the EXHIBITOR'S SURVEY and return to EVENT HQ or by mail to Trout Fest '26, PO Box 2745, Blue Ridge, GA 30513.

TROUT FEST DOES NOT OFFER RENTAL EQUIPMENT. YOU MUST PROVIDE YOUR OWN TENT/TABLES/CHAIRS.

TENTS MUST BE ANCHORED AT ALL VENDOR SITES. GRASS SITES MUST USE STAKES OR ANCHOR WEIGHTS. STREET SITES MUST USE ANCHOR WEIGHTS.

LOAD-IN, FRIDAY -- APRIL 24, 3-9 PM

• If you arrive on Friday, April 24, check in between 3 PM and 7 PM at the Festival HQ next to the railroad tracks on Church Street. You may only set up your site on the grass sites (in the park) after 3 PM. Vendor sites located on street surfaces may set up between 5 and 9 PM. Streets adjacent to the Festival will not be closed until 5 PM.

PARKING

NO VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED ON THE GRASS IN THE PARK.

THIS IS BLUE RIDGE, AND PARKING CAN BE A PROBLEM ANY WEEKEND.

EXHIBITORS WITH TRAILERS ARE DIRECTED TO PARK FOR FREE AT THE BLUE RIDGE FARMERS MARKET, 811 SUMMIT STREET, BLUE RIDGE, GA 30513. SHUTTLE SERVICE IS PROVIDED FROM 9 AM TO 6 PM ON DAY OF EVENT TO AND FROM THIS PARKING LOT.

ALL OTHER PARKING IS FOUND ON THE NEARBY STREETS OR THE PAY-TO-PARK COMMUNITY PARKING AREAS. SEE THE ATTACHED MAP TO LOCATE ONE OF THE SEVERAL PARKING LOTS CLOSE TO THE FESTIVAL.

GO TO [BLUERIDGETROUTEST.COM/EVENT-PARKING](https://blueridgetroutfest.com/event-parking) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

• **SITE SECURITY IS NOT PROVIDED OVERNIGHT.** DO NOT PLACE PRODUCTS/MERCHANDISE UNTIL SATURDAY MORNING. BLUE RIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT IS LOCATED ON CHURCH STREET, ONE-HALF BLOCK FROM THE CITY PARK SITE. FANNIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT IS LOCATED ON WEST FIRST STREET, ONE-HALF BLOCK FROM THE CITY PARK SITE.



LOAD-IN, SATURDAY -- APRIL 25, 7-9 AM

• If you load-in on Saturday, April 25, you can arrive starting at 7 am. Check in at the Festival HQ located next to the railroad tracks on Church Street. **You are expected to be completely set up no later than 9:30 AM.**

• THIS IS BLUE RIDGE AND PARKING CAN BE A PROBLEM. EXPECT TO PARK ON THE NEARBY STREETS OR THE PAY-TO-PARK COMMUNITY PARKING AREAS. PLEASE ASK A STAFF MEMBER IF YOU NEED HELP FINDING A PARKING SPOT. GO TO BLUERIDGETROUTFEST.COM/EVENT-PARKING FOR MORE INFORMATION.

NO VEHICLES ARE ALLOWED ON THE GRASS IN THE PARK.

Please complete your set-up by 9 am. Event gates open at 10 am, and we usually have visitors waiting in line by 9:30 am.

DAY OF EVENT -- APRIL 25

• TROUT FEST OPERATES FROM 10 am TO 6 pm, RAIN OR SHINE. VENDOR FEE REFUNDS ARE NOT PROVIDED FOR ANY REASON.

• WE ARE EXPECTING APPROXIMATELY 3,500-4,000 VISITORS THROUGH THE GATES IF THE WEATHER IS GOOD.

• ONLY FESTIVAL STAFF CAN APPROVE VEHICLES THAT ENTER FESTIVAL GROUNDS.

• CREDIT CARD SERVICES CAN BE COMPLETED VIA CELL SERVICES. VERIZON SERVICE IS BEST. THERE IS NO WIFI PROVIDED.

• VENDORS MAY BREAKDOWN AT 4:30 pm. HOWEVER, VEHICLES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED INSIDE THE FESTIVAL GROUNDS UNTIL 6 pm.



IF YOU CHOOSE TO CLOSE BUSINESS AT 4:30 PM, TROUT FEST INVITES YOU TO ENJOY THE LIVE MUSIC AT THE TROUT FEST SOUND STAGE. GRAB A BEVERAGE, GRAB A MEAL, AND ENJOY THE END OF TROUT FEST '26!

• VENDORS WHO CHOOSE TO CLOSE THEIR SITE AT 4:30 ARE REMINDED THAT TROUT FEST DOES NOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR PROPERTY SECURITY THROUGH THE END OF THE FESTIVAL.

• QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS, please call Bob Murrah phone: 706-258-3979 or Bob Borgwat, phone: 770-827-6657. You can also come to the HQ Tent or talk to one of the people with a "STAFF" shirt on.

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR BADGES AT THE END OF THE DAY TO HQ!
THANK YOU, THE TROUT FEST '26 COMMITTEE**