

2026 Toccoa Harvest Festival Guidelines

Welcome to the 49th Annual Harvest Festival!

The Toccoa Main Street Program invites you to be a part of this premier Northeast Georgia tradition, drawing over 10,000 regional visitors each year.

Please review these guidelines carefully. Submit your application by **August 31, 2026**, to lock in early-bird rates.

Key Dates & Deadlines

- **August 31, 2026:** Application Deadline (Early-bird rate)
- **October 1, 2026:** Final Application Deadline & Last day for refunds
- **October 23, 2026:** Vendor Setup
- **October 24 & 25, 2026:** Festival Dates

Booth Fees

Vendor Type	Fee (By Aug 31)	Fee (Sept 1 – Oct 1)
Craft/Artisan Booth (12' x 12')	\$65	\$75
Professional Food Vendor (12' x 12')	\$225	\$250
Local Food Vendor (<i>Toccoa business license/health permit req.</i>)	\$125	\$150
Children/Adult Activity (<i>Limited space</i>)	\$150 + 10% of sales	\$150 + 10% of sales

Eligible Sale Items & Rules

Applications are reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. Spaces within each category are limited.

- **Allowed Items:** Must be homemade, home-baked, hand-crafted, or home-grown by the vendor.
- **Prohibited Items:** Commercial retail, manufactured, or mass-produced wholesale goods.
 - AI-generated art or digital prints not originally designed by the artist.
 - Mass-market plastic toys, flea market items, or secondhand yard sale goods.
 - Unaltered/blank commercial screen-printed apparel (locally designed, hand-printed, or embellished apparel is welcome).
 - **Exception:** Current Main Street Business District members may sell their retail items.
- **Vendor Restrictions (Physical Products Only):** To maintain the traditional market atmosphere of our Harvest Festival, booth spaces are limited to vendors selling physical products. Businesses looking to advertise services, distribute promotional marketing materials, or solicit future business will be declined.
- **Enforcement:** An authenticity committee will inspect booths. Non-compliant vendors will be required to leave immediately without a refund.
- **Stock:** Bring enough inventory to last the entire two-day event.

Application & Payment Process

Important: Do not send payment until you receive an official acceptance email.

1. **Apply:** Complete the digital application. (For hard copies, email ecanen@cityoftoccoa.com or stop by the Main Street Toccoa office).
2. **Submit Media in Application:**
 - **Craft/Artisan Vendors:** Submit a minimum of 3 photos (1 raw materials, 1 creation process, 1 finished product).
 - **Food Vendors:** Submit a photo of your truck/booth and a full menu. Max 2 vendors of similar food categories will be chosen.
3. **Review:** Please allow at least 2 weeks for committee review.
4. **Payment:** Upon approval, you will receive an email with instructions to pay via:
 - **Online:** Secure payment link (preferred).
 - **Check:** Payable to *Main Street Toccoa*. Mail to: 92 N Alexander St. Toccoa, GA 30577.

Check-In & Arrival (Crucial)

- **Arrival Route:** Enter the event area via **N Alexander St** and turn onto **Doyle St**.
- **Check-In Booth (Main Street Tent):** Stop here first to collect your information packet and booth assignment.
- **Unloading Rule:** You must **fully unload your vehicle and move it out** of the festival site before you begin setting up.

Festival Hours & Setup Timeline

Rain or Shine: This is a rain-or-shine event. Vendors must remain on-site for all hours of both days.

- **Festival Hours:** Saturday 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM | Sunday 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- **Friday Setup (5:30 PM – 9:00 PM):** **Warning:* Setting up before 5:30 PM results in a **\$25 fine**, payable before the festival begins. If you miss this window, you must check in and set up Saturday morning.
- **Saturday Setup (Begins at 7:00 AM):** All setup must be complete and vehicles removed by **9:00 AM**.
- **Vehicle Restrictions:** No vehicles allowed in the festival area during event hours. Late arrivals (after 9:00 AM Saturday) must hand-carry items. Unattended vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense.

Booth Space & Logistics

- **Size:** Spaces are exactly 12' x 12'. If your setup exceeds this, you must reserve and pay for additional space.
- **Tents:** Canopies are highly encouraged and **must be securely weighted down**.

Parking & Security

- **Designated Vendor Lots:** Do not park behind Doyle Street buildings (reserved for customers).
 - **Library Lot:** 53 W Savannah St. Toccoa, GA 30577
 - **Elementary School Lot:** 304 N Pond St. Toccoa, GA 30577 (field across from school)
- **Overnight Parking:** No overnight parking for vehicles, trailers, or campers on Friday or Saturday nights (assigned food trucks/trailers are exempt).
- **Security:** Toccoa Police patrols run through the night and periodically throughout the festival. However, Main Street Toccoa is not responsible for items left unattended or overnight.

Utilities: Water & Electricity

- **Electricity (\$25 per receptacle):** 120V outlets only. Power strips are **strictly prohibited** to prevent circuit overloads.
- **Water (Free):** Faucets located at the east and west ends of Doyle St. Vendors must bring their own transport/storage containers.
- **Generators:** Gas- or diesel-powered generators must be **pre-approved** by the Festival Committee. Battery-powered electric generators (portable power stations) are highly encouraged and exempt from fuel safety restrictions.

Generator Safety Rules:

- **Type:** Only quiet "Inverter" gas generators or silent battery-powered electric generators are allowed.
- **Placement:** Away from tents/canopies and at least 3 feet from public walkways.
- **Safety:** Must be cordoned off with a barrier (e.g., cones) to prevent public contact.
- **Exhaust:** Point completely away from people and paths; keep a 12-foot clear radius.
- **Refueling:** Turn off and allow to cool completely before adding fuel.
- **Fire Safety:** A working, up-to-date fire extinguisher must be within reach at all times.

Food Vendor Specific Rules

- **Waste Disposal:** Greywater or grease **cannot** be dumped into storm drains or public trash cans. All grease must be hauled off-site.
- **Fire Safety:** Class K fire extinguisher required for any grease/frying equipment.
- **Menu Adherence:** You may only sell items listed and approved on your application.
- **Food Permits:** Food vendors must comply with Stephens County Health Department regulations. The health department application will be emailed upon festival acceptance and must be submitted directly to them **at least 30 days prior** to the event.

Legal & Health Regulations

- **Liability:** Applicants assume all risks. The Toccoa Main Street Program and the City of Toccoa assume no liability for participant or attendee activities.
- **Pets:** Vendors are prohibited from bringing pets into the festival area.
- **Walkways:** Sidewalks and pedestrian pathways must remain completely clear.

Please retain a copy of these Guidelines for reference throughout the weekend.