

WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

WELCOME TO THE 2026 WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

Welcome to the 2026 World Food & Music Festival! We are thrilled to have you as a vendor in the 22nd year of The Festival and appreciate your continued support and enthusiasm! The Vendor Handbook includes information to assist you in navigating The Festival and The Festival site. The Handbook includes:

- Fact Sheet
- 2026 Food Vendors
- City of Des Moines Fire Regulations
- Festival Rules and Regulations
- Load-In & Load-Out Rules
- State of Iowa Health Department Regulations
- General and Emergency Information
- Guest Policies
- Event Location Map
- Site Map

Please review the materials in this Food Vendor Handbook as you and your employees are responsible for following all rules and regulations. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions as we get closer to The Festival. Thank you again for your participation and I look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,

Amelia Klatt

Director of Events

(515) 286-4917

aklatt@downtownDSMUSA.com

SEE YOU AUGUST 28 – 30, 2026!

#GLOBALDSM | #DOWNTOWNDSM
WORLDFOODANDMUSICFESTIVAL.COM

Presented by
Veridian.
CREDIT UNION

Produced by
**DOWNTOWN
DSM USA**

dm GREATER DES MOINES
PARTNERSHIP

WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

FACT SHEET

When: August 28 – 30, 2026

Time: Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: Western Gateway Park, Downtown Des Moines

What: World Food & Music Festival

Nearly 60 Food Vendors

Cultural Stage sponsored by Polk County

Main Stage sponsored by Prairie Meadows

Cooking Demonstrations in the Midwest Living Culinary Pavilion

Cultural Activity Pavilion sponsored by Polk County

Marketplace Vendors

International Beers

Cocktails and Canned Wine

Free Bike Valet

Admission: FREE to attend, thanks to our 2026 Sponsors!

Learn More: Website

Facebook

Instagram

#globalDSM

#DowntownDSM

WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

2026 FOOD VENDORS

- Africa Food & Snack
- Antojito's Lupita's
- Bah Kunda Kitchen
- Banh May Food Truck
- Boba Tea 168
- Bosco's
- Bubble Tea Kups
- Caribbean Kitchen
- Casa Ruiz
- Chikin Lickin
- Chinchilla Concessions LLC
- Chit Chaat n Chai
- Chocolaterie Stam
- Chowrastha Indian Grill & Eatery
- Cie Cie's Sweet Treaats
- Crème
- Creme de la Crepe
- Dumpling House
- Filipino Store
- Flame
- G.G.'s Chicken & Waffles
- German Taste
- Good Day DSM
- Hawaiian grill food truck
- Home Sweet Cone Ice Cream
- Ice lab
- Karam's Grill
- L&L European Delight
- Lao Flavors
- Leachmon Pit Stop BBQ
- Lyela's Kitchen
- Ma-Der Sap Sap
- Main Street Cafe & Bakery
- Mama Africa
- Mami Churros & Creamery.
- Monarca Gourmet Paletas
- Ninas Tacos
- Nomadic Fusion
- Off the Griddle
- Over the Top
- Pita'z
- Reyes Tamales
- Roadside Tacos
- Rolling Wok Asian Cuisine & Pho
- Sugar Daddy's Lemonade/Scimeca's Italian Sausage
- Taqueria 3 Hermanos
- Tarboosh
- Thai Street Food by Weena, LLC
- The House of Lumpia
- The Outside Scoop
- Tikka Talk Usa
- Tullpa Restaurant
- Vibes Kitchen & Bar
- Whip Delight
- Yanni's Grill

WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

LOAD IN & OUT INFORMATION

VENDOR LOAD IN

All vendors will receive one vehicle identification tag, that they will be required to place on their rearview mirror or dashboard. Only vehicles with The Festival approved hang tag will be allowed onsite for load in and out. All vehicles must drive on-site according to the in/out map (see next page).

Please bring a cart or wagon to facilitate unloading & loading. When loading in, please unload supplies, remove your vehicle from site, park, and return to set up your tent.

Trucks and trailers that require extra space to maneuver and park can arrange earlier set up by contacting Ashlynn by Thursday, Aug. 20.

VENDOR LOAD OUT

When ready to bring your car in, please find The Festival Staff to review your space and give you a load out pass. This pass will allow you to bring in one car with the hang tag.

