

2026 SALMON DAYS VENDOR FAQs

The Salmon Days Festival in Issaquah, WA is a renowned arts and crafts festival with a strong emphasis on quality vendors and community engagement. For 57 years, it has been a beloved Northwest tradition. As the LARGEST two-day Festival in Washington, it's no surprise that Salmon Days boasts some of the finest artists and food vendors in the industry, thanks to a well-organized and experienced jurying process. The exceptional quality of our vendors is a key reason we attract over 150,000 visitors to Issaquah each year. Our artists and food vendors have helped Salmon Days earn multiple local, state, and international awards, and we take great pride in making our vendors our top priority.

The Festival features approximately 600 booths, which often sell out quickly. Booth spaces are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, with returning vendors receiving priority during the month of April. We typically sell out of all booth spaces by July. Last year, we sold out in just 32 days, so if you're interested in being a vendor this year, it's crucial to register as soon as applications go live.

Please note that booths are assigned/placed in the order applications are received. Therefore, the sooner you submit your application, the better your chances are of securing a booth in your preferred location.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION TIMELINE

(Note: If you are a downtown Issaquah business who is reserving a booth in front of your business, please refer to the Downtown Business & Resident's page for a more detailed timeline)

Returning Vendors from 2025	April 1, 2026 at 9:01a
NEW Potential Vendors	May 1, 2026 at 9:01a

All Arts & Crafts booth spaces are the same price regardless of location (i.e.: Front Street versus the Greenbelt, etc.). Also, the option to purchase a corner booth is not available.

TIMELINE FOR NEW VENDOR SUBMISSIONS

NEW potential vendor applications are reviewed by a jury. The jury meets mid-month to go over the previous month's applicants. Once the jury makes a decision, vendors are notified within a week.

NEW Potential Vendors –	If application is submitted in the month of May, then notifications back to the vendor are at the end of June.
	If application is submitted in the month of June, then notifications back to the vendor are at the end of July.
	If application is submitted in the month of July, then notifications back to the vendor are at the end of August.
	If application is submitted in the month of August, then notifications back to the vendor are at the end of September.

DIGITAL PROGRAM DEADLINE:

August 15, 2026

This deadline is strictly for getting published in our program. Applications may still be accepted after that date, but we cannot guarantee your booth will be printed in our program. Transversely, booth spaces may sell out well before this deadline.

VENDOR BOOTH DESCRIPTIONS AND PRICING

Booth prices vary by vendor category. There are five (5) different vendor categories: Arts & Crafts, Food, Non-Profit, Government & City, and Issaquah Small Commercial Retailer vendors each with specific requirements and pricing.

Arts & Crafts Vendors

Join over 300 artisans in showcasing your unique creations! With more than 15 different mediums represented, artists are sure to find a perfect fit for their work at the Festival. Please note that all merchandise must be handcrafted by the person submitting the application.

10x10 - \$450

10x20 - \$900

Food Vendors

The Salmon Days Festival wouldn't be complete without over 70 food vendors scattered throughout the Festival grounds. While the majority of food vendors are located at the Foods of the World food court, there are additional food stands throughout the event to ensure attendees never go too hungry!

10x10 - \$550

+ 20% commission over \$2,000

10x20 - \$1,100

+ 20% commission over \$3,000

10x30 - \$1,650

+ 20% commission over \$3,000

Issaquah Small Commercial Retailer Vendors

Small retail businesses physically located in Issaquah, which are individually owned and operated, and have a physical product to sell, are invited to participate in this opportunity that usually doesn't exist at Salmon Days. Traditionally, the Festival features only handcrafted arts and crafts made by the artist, so this is a great opportunity for our local small retail businesses.

Please note that all products sold at the booth must be physical retail items. Services such as gutter cleaning, window washing, etc., will not be accepted.

