

45th Annual Grayson Day



Once Upon a Time in Grayson...

The town gathered each year for the Grayson Day Festival, a beloved tradition of fun and community spirit.

In this packet, you'll find general information, festival rules, and parade regulations to help make this 45th celebration the best yet!

Saturday, April 26, 2025

10 AM to 4 PM

Location: Grayson City Park

475 Grayson Parkway, Grayson GA 30017

Our "Once Upon a Time" Theme

Literacy is the foundation of success—shaping education, economic opportunities, and overall quality of life. Research shows that children who struggle with reading by third grade face greater challenges in school and beyond.

In Georgia, 61% of rising fourth graders are not reading proficiently, we recognize the urgency of promoting literacy as a community priority.

That's why this year's Grayson Day parade theme is

"Once Upon a Time"

—a celebration of the magic of storytelling and the power of books to inspire, educate, and connect us.

Through stories, we learn about our world, our history, and each other. Whether through fairy tales, history, or personal journeys, stories remind us of where we've been and where we're going. By embracing this theme, we highlight the importance of reading in shaping young minds and strengthening our community.

We invite all vendors, participants, and float designers to join in the fun! Dress up as your favorite storybook character, from classic fairy tales to beloved literary heroes.

Let your creativity shine by incorporating the "**Once Upon a Time**" theme into your float designs—think castles, magical adventures, and legendary tales.

Together, we'll transform Grayson into a living storybook, creating a parade filled with wonder, imagination, and community spirit. We can't wait to see the stories you bring to life!

General Information

Thank you for your interest in participating in the 45th annual Grayson Day festival in the community park in beautiful Grayson, GA on Saturday, April 26th, 2025 from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM.

This wonderful event is an annual tradition that brings the Grayson community together for a fun day of fellowship in the heart of Grayson. We will have vendors featuring hand-made crafts, commercial products, food, and advertisements as well as games and activities for children.

- All vendors must submit a completed application and a sample photo of their items/products to be considered for acceptance. Do not mail or email us your photo separately from this application. Do not mail or email us samples of your items/products.
- Our map and layout have changed, if you like the same booth as last year, it is not guaranteed but you can request the area in the special requests section of this application.
- Electricity is limited and will be available on a first-come basis accompanied by payment. All vendors applying for advertisements understand that electricity is not available to them.
- All vendors will be required to provide their own tent/canopy, tables, chairs, and display materials.
- All tents must be weighted, as staking is prohibited for this event. For safety reasons, tents without weights will not be allowed to be set up. If a City of Grayson official discovers a tent has been set up without weights and left unattended, they will take it down and leave it in the booth space. All unsecured tents are a safety hazard and can cause harm to park visitors.
- **The City of Grayson reserves the right to limit menu items for food vendors.**
- Grayson Day is a dog-friendly event. Grayson City Park has dog stations throughout the park for you to clean up after your dog. The City of Grayson staff will not clean up after your dog.

General Information

- The requirements for each type of vendor are listed below:
 - **Craft, Antiques, and Commercial Vendors:**
 - Completed application
 - A photo of the items to be sold (a photo of the type/kind of item not of every item)
 - Application fee upon approval
 - **Food and Concession Vendors:**
 - Completed application
 - Complete menu listing each menu item and cost
 - A photo of your booth set up showing signage
 - A copy of your ServSafe Certificate or Food Service Permit
 - Application fee upon approval
 - **Advertisement (no product sold):**
 - Completed application
 - A sample of the literature to be handed out
 - Application fee upon approval
 - **Schools/Sports Fundraisers or Civic Groups:**
 - Completed application
 - A full list of items to be sold and cost
 - Application fee upon approval