When loading out, Vendors must have all items packed and ready to load before vehicles are allowed onsite.

Security will not allow you to bring your vehicle on-site without this pass for teardown.

TRAFFIC INSTRUCTIONS

To comply with fire regulations, a 20' fire lane must be always be kept open. When loading & unloading, please pull your vehicle up behind the existing row of cars or along the curb. One lane access must be kept open at **ALL TIMES. If a Festival Staff member asks you to move your car, you must comply.**

PARKING

The Festival does have limited vendor parking at 508 10th St (corner of 10th St. and Grand Ave.). Parking begins in this lot at 3 p.m. on Friday through midnight on Sunday.

The following parking locations are available to the public.

- Nationwide Parking Ramp – Free after 10 a.m. on Friday through Sunday.
- City Meters – Free after 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and all day Sunday

VENDOR LOAD IN & OUT

Thursday, Aug. 27

Preliminary Set Up

5 - 7 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 28

Event Set-Up

8 - 10 a.m.

**All vehicles must be off site by 10 a.m.*

Saturday, Aug 29 & Sunday, Aug. 30

Restocking

8 - 10 a.m.

**All vehicles must be off site by 10 a.m.*

Sunday, Aug. 30

Teardown

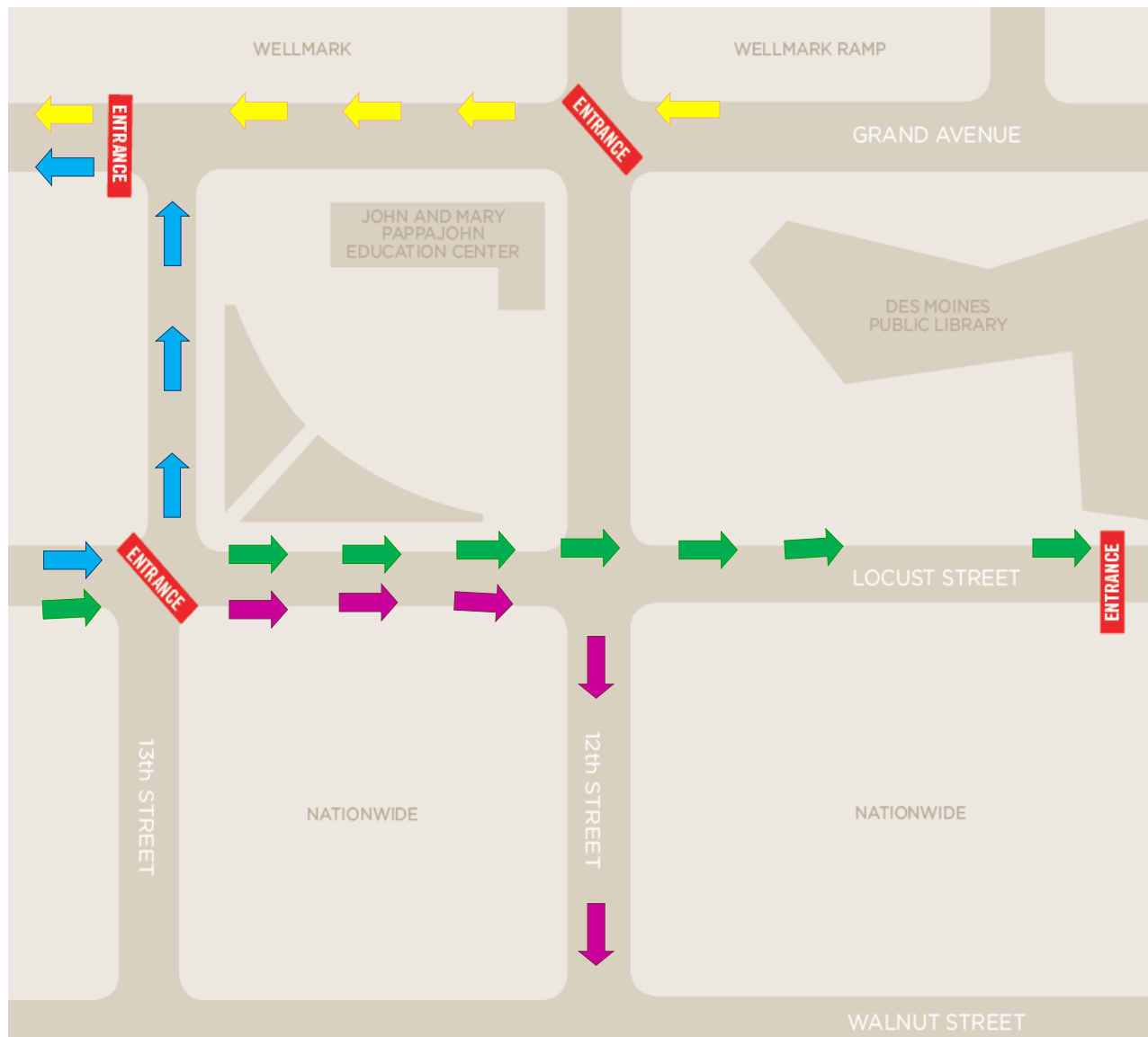
Begins at 5:30 p.m.

