

52nd Annual Grand Bay Watermelon Festival

July 3-4, 2026

ODD FELLOWS FESTIVAL PARK

10327 Taylor F. Harper Blvd., Grand Bay, AL 36541

Website: www.grandbaywatermelonfestival.org

Crafter or Commercial Application

July 3rd – 3 to 7 pm and July 4th – 10 am to 5 pm

Gate will open for Vendors on July 3rd at 10 am, and on July 4th at 8 am only

RULES

- **Vendors are responsible for all sales tax – both collection and payment.**
- The Grand Bay Watermelon Festival is a family event and **smoking/vaping is not allowed** in the Festival area. **Pets are also not allowed** in the Festival area. **No alcohol is allowed anywhere in the park.** Please ensure that your representative(s) know and abide by these rules.
- Vendors can set up on July 3rd between 10 am–2:30 pm, and restock booth on July 4th between 8–9:30 am. Weather permitting, booths may be lowered and left in place overnight on the 3rd as gates will be locked and security will be on site. You have the option of opening one day or both, but we would like to have all booths put up on the 3rd if possible. If you only open on the 4th you can just lower your tent and/or close the sides.
- All vendors will have **15 minutes** to unload their vehicle to their booth and then **must** have vehicles moved to either the Vendor parking area or general parking. Booths can be set up **after** vehicles are moved. **ABSOLUTELY NO vehicles allowed** in festival area between the hours of **2:30 – 7 pm** on July 3rd and **9:30 am to 5 pm** on July 4th. **Vehicles will not be allowed back to your booth outside of designated times, unless the Festival is called closed because of weather by the Festival Director.** Any vehicles necessary at your booth during the event **must** be **pre-approved** by the Festival Director **when you send in** your application and cannot be moved during festival times. You **must** check in with the Festival Director or Event Coordinator before set-up for booth assignment. Main Street location is facing the front of the dirt road between the Watermelon truck and the Children’s Entertainment. Others will be between Main Street and the Gazebo. Not all booth spaces are level; there are many trees (for shade) and some tree roots above ground. For Main Street, get your application in early. First come, first served with a maximum number of booths.
- **NO** food items can be distributed or sold from your booth unless pre-packaged, labeled, and pre-approved by Festival Director or/and the Mobile County Health Department.
- Reserved Vendor parking is available, provided by the Festival Committee. On site camping in Vendor parking is available, with prior notice, for completely self-contained campers – fee for electricity will be charged.
- **If you are a first-time vendor with us**, please provide at least 3 photos of your booth/exhibit items.
- The Grand Bay Watermelon Festival Committee reserves the right to accept or deny any exhibit. Any vendor not complying with rules and/or conducts themselves in an unprofessional manner will be asked to leave the grounds. **All decisions are FINAL.**
- Crafters and Commercial are encouraged to have insurance, listing Grand Bay Watermelon Festival as ‘Certificate Holder’ on their Certificate of Insurance (COI). Touching of the public, i.e., face painting, applying make-up, etc., are required to have a minimum of \$1,000,000 insurance policy. Information for COI: Grand Bay Watermelon Festival, 10327 Taylor F. Harper Blvd., Grand Bay, AL, and can be e-mailed to: eventscoordinator@grandbaywatermelonfestival.org, or mailed.
- All booth spaces will be assigned by Festival Director or Event Coordinator.
- **FEES: Electricity - \$35 extra** (*if available – call for availability before sending application*)
Crafters – \$50 (10 X 10), Main Street **add \$50.00**; \$90 (10 X 20), Main Street **add \$90**; other – inquire.
Commercial – \$100 (10 X 10), Main Street **add \$75.00**; \$175 (10 X 20), Main Street (10 X 20) **add \$125.00**; other – inquire. **One vehicle pass provided per vendor for July 4th. All others must pay admission fee of \$5. Fees includes both days (buy one, get one free).**

Make Check, Cashier's Check, or Money Order payable to: Grand Bay Watermelon Festival.