Festival Rules

- All vendors will be required to provide their own tent/canopy, tables, chairs, and display materials.
- All tents must be weighted, as staking is prohibited for this event. For safety reasons, tents without weights will not be allowed to be set up. If a City of Grayson official discovers a tent has been set up without weights and left unattended, they will take it down and leave it in the booth space. All unsecured tents are a safety hazard and can cause harm to park visitors.
- A dumpster will be provided for the disposal of trash. Each vendor is responsible for cleaning the booth area at the end of the festival. If trash is left in the booth area or piled around a trash cart, the vendor will not be invited back and will not be allowed to participate in future City of Grayson events. DO NOT leave stacks of trash at your booth location. Take all shipping boxes, wrapping, packing material, etc. TO THE DUMPSTER which is in the parking lot next to the Senior Center.
- The Grayson Day Festival is held in an outdoor venue. Every attempt will be made to provide a level area for booth space, however, as an outdoor venue it is understood that there will likely be areas that have uneven terrain due to either a slope or root, etc., on the ground. In addition, this is a dog-friendly event. We have dog pot stations in the park for visitors to clean up after their dogs. Please be prepared to clean your area if a dog makes a mess. We do not have staff available to clean up after dogs.
- Exhibitors may only sell items from the category for which they have been selected. For example: You may NOT sell food in a craft booth.
- Cancellations that occur after acceptance in the show will result in a loss of all fees.
- No rain date due to rain or any other weather-related incidents.
- Electricity will be provided only to those exhibitors who pay the designated fee at the time of application. You will have access to (1) 20 AMP outlet for fans, phone chargers, small items, etc. This is NOT adequate for fryers, warmers, kitchen equipment, etc.
- Each exhibitor is responsible for collecting sales tax and sending it to the State at the conclusion of the festival.

Festival Rules

- NO SOLICITING FROM OUTSIDE THE DESIGNATED BOOTH AREA. To respect attendees and the investment in the festival by vendors who have purchased booths, no distribution of materials, no collection of contact information or signatures, or other similar solicitations are allowed on the festival premises, except at festival booths which festival attendees visit voluntarily. You must remain in your booth space. If you choose to walk around the festival to distribute or sell, you will be asked to leave the facility.
- All exhibitors agree to have all vehicles unloaded and out of the festival area by 8:30 AM. No vehicles will be permitted to drive into the festival area after 8:30 AM. NO EXCEPTIONS! No refunds due to late arrivals.
- All exhibitors agree to have their booth set up and ready for viewing by 10:00 AM on Saturday. The booth may not be dismantled or moved before 4:00 PM on Saturday.
- Exhibitor parking will be located in the designated areas on city property and other areas such as churches or businesses nearby. Handicap parking for exhibitors will be available in the Kennerly Cox House lot located at 2070 Rosebud Road. Handicap tag/decal must be visible in or on the vehicle.
- Exhibitors will provide all display props including tent, tables, and chairs. The City is providing the space only.
- Only those items listed and accepted on your application will be permitted in your booth during the festival.
- Silly string and “popper” are strictly prohibited. Vendors are not to sell or give away these items.

Rules and Restrictions per Vendor

Crafts & Fine Arts Vendors - All crafts must be handmade—mass-produced, imported, or manufactured items, as well as raw materials, are not permitted. Items must be in good taste, with no references to race or religious prejudice. Wholesale items may not be resold as crafts. Additionally, the crafter must be present at the festival.

◦ Restrictions:

- Jewelry - all items must be designed and created by the exhibitor.
- Ceramics - Only hand-painted items will be accepted. No commercially made items will be sold as a craft.
- T-Shirts - Must be hand-painted. Silk-screened t-shirts will be classified as commercially made items.
- Framed items - Must be painted or worked by hand. Framed reprints and other framed items will not be considered a craft.

Commercial space is available for such items not made by hand.

Commercial Vendors - Commercial products are defined as any product not completely handmade.

School Fundraisers Vendors - School Fundraisers are defined as groups from a school that are raising funds for a specific purpose. Example: A sports team selling spirit wear or discount cards or an academic group selling items to travel to a competition.

Advertisement Vendors - Advertisement booths are defined as booths that advertise a commercial product or service, even if there is a “special” item being sold at the festival. Advertisement booths do not have access to electricity. Private Schools that are advertising their business are not considered a school fundraiser and, therefore, will pay the advertisement fee.