**Vehicles will not be allowed on-site prior to 6 p.m.*

Please find Festival staff to check out your booth space, once packed and approved staff will provide a load-out pass.

WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

LOAD IN & OUT MAP



KEY

YELLOW: Vendors on Grand Ave.

GREEN: Vendors on Locust St.

BLUE: Vendors on 13th St.

PURPLE: Vendors on 12th St.

#GLOBALDSM | #DOWNTOWNDSM
WORLDFOODANDMUSICFESTIVAL.COM

Presented by
Veridian.
CREDIT UNION

Produced by
**DOWNTOWN
DSM USA**

Produced by
cdm GREATER DES MOINES
PARTNERSHIP

WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

RULES & REGULATIONS

BOOTH SPECIFICATIONS

Each vendor is required to present a booth that represents their product in a professional clean manner. By fire code, no decorations are allowed to hang in the tent. All sales and services shall be made at the front serving area, not the sides or rear of your space.

The Festival will supply the following for tented vendors:

- Tented space
- Two 8 ft. long tables for 10'x10' tent or four 8 ft. long tables for 10'x20' tent
- Professionally designed signage displaying your vendor name and menu
- One ceiling light inside tent—no additional lighting is provided
- Shared, limited refrigerated truck space (these are not freezer trucks)
- Trash container for vendor-use only
- Portable water source (you must provide transportation of water)
- Electricity

The Festival will supply the following for food trucks:

- Space for truck and 10 feet in between next truck
- Electricity
- Professionally designed signage displaying your vendor name and menu
- Shared, limited refrigerated truck space (these are not freezer trucks)
- Trash container for vendor-use only
- Portable water source (you must provide transportation of water)

Any other items are the responsibility of the vendor. All elements must be in compliance with all health & fire regulations, including cooling equipment.

CASH & EXCHANGE

Please be prepared with your own change and cash. The Festival will not service this need.

ONSITE STORAGE

All equipment must fit **inside** your designated space. You are not allowed to place any items on the side of or behind your booth, trailer or cart. No items are to be placed on sidewalks. This includes: cooking, cooking supplies, chairs, etc.

GRILL SPACE

Grills and fryers are not allowed under tents. Food Vendors requiring extra space for a fryer, BBQ grill, or smoker must have already been requested on the Food Vendor Application and paid for with the submission of the Food Vendor Contract. Grill space will be attached to the side of your vending space and surrounded by fencing for safety. We will do our best to accommodate any onsite grill space requests, but cannot guarantee they will be granted.

WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

REFRIGERATED TRUCK

Three refrigerated trucks will be available on-site for use by all Food Vendors. Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. **To ensure an organized and efficient system, it is required that Food Vendors clearly label all products with their vendor name.** Products must be inside a plastic container with a lid to prevent contaminating other vendors' items. Trucks are to be used for food items only. Beverages are not allowed and are to be iced down to cool.

Trucks will be available for storage starting Thursday, Aug. 27 during load in. Everything must be removed from the trucks no later than 8 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 30. Items left in truck after this time will be tossed.