10x10 - \$1,050

10x20 - \$2,100

Non-Profit Vendors

Bring awareness to your 501(c)3 organization by having a booth at the Festival! You can also fundraise by hosting a booth or selling parking spaces during Salmon Days. There's no limit to how you can showcase your organization! Applicants must demonstrate that they provide a service to the Issaquah community.

Please note that only 501©3 organizations can apply and you also need to attached a copy of your IRS Determination letter to your application.

- On-Site 10x10 - \$350
- 10x20 - \$700

- Off-Site \$350 plus 10% commission on fundraisers only
\$350 plus 15% commission on food fundraisers only

Government & City Vendors

Special government and City of Issaquah organizations that provide services to the Issaquah community are encouraged to participate. Since King County and the City of Issaquah offer regional services to Issaquah residents, Salmon Days provides a valuable opportunity to educate, engage, and distribute resources to the community.

Please note that Public school organizations, such as Robotics teams, fall under this category as they do not qualify as a 501(c)(3).

10x10 - \$375

10x20 - \$750

A processing fee of \$50 will be charged if you fill out the wrong application, apply more than once, or do not meet the guidelines/requirements. We are happy to answer any questions to help you avoid these fees, so please contact us first to ensure your application is correct.

Booth fees are non-refundable unless canceled by August 15, 2026. Please note, however, that we will deduct a \$50 application processing fee from the original total.

HOURS OF OPERATION

- October 3rd & 4th, 2026
- Festival hours are 10am - 6pm, Saturday and Sunday. BOOTHS MUST REMAIN OPEN DURING THIS TIME. Closing and/or tearing down prior to 6pm will result in a minimum of two-year suspension from Salmon Days.
- Vendors must be present in their booth for both days of the festival.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- **Merchandise must be personally handcrafted by the Vendor.** Commercial, imported or mass-produced items are not allowed at Salmon Days.
- Payment is due when submitting an application. If your application is not chosen by the jury, you will be refunded 100%.
- We are a balloon-free Festival.
- No toy weapons are allowed at Salmon Days.
- Food sampling is allowed.
- **If you are food sampling and/or giving out food, you are responsible for obtaining a King County Health Dept permit for your booth. Even if you are a Spawnsor, Arts & Crafts vendor or a Non-Profit organization.**
- If you are food sampling and/or giving out food that is not individually commercially wrapped, you must use compostable packaging.
- Food vendors must order directly from and only sell water & soda products from our beverage spawnsor, Coke.
- Booths selling food (not prepackaged) are required to have a hand wash station. This includes vendors who are preparing food, packaging food and/or sampling food or beverages within their booth.

BOOTH INFORMATION

- Booth sharing is prohibited and will result in immediate expulsion.
- Vendors cannot sell or promote other vendor's work in their booth.
- ALL vendors specifically agree that they will not seek or accept sponsorships for their booth and that sharing the booth with another vendor or organization of any type is strictly prohibited. This includes all non-profit booths.
- Booth fees cover only the booth space. Vendors are responsible for arranging and bringing their own tents, tables, chairs, etc.
- **Vendors must remain in the footprint of their booth space and are not allowed to 'rove' with their merchandise and/or place/display merchandise outside their booth footprint.** This applies even if there is an empty space next to your booth.
- Booths must remain open during Festival hours. No exceptions.

FOOD VENDORS

- Foods of the World Food Vendors – We adhere to a strict schedule for load in if you are in the "Foods of the World" (FOTW) food court. During load in on Saturday, from 5:30am – 6am, only food vendors with trailers and food trucks will be allowed to set up. All non-trailer/food truck vendors in this location are allowed to load in starting at 6:30am. Any non-trailer food vendor who sets up before 6:30am on Saturday will have to immediately tear down and may either have immediate expulsion or wait until all the trailers get positioned in. That vendor could also be suspended from applying to the Festival for 2 years and will not be refunded any booth fees, electricity fees, etc.
- BBQ/Cooking Space - Please make sure you select enough booth space to accommodate your footprint. If you need additional space, you must apply for a larger booth space. No exceptions. We will not be able to accommodate you at the last minute.
- If you have a food truck or a food trailer, you are required to submit photos of the truck or trailer from all sides. This is to alleviate placing you in an area where your opening could get impeded by another vendor or a tree or any other outside intrusion.
- **STANCHIONS** - All Food Vendors who will be located in the FOTW food court are recommended to bring and set up a minimum of eight (8) stanchions and two 50' lengths of rope to Salmon Days.
- All food vendors must apply for a temporary food permit.

