

NC Watermelon Festival
Rules and Regulations – 2010

P.O. Box 3
Murfreesboro, NC 27855

March 8, 2010

Dear Potential Food Vendor:

The 25th annual N.C. Watermelon Festival will be held in Murfreesboro, July 28 – July 31, 2010. The committee is once again extending the opportunity for food vendors to offer food for all four days of the festival. The committee would like to expand the variety of foods offered to meet the requests of our festival patrons. All are encouraged to apply. Throughout the festival there will be entertainment on the grounds with street dancing every night.

The festival will be held on the lawn of the Hertford Academy for the Arts in the Murfreesboro Historic district. Approved vendors may begin selling food on Wednesday, July 28th, 5:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. The same schedule will apply for Thursday, July 29th. Food sales will begin on Friday, July 30th at noon until 11:00 p.m. and on Saturday, July 31st at 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. Vendors may serve food until the conclusion of the events each evening.

FEES: Food Vendor	\$265.00	All four days
	\$175.00	Two days
Civic Organization	\$175.00	All four days
	\$125.00	Two days

All vendors who prepare and cook food items also have a \$50.00 health inspection charge. If you only serve beverages, ice cream, smoothies, you do NOT need to pay this fee.

Food vendors may serve food two days or 4 days. Food vendors who wish to serve food for only two days may meet the requirements of **G.S. 130-A-250 (7) Exemptions** (enclosed) or be permitted as a Temporary Food Stand. All food vendors serving food for 4 days must be eligible for a Temporary Food Stand Permit (enclosed). Permitted Mobile Food Units will not have to meet any of the above requirements.

Specific details of the food service area must be submitted along with the application. Pictures of past events would be helpful. The Watermelon Festival Committee must know exactly how your booth will be set up. For example, you must tell us how you plan to cover your area, cover the

ground, heat water for dishwashing, implement hand washing and how you plan to protect the food you are serving from the elements and people. Also tell us how you plan to keep cold foods cold (45 degrees F) and hot foods hot (140 degrees F).

Attached is a copy of Rule .2635 **Requirements of Temporary Food Establishments and G.S. 130-A-(7) Exemptions**. Any food vendor not complying with the above requirements will not receive a permit to operate and will be asked to leave the festival if arrangements cannot be made to comply.

You are responsible for providing all of your set-ups such as tables, chairs, etc. All spaces will be 15' x 20'. If your equipment, product, or canopy will not fit this space, you will need to reserve an additional space. All generators for food vendors on the driveway side must be kept across the ditch to prevent noise from interfering with your business or the vendor next to you. Your vendor fee **does not include ANY electric. Electricity will be provided only to food vendors and at an additional cost of \$50.00.** This electric hook up is to be used for your vendor space and is **NOT** for plugging into an RV. For the \$50.00 for electric, you are guaranteed 1 – two plug outlet box. If you need additional outlets you may purchase another providing that we have the extra electrical space available. Food vendors need to use heavy duty outdoor extension cords, at least 12-2 with ground wire. There will be a fire and sanitation inspection prior to sale of food for any unsafe conditions. **No food can be prepared for sale at your temporary food establishment before your booth has been inspected and is approved.**

All applicants will be screened by the NC Watermelon Festival 2010 Food Vendor Committee. Primary factors considered for acceptance are menu choice, previous years participation, and timeliness of application return. Secondary factors include variety and appeal of product, presentation of unit and prior compliance with festival regulations. The screening process, electrical requirements and/or generator usage, and date of applications will be determinants of booth location.

The festival will provide security for vendors at the conclusion of the festival each evening (July 28 – July 31) until 7:00 a.m. Please make arrangements accordingly. **Application with vendor fees, a stamped self-addressed legal size envelope and one photo of booth set-up must be received by May 1, 2010.** All fees will be deposited upon receipt. If you are not selected to participate in the 2010 NC Watermelon Festival, we will return all fees you paid, in full. You will be notified of your application acceptance by May 15, 2010. If you have not received your approval packet by June 1st, please call me at (252) 398-8081 or (252) 396-1038. **The Festival Committee reserved the right to accept a limited number of food vendors with similar products and to reject any application and return all fees. The amusement ride company has exclusive rights on all cotton candy, candy and caramel apples, popcorn, caramel corn, sno-cones, funnel cakes, and polish sausage.** Food vendors **ARE NOT** allowed to sell these

items. Please note that anyone found in violation of NC Watermelon Festival regulations must leave the Festival and will forfeit their booth space and all fees.

The Festival committee regrets that we will not be offering dormitory rooms at Chowan University this year. I have attached a list of other accommodations available in our area. I hope you will find one of these that will meet your needs.

For safety reasons, you will not be allowed to take down and leave your space before the festival is over. The large amount of foot traffic through the food area makes it too hazardous for vehicles to be allowed in. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

We look forward to receiving your application and look forward to another great year.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Lorrie Barnes
Food Chairperson

Enclosures

(252) 398-8081
(252) 396-1038