Truck locations are:

- Walnut Street (West of 12th St.)
- Corner of Grand (East of 12th St.)
- 13th Street (South of Locust)

ICE BAGS

Beginning Friday, Aug. 28 at 10 a.m., 20 lb. bags of ice will be available for purchase at \$7 per bag. Ice purchases will be on a pay-as-you-go basis (cash only). Any ice needed before Friday at 10 a.m. will be your responsibility to provide.

Ice bags will be located at the following soda tents:

- 12th Street near Locust St.
- 13th Street near Grand Ave.

TRASH & RECYCLING

Each vendor will have their own trash container. Food Vendors are not allowed to use public trash containers for their disposal. Empty cartons and boxes must be broken down and taken to the dumpster immediately after emptying. **The dumpster is located on Grand Ave. near 14th Street.**

Empty boxes are not allowed to be stored outside your vending space. Improper disposal of trash or recycling will result in the loss of your clean-up deposit. You are required to pull your trash container out in front of your tent at closing each night to be emptied by the waste disposal company.

WATER ACCESS

Potable water will be available at each end of the Festival site. Food Vendors are responsible for providing their own means of transporting water. The City of Des Moines Water Quality Regulations does not allow direct hose hook up to the water source.

Potable water stations are located:

- 12th Street near Locust St.
- 12th Street near Grand Ave.

WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

GREASE & WASTEWATER

Grease and wastewater containers will be provided for Food Vendors. There will be separate containers for each substance. Containers will be located next to each refrigerated truck location. **It is illegal to dispose of grease or wastewater in rivers, streets, flowerbeds, grass areas, and storm water drains.**

It is mandatory that each Food Vendor lays down non-flammable covering underneath your cooking area and extend beyond to catch all grease splatters. Using cardboard or tarps for this purpose is not allowed.

Waste Water & Grease disposal areas are:

- Walnut Street (West of 12th St.)
- Corner of Grand (East of 12th St.)
- 13th Street (South of Locust)

ELECTRICITY

No other form of generator or electrical service other than that provided by The Festival is permitted. The Festival does not guarantee any last-minute electrical changes. All extension cords are the responsibility of the Food Vendor. Extension cords must be a minimum of 12-gauge/3 wires and 25 feet long. Cord must be secured to keep them off the ground.

Food truck/trailer will be provided with a 14-50R 120/240V RV receptacle for connection. It will be the responsibility of the food vendor to contact an electrician to have an adapter made or purchase an adapter to make the connection from their food truck/food trailer to this receptacle. Adapters will NOT be available onsite for purchase or assembled. If you arrive at the event without the proper adapter to make connection, you will NOT have power. On board or external generators are NOT allowed for use at this event.

Food vendors in a tent will be provided a 50A Load Center consisting of (6) 20A circuits. Be aware of the power requirements of each appliance (Amps) not to exceed the power supplied. Any appliance with a heating element will require (1) circuit. This includes crockpots, rice cookers, toasters, food warmers as examples. Failure to calculate amperage needs is the responsibility of the vendor and not the event or electrical provider. **Electricity will be available starting at 8 a.m. on Friday, August 28 and will be turned off Sunday, August 30 at 5:30 p.m.**

ATM LOCATIONS

ATMs are located on-site at:

- Corner of Locust St. and 12th St.
- Grand Ave. and 13th St.

WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

SIGNAGE & BANNERS

The Festival will professionally design signage displaying the vendor's name and menu. The menu information that is listed on your contract is what will be printed. **All other signs or banner must be pre-approved by The Festival before being used. Festival management, in its sole discretion, has the right to remove any signage during the event.** All Festival signage displaying the vendor's name are the property of The Festival. You are not allowed to take signage from The Festival site. Festival signage is not to be written on, covered, or altered in any way. Failure to follow signage rules will result in loss of the clean-up deposit.

If any menu items are to be temporarily sold out, please contact Festival Staff for a "temporarily sold out" sign to place on your menu. This item must be restocked for later in The Festival and the following days.