Application for a Temporary Food Permit can be made online at:

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/ehs/portal.aspx>

ELECTRICITY & POWER SOURCES

The only vendors that may order electricity is food vendors who are physically located in the "Foods of the World" food court. If you are a food vendor and are placed in any other part of the Festival, you do NOT have the option of purchasing power. If you require a generator, you must get approval from the Festival and it must be a whisper quiet generator.

If you have previously been a vendor with us and have pulled your power from a lamp post, we no longer have that option from the City of Issaquah so please do not plan to use that as your power source.

To order electricity, food vendors will need to contact Hollywood Lights directly.

If you are not a food vendor, you are not allowed to use a generator. No exceptions.

PHOTOS

If you are accepted as a vendor, we will post a photo of your choice (selected during the application process) and link it to your website once your application is accepted by the jury. This is an added benefit that provides extra exposure for our vendors. Please be sure to choose your photo carefully and include your website on the application if you have one. Once submitted, we cannot make any changes or corrections to the photo or website link.

Click the following link to see examples of what it will be used for on our website: [Salmon Days 2025](#)

PARKING

Vendors do not have access to special, designated or assigned parking areas. All vendors will receive an "Access Pass" that permits you to drive to your booth location once the police have closed the streets to the public for load-in/load-out. This pass only grants access to the closed streets for the purpose of loading in or out. Without this pass, security will not allow you entry during those times. Once the streets are closed to all vehicles, you are responsible for parking your vehicle in a legal parking space off the Festival grounds.

The Issaquah Police Department requires all vendors to display **Emergency Contact Information** (including your Name, Company Name, Cell Phone Number, and Booth Number) on the dashboard of your vehicle. While parking on the side streets and in surrounding neighborhoods is typically available early in the day, there are also pay parking lots managed by local Issaquah non-profit organizations as part of their fundraising efforts. Details about these parking options will be included in your vendor packet, which will be mailed to you in August.

LODGING

Lodging information will be supplied to you in your vendor packet. It will give you different options if you are from out of town. We negotiate with a few local locations and get a room block at a discount rate.

LOAD IN

Vendors on all Streets

Saturday, 10/03	6a-9a
Sunday, 10/04	6a-9a

Vendors in Field of Fun

Friday, 10/02	Noon-6p
Saturday, 10/03	6a-9a
Sunday, 10/04	6a-9a

Vendors on Hatchery grounds

Friday, 10/02	1p-6p
Saturday, 10/03	6a-9a
Sunday, 10/04	6a-9a

Foods of the World Vendors (Strictly enforced)

Saturday, 10/03	5:30a – 6a for food trailers 6:30a – 8a for non-trailer food vendors
Sunday, 10/04	6a–9a

LOAD OUT

Vendors on all Streets
Sunday, 10/04 When police deem it safe (*around 6:15p*)

Vendors in Field of Fun
Sunday, 10/04 When police deem it safe (*around 6:15p*)

Vendors on Hatchery grounds
Sunday, 10/04 When police deem it safe (*around 6:15p*)

Foods of the World Vendors
Sunday, 10/04 When police deem it safe (*around 6:15p*)

SHUTTLE

King County Metro will operate a shuttle between the Issaquah Transit Center (1050 17th Ave NW) and the Salmon Days Festival. The shuttle will stop at all existing bus stops along E Sunset Way, 2nd Ave SE, and Newport Way Sw. Please see below for more information about the bus stops that will be serviced.