Rules and Restrictions per Vendor

Food & Concession Vendors - A ServSafe Certificate or Food Service Permit is required. A copy must be provided with the vendor application or the application will be rejected. The City reserves the right to limit the amount of menu items. Menu items must be submitted in the application. Only items approved are to be sold at the festival.

- Restrictions:
 - Trailers (including tongue) must be no longer than 20 feet. If the trailer is longer the exhibitor must pay for two spaces. Generators must be in a self-contained vending trailer.
 - All trailers must be in their designated space by 8:00 AM on Saturday. Trailers arriving after 8:00 AM will not be permitted to set up. Exhibitors are encouraged to set up on Friday afternoon.
 - All supplies must be kept on hand during the show. Deliveries of food items will not be allowed during the festival.

Exhibitor agrees to move ALL trash items to the dumpster that will be located next to the Senior Center. No food wraps, boxes, cartons, or bottles of discarded oil are to be placed in the rolling trash carts that are provided for the festival visitors. ALL trash is to be placed in the dumpster. Failure to comply with this rule will result in not being invited or included in future festivals.

Rules and Restrictions per Vendor

All Exhibitors -

- Do not create your own Facebook event for Grayson Day. It causes confusion among attendees and opens the door for scammers. We have had issues with this in the past and if we see that you have created an event, you will be asked to remove it. You can reshare OUR event from the Get into Grayson Facebook page. Noncompliance will result in the vendor application being rejected from the event with no refund.
- You are not allowed to use the City of Grayson, Grayson Day, or any other City logo/image on or in your products. Noncompliance will result in the vendor being asked to leave the event immediately with no refund.

Parade Rules

- The parade Line Up begins at the Grayson Library (700 Grayson Pkwy) and the Parade Ends on Britt Street.
- NO vehicles will be allowed to park at the Library during the parade. If you are walking in the parade you must leave your personal vehicle off-site and walk to the library.
- The committee reserves the right to alter, combine, or move your entry based on the number of participants and your type of entry.
- NO ONE will be allowed to turn around in the library nor can you turn around on Bennett Road to drop off parade participants.
- **DO NOT plan to have your group meet at the library.**
- We suggest that you meet your group at a separate location and travel together in the vehicle you will be in or walk together to the parade line-up.
- All entries are to be at the parade line-up no earlier than 8:30 a.m. and no later than 9:30 a.m. the morning of the parade.
- DO NOT park any, including parade, vehicle in the library parking lot. You will be placed in the line-up upon arrival. The Parade Committee reserves the right to deny participation to entries arriving after 9:30 am.
- If you wish to be announced by the emcee, please display a banner so he can identify your group.
- **Only 1 vehicle for each entry, business, or group.**
- All entries must carry or include identification easily readable from the front and both sides.
- The City of Grayson requires each entry that is throwing candy to have 2 walk-along adults for the safety of the children along the parade route.
- Horses or other animals will only be allowed by obtaining permission from the parade coordinator beforehand.
- Animal owners are required to have current veterinary health certificates for their animals.
- All Animal entries are required to have a person performing the task of “pooper scooper” behind each animal group.
- Each horse entry must have a walk-along escort for the safety of everyone in the parade route.
- Amplified sounds ARE allowed and encouraged!
- Gwinnett County Police will be on hand to assist and direct.

Parade Rules

\$100 Cash prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

- Mayors Award - Best Overall Entry
- Award for the Best Commercial Entry
- Award for the Best Non-Commercial Entry
- Award for Spirit of Grayson Entry

*Remember to reference the theme of this years' parade in your designs.

The purpose of the Grayson Day Parade is to provide an atmosphere of fun. It is intended to achieve this through active participation in the parade itself or by being spectators enjoying the sights of the parade and festival. While adults may enjoy participating in the parade as spectators or participants, the overall intent is to entertain the youth of Grayson.

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