FOOD TICKETS

The Festival has \$2 taste tickets to encourage purchases from on-site sponsors and volunteers. Please treat these tickets like cash with a \$2 value. These cannot be exchanged for cash. Please collect all tickets to be redeemed. **Tickets will be collected on Sunday from 5 – 6:30 p.m. at the Information Booth. All vendors are required to bring tickets to the Information Booth on Sunday for redemption.**

Food Vendors should only accept the ticket pictured below:



WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

LEGALITY

HOLD HARMLESS

By participating as a Food Vendor at the 2026 World Food & Music Festival, all vendors and their on-site representatives, employees, and volunteers agree that the World Food & Music Festival, the Greater Des Moines Partnership, including its Board of Directors, sponsors, and employees and volunteers, shall not be held responsible for the damages to or for the loss or deconstruction of the vendors' property or injuries to the vendor or their representatives, employees, or volunteers; all claims for such loss, damage, deconstruction, or injury are expressly waived by the vendor. Additionally, it is understood that vendors are responsible and accountable for the conduct and demeanor of their employees, volunteers, and representatives.

FOOD VENDOR CONTRACT AND FEES

Food Vendors will not be permitted to participate without a signed contract and paid vendor fees prior to The Festival. Fees include: booth space, grill space, electricity and clean up deposit.

Failure to do so may result in the termination of participation.

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE

Each Food Vendor is required to submit proof of liability insurance. The Liability Insurance requirement is \$1,000,000.00 minimum.

"Description of Operations"

Downtown Events Group is additional insured for the World Food & Music Festival August 27-30, 2026.

"Certificate Holder"

Downtown Events Group
700 Locust Street, Suite 100
Des Moines, IA 50309

TEMPORARY FOOD LICENSE

All Food Vendors shall meet all state and city health safety requirements. Food Vendors will be subject to daily health inspections by event staff and the State Health Department. Failure to pass inspection will result in the immediate closure of Food Vendor's booth. A Temporary Food License/Mobile Food License is required by the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, & Licenses.

All applications, including license fee, must be submitted to the State of Iowa before The Festival. Onsite licenses will not be issued.

WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

CLEAN UP DEPOSIT

Vendors are responsible for returning their vending area to its original condition. Failure to do so will result in, at the sole discretion of The Festival, the loss of the clean-up deposit.

The following actions may result in total or partial loss of the clean-up deposit:

- Leaving behind any items such as: equipment, trash, grease buckets, etc.
- Writing or damage to Festival signage
- Grease stains left on street, sidewalks, etc.
- Garbage, boxes or any trash left at booth space
- Removal of liquids in city drains, flower beds, sidewalks, etc.

All equipment and trash must be removed from the booth space and Festival grounds by 8 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 30. Spaces will be evaluated during teardown. Vendors will be notified via email after The Festival if their deposit check is going to be cashed.

IOWA SALES TAX

All Food Vendors must have a State of Iowa tax identification number before the start of The Festival. All vendors, except those with a State of Iowa Sales Tax Exemption number, must collect and pay the Iowa State Tax Commission 7% sales tax on gross receipts. You will need to apply for a tax license from the State and provide your TAX ID to The Festival staff.

The State of Iowa, Department of Revenue Auditors will have a list of participating vendors and will contact you if you fail to report and pay sales tax. Failure to pay taxes will result in exclusion from participation in future Partnership produced events.

If you have any questions, please call the Iowa Department of Revenue and Finance at (515) 281-3114.

Learn more here: <https://tax.iowa.gov/>

SECURITY

There will be 24-hour security on-site for The Festival beginning Wednesday, Aug. 20. Only those with Festival credentials will be allowed on the event site during non-public hours, set-up and teardown times. Security presence does not guarantee against theft or loss; rather it is to supplement any precautions that you already take. Food Vendors are responsible for their own security with respect to cash, equipment, goods or supplies. The Festival is not responsible for lost, stolen, and/or damaged property of Food Vendor.

Private security and Des Moines Police will be on-site during Festival hours.

WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

CITY OF DES MOINES FIRE REGULATIONS

PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

- LP gas cylinders shall be limited to those required by the cooking device and one (1) spare set. All empty and full LP cylinders shall be secured at a location away from the event. All containers/cylinders shall be secured to prevent falling.
- When using LP gas for temporary cooking operations, an ABC multi-purpose portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 5-B rating is required by **ALL** vendors. See picture below.
- When using LP gas for temporary cooking operations using oil to deep fat fry food (eggs rolls, donuts, corn dogs, French fries, etc.), a portable fire extinguisher with a “**Class K**” rating is required. See picture below. You are also required to have the red ABC multi-purpose extinguisher as well.
- All portable fire extinguishers **MUST** have a current DMFD Extinguisher Service Tag affixed to the extinguisher or the Food Vendor will not be allowed to operate. These service tags may be obtained from most fire extinguisher service companies in the Des Moines Metro area.