Application **and** payment can be mailed to: *Grand Bay Watermelon Festival, P.O. Box 1022, Grand Bay, AL 36541.* Other Payment options: CashApp: \$GBWatermelonFestival (no fee for CashApp). PayPal also accepted, **Add 4% PayPal fee**, at: <https://www.paypal.me/GBWatermelonFestival>

A little history and information about us:

Who we are: The Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs

MOTTO: "Friendship, Love, Truth"

We are the family of Odd Fellowship, composed of Men, Women, and Youth, believing in a Supreme Being, Creator and Preserver of the Universe (God), who have come together in our local communities having the same beliefs and values as others, that Friendship, Love and Truth are the basic guidelines that we need to follow in our daily lives. Through working in our local Communities, States, Provinces, or Nationally we understand that we can make a difference in the lives of people in our World.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) began in 18th Century England, it was deemed **odd** to find people organized for the purpose of giving aid to those in need without recognition and pursuing projects for the benefits of all mankind. Our deep history in North America began with the United States and Canada in 1819, and is continually expanding throughout the World where we are a worldwide fraternity in 26 countries. Grand Bay Lodge #73 was formed in 1873. The Lodge Charter was at Freeland Lane in downtown Grand Bay. The Lodge Charter was renewed in 1984 and is now located at Grand Bay Odd Fellows Festival Park.

The Rebekah's are also a Fraternal Order of the IOOF, as well as a Service Organization. Grand Bay's Martha Rebekah Lodge #29 was chartered in 1984. Rebekah's exhibit the true principles of Odd Fellowship which are Friendship, Love, and Truth and are extended to rendering service to our communities – SERVICE IS OUR GOAL. Ideally, an Odd Fellows lodge is a place for fellowship in all its forms, from hanging out and just having fun, to discussion, to networking, to collaboration on creative and constructive projects, all with an eye not only on our own satisfaction but on what we might offer to the community at large.

The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs are striving to make the world a better place in which to live, seeking: To Improve and Elevate the Character of Mankind.

Do you believe that Friendship, Love and Truth should be the basic guidelines to live by?

Do you believe in a supreme being, the creator and preserver of the universe (God)?

Do you want to make a difference? **YES?** Then we need you! **Your community needs you! For information and meeting times call us at: 251-865-3456.**

APPLICATIONS can be mailed or e-mailed and MUST BE received by June 12, 2026

**2026 Grand Bay Watermelon Festival
Craft or Commercial Application**

Company: _____

Name of person(s) representing at the Festival: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Numbers with area code: (H/W) _____ (C) _____

Email Address: _____

(Circle one) Craft / Commercial, brief description of items offered, so you will not be set up by someone selling similar items:

Booth size request: (Check all that apply: size, Main Street, and Electrical)

Crafter: _____ 10X10; _____ 10X20; Other: _____ Main Street _____ (Add \$50/\$100)

Commercial: _____ 10X10; _____ 10X20; Other: _____ Main Street _____ (Add \$75/\$125)

Only one electrical outlet available for each booth (110 volts only) _____ (Add \$35)

I plan to set up on July 3rd _____; I can't set up until July 4th _____.

Payment must be made when application is submitted. No personal checks accepted after June 5th.

To pay by CashApp: \$GBWatermelonFestival (no fee charged for CashApp payments)

Other Payment option: PayPal, **Add 4% for PayPal fee:** <https://www.paypal.me/GBWatermelonFestival>

For questions, contact Patty at 251-865-3456 or eventscoordinator@grandbaywatermelonfestival.org

RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION:

I/We, the undersigned participants listed below, specifically assume any risk and release the GRAND BAY WATERMELON FESTIVAL (GBWF), INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS (IOOF) GRAND BAY LODGE #73, and MARTHA REBEKAH LODGE #29, from any and all causes of action, claims, demands, liability, damages, or any accidents, injuries, or lost articles during the Festival. I/we agree to indemnify and hold them harmless from any and all costs of any kind whatsoever (including attorney's fees and court costs), causes of action, claims, demands, liability, or damages relating in any way to the GRAND BAY WATERMELON FESTIVAL's functions and/or events, whether caused by, or allegedly caused by any acts, intentional, negligent, contributory, or otherwise by the GRAND BAY WATERMELON FESTIVAL's agents, officers, or directors, or Acts of God.

I/We have read the updated rules and agree to abide by the rules as set forth in this application (first page) and understand that a failure to abide by these rules may result in our expulsion from the festival. I will ensure that my representatives know these rules and will abide by them, especially no smoking, no pets, no alcohol, and no vehicles allowed in Festival area during Festival times. No refunds. No exceptions.

Print name: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

Application accepted by: _____ Date: _____