Hours: Shuttles are planned to run every 15 minutes, beginning at 7am and the last will depart at 8pm both Saturday (10/3) and Sunday (10/4).

Route Number: The buses will be labeled as “Special.”

Cost: The cost of the shuttle ride (each way) is the standard bus fare: \$3.00 for people ages 19-64, \$1.00 for seniors 65 and over, Children 0-18 are free. Please see the Metro website for other fare information. All Metro & ST passes & transfers are accepted on Metro & Metro-operated ST service.

Bus Stops:

The shuttle will service the following stops:

- Stop #64593 Issaquah Transit Center - Bay 4 (SB)
- Stop #64480 E Sunset Way & 6th Ave NE (WB)
- Stop #64490 E Sunset Way & 5th Ave NE (WB)
- Stop #80480 2nd Ave SE & SE Andrews St (SB)
- Stop #65092 Newport Way SW & W Sunset Way (NB)
- Stop #64585 Issaquah Transit Center - Bay 3 (NB)

Route:

- Leave the Issaquah Transit Center and head east on I-90.
- Exit I-90 at exit 18 and head west on E Sunset Way.
- Turn left on 2nd Ave SE.
- Turn right on Front St S.
- Turn left on Newport Way SW.

- Stop at the exiting bus stop behind the Hatchery Education Building (stop# 65092, east side of the street, south of Newport Way SW & W Sunset Way).
- Continue to the Issaquah Transit Center via Newport Way.

The Salmon Days festival team sincerely appreciates King County Metro accommodating festival attendees. Information is subject to change

ROAD CLOSURES

- **Front Street** will be closed from Gilman Blvd to Newport Way SW from 6AM to 8PM on Saturday, October 3rd and Sunday, October 4th.
- **Sunset Way** will be closed between Newport Way and 2nd Ave, from 6AM to 8PM on Saturday, October 3rd and Sunday, October 4th.
- **Rainier Blvd S** will be closed from E Sunset Way to SE Bush Street will be closed from 6AM on Saturday, October 3rd to 6:30PM on Sunday, October 4th.
- **1st Ave SE** will be closed from E Sunset Way to SE Bush Street will be closed from 6AM on Saturday, October 3rd to 6:30PM on Sunday, October 4th.
- **SE Andrews St** will be closed from 1st Ave SE to Rainier Blvd S closed from 6AM to 8PM on Saturday, October 3rd and Sunday, October 4th.
- **SE Bush St** will be closed from 1st Ave SE to Rainier Blvd S closed from 6AM to 8PM on Saturday, October 3rd and Sunday, October 4th.
- **Rainier Blvd N** will be closed from Holly St to Dogwood St closed from 9AM to 12PM on Saturday, October 3rd.
- **NE Gilman Blvd** will have a revised traffic pattern to accommodate the Salmon Days parade from 9AM to 12PM on Saturday, October 3rd.

PARADE ROAD CLOSURES

The Grande Parade is back on Saturday, October 3, 2026. (See the attached map of where the parade route is.). Some businesses (and employees & customers) may be impacted during the Parade.

Parade Route

Starting at Confluence Park, the parade will proceed down Rainier Blvd N, before turning onto NW Dogwood St, and turning again to proceed north on Front St. Finally, participants will turn right and head down the south side of NE Gilman Blvd before reaching the dispersal area by Boehm's.

Parade Details

The parade is taking place on Saturday, October 3rd starting at 10am. **Roads in the staging and route area will be closed starting at 9:00 am and open after the last participant** (Recology) goes past.

As soon as the parade is over, all traffic revisions on NE Gilman Blvd will be removed and other streets will revert back to normal Festival configuration.