Questions?

Des Moines Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau
(515) 283-4237
2715 Dean Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50317

www.dsm.city/departments/fire/fire_prevention.php

STATE OF IOWA HEALTH DEPARTMENT GUIDELINES

See **TEMPORARY FOOD SERVICE AND LICENSE GUIDE** for all State of Iowa Health Department Guidelines.

Questions?

Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, & Licenses

Lucas State Office Building, Third Floor
321 East 12th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319
(515) 281-7689

<https://dia.iowa.gov/food-consumer-safety>

#GLOBALDSM | #DOWNTOWNSM

WORLDFOODANDMUSICFESTIVAL.COM

Presented by
Veridian
CREDIT UNION

Produced by
DOWNTOWN
DSM USA

Produced by
gm GREATER DES MOINES
PARTNERSHIP

WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

The World Food & Music Festival is subject to all types of emergency situations including, but not limited to, weather, fire and civil disturbance. WFMF is responsible for the safety and protection of its participants and patrons. The Festival's role in an emergency situation is outlined in a detailed plan; however it can be said briefly that the primary role of the Festival staff in an emergency situation is their ability to communicate with Festival participants and patrons.

City officials have ultimate command of any threatening emergency. Festival officials have ultimate command of weather-related emergencies. Specific plans for Police, Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services are developed by the agencies.

All public information will be released from The Festival Spokesperson at a location determined by the Festival staff at the appropriate time during any emergency. **The Festival Spokesperson is the only person who is authorized to speak on behalf of The Festival in an emergency situation or evacuation.**

Festival staff will take the necessary steps to ensure the safety of all participants and patrons in the event of an emergency. The Festival staff will determine what steps are needed to make The Festival ready for operation following an emergency. All communications are authorized by The Festival Team Leader or Spokesperson.

The Festival maintains communications with the City Emergency Management office, National Weather Service and continuous weather radar in the event that a weather communication net is established.

Festival staff will communicate all situations to vendors in the event of an emergency.

PRIMARY SHELTERS:

- Nationwide Parking Garage at 1100 Walnut Street

DO:

- Immediately notify a security member, police officer, or Festival staff if you are to see anything strange or unusual

DON'T:

- Handle the situation by yourself
- Attempt to move an injured person who is not able or willing to move on their own

WORLD FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

FESTIVAL POLICIES

For the safety and enjoyment of all guests of the World Food & Music Festival, please observe the following Festival policies:

- No outside beverages are allowed within The Festival site. For safety reasons, glass bottles are prohibited within The Festival site by guests or vendors. Revenue from on-site beverage sales allows The Festival to remain an admission-free event.
- Alcoholic beverages are sold within the World Food & Music Festival site to patrons 21-years and older presenting valid identification. Regulations require that alcoholic beverages purchased at The Festival remain on-site. On-site security will ask guests to dispose of any alcoholic beverages before they exit or enter.
- State of Iowa law prohibits smoking inside any structure, dining area or entertainment area on The Festival grounds.
- Unauthorized solicitation or distribution of fliers is not allowed on The Festival site.
- Vendors who are not contracted with The Festival are not allowed to sell or distribute merchandise or materials on The Festival site.
- Buskers and/or entertainers who are not contracted with The Festival are not permitted.
- Bikes, skateboards, roller blades, and large signs or placards which may endanger or inconvenience guests attending the World Food & Music Festival are prohibited on-site. Bikes must be walked through The Festival site. Free bike valet is available at Grand Avenue near 13th Street.
- Be kind to your pets – guests are encouraged to leave pets at home when visiting The Festival. Pets are highly discouraged for the safety of the pet due to the large number of people. Pets must be on a short leash. Festival guest may be asked to leave if they don't have proper control of their pet and its behavior. City regulations state that service dogs are allowed on The Festival site.
- The World Food & Music Festival reserves the right to decline admittance to anyone who violates the reasonable policies established for public safety or to restrict activities such as public address to designated areas.
- All packages are subject to search.
- Weapons of any kind are not allowed on The Festival site.