For more information:

<https://www.issaquahchamber.com/sd-2025-parade>

LOCAL ACCESS-ONLY POINTS

Besides the above road closures, there will be some areas that will be accessible during the Festival by locals only. The following is the areas (we will be adding to this):

- NE Dogwood will have a street closure barricade with a "Local Access Only" sign.
- W Sunset from the West entrance of the Hatchery going west to Newport Way will be open only for residents.
- SE Clark from 2nd Ave SE to Rainier Blvd S will have limited access to only ADA parking vehicles.
- Rainier Blvd S and 2nd Ave SE
 - o Alley behind Antique Importers
 - o SE Andrews Street
 - o Alley between SE Andrews & Bush
 - o SE Bush Street
 - o SE Croston Street
- NW Dogwood from 1st Ave NW to Rainier Blvd N
- 1st Ave NW from NW Dogwood to Sunset Way
- Ongoing streets being added

DISABLED PARKING

- Dollar Tree – 30 spaces
- Community Center – 15 spaces
- Issaquah Library – 4 spaces
- Bank of America – 2 spaces
- Confluence Park – 2 spaces

FESTIVAL ZONES/AREAS

The Festival is divided into several zones. Each area offers different types of booths and attractions.

Front Street

Front Street is the main artery of the Festival, stretching approximately 500 yards (roughly the length of 4 football fields)! This street alone hosts around 200 booths, featuring a mix of arts and crafts artisans, festival-fair type food booths, and a small number of sponsor booths. On the south side of the Festival, you'll find the Beer Garden.

West & East Sunset Way

West Sunset Way is highly visible and a popular area, as the hatchery is located halfway down on the south side. Many attendees visit to see the salmon, making it a highly sought-after attraction. Along the way to the hatchery, you'll find roughly 90 booths, including easy-to-carry food options from select food vendors.

East Sunset Way is also a prominent location, serving as a main route to other major attractions at the Festival, such as the Greenbelt, Foods of the World, and the Field of Fun. This street features approximately 50 booths, with a well-rounded mix of artists, food vendors, and a few sponsors.

Greenbelt

The Greenbelt features a scenic passageway leading down to the Community Center. Along the way, visitors can explore a diverse array of booths, primarily featuring arts and crafts vendors, with food, sponsor, and non-profit booths scattered throughout. At the south end of the Greenbelt, you'll find a Beer Garden and stage, drawing even more foot traffic to this already bustling area.

Field of Fun

The Field of Fun is a family-friendly section of the Festival, featuring activities and booths specifically designed for children. It's also home to the popular and exciting Dock Dogs competition. Along with face painters, henna artists, petting zoos, and animal-driven booths, you'll find arts and crafts vendors focusing on kids, families, and pets. The Field also offers a variety of kid-friendly activities, many of which are free, making it the perfect place for families to enjoy and explore together.

Foods of the World

'Foods of the World' is the Festival's main food court, featuring a diverse range of food vendors. While there are additional food booths spread throughout the Festival, this area alone offers something for every foodie. And dessert? Absolutely—there's plenty of that too!

Hatchery

Located off West Sunset Way, the Issaquah Hatchery is the most visited of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's hatcheries, making it the star attraction of the Festival. Tens of thousands of festival-goers cross the bridge to view the salmon returning home. On the hatchery grounds, you'll also find about 25 non-profit booths, many focused on environmental causes. The hatchery partners with the Festival to raise awareness about issues that impact both humans and wildlife. Bordering the south side of the hatchery grounds is the famous Kiwanis Salmon Bake, where they serve over 950 pounds of salmon each year, always a crowd favorite.

Viewing Areas to see the salmon

- The bridge on W Sunset Way (West of the Hatchery)
- Newport Bridge on Newport Way SW by Front St S (1999 Newport Way SW)
- NW Dogwood St west of Rainier Blvd N (200 NW Dogwood St)
- Confluence Park Bridge (655 Rainier Blvd N)

**For additional and/or more detailed information,
please read the 'Rules & Regulations.'**