



NCSTATE FAIR QUICK GUIDE

STATE FAIR HOURS

Gates

Thursday, Oct. 16: noon - 11 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 17 & Saturday, Oct. 18: 9 a.m. - midnight

Sunday, Oct. 19 - Thursday, Oct. 23: 9 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 24 & Saturday, Oct. 25: 9 a.m. - midnight

Sunday, Oct. 26: 9 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Fairgoers must purchase admission tickets and be inside the gates prior to 9:45 p.m. There is no re-entry after 9:45 p.m.

Exhibit Halls

Oct. 16 – noon to 9:45 p.m.

Oct. 17-26 – 9 a.m. to 9:45 p.m.

Midway

Oct. 16 – noon to 11 p.m.

Oct. 17 & 18 and Oct. 24 & 25 – 10 a.m. to midnight

Oct. 19-23 & Oct. 26 – 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

MEDIA PARKING

Parking for staff and media is Gate C at Carter-Finley Stadium. The lot is available through a Gate C parking hang tag assigned to your media outlet by the Public Affairs Division. A shuttle will run every 15 minutes from Gate C to Fairgrounds Gates 3 and 12.

PRESS OFFICE

The press office is located on the 2nd floor of the Kerr Scott Building. Working space, Wi-Fi and restrooms are available for working members of the media. Hours are Oct. 14-16, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Oct. 17-27, 8 a.m. to 9:45 p.m.

PRESS OFFICE STAFF

Staff can be reached at the Press Office at 919-839-4662

- Andrea Ashby, Director, Andrea.Ashby@ncagr.gov
- Heather Overton, Assistant Director, Heather.Overton@ncagr.gov
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- Jackie Bullock, NCDA&CS Office Manager, Jackie.bullock@ncagr.gov

WEB RESOURCES | NCSTATEFAIR.ORG

Check out the Newsroom section of the website www.ncstatefair.org for high resolution photos, logos, and the latest blogs and news releases.

Follow the N.C. State Fair social media accounts for all the latest information on the fair and once it gets started, tune in for a live look at the action. The N.C. State Fair is on Facebook, Instagram, Threads, X and TikTok @ncstatefair. #ncstatefair #homegrownhappiness

VENDOR WIFI PASSWORD

t@k3it3@sy#

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2 to 5 p.m. **Great Pumpkin and Watermelon Weigh-Off**, Agri Supply Expo Center
- Thursday, Oct. 16, at noon – **Gates Open!**
- Thursday, Oct. 16 - Primetime with the Pack, **N.C. State Students can take advantage of \$8 admission with student ID**
- Friday, Oct. 17, 11 a.m., **Opening Ceremony**, Midway Events Center Construction site, North of Dorton Arena
- Friday, Oct. 17, 2 p.m., **Tobacco Stringing Contest**, Heritage Circle
- Sunday, Oct. 19, **State Fair Sensory Day presented by Bandwidth**
- Tuesday, Oct. 21, 9 a.m., **Senior Fun Fest**, Waterfall Stage
- Wednesday, Oct. 22, **Duke Energy Military Appreciation Day**, 10 a.m. parade; 10:45, ceremony, Waterfall Stage
- Thursday, Oct. 23, **Smithfield Foods Hunger Relief Day**, free admission with six cans of food
- Friday, Oct. 24, 2 p.m., **Mock Tobacco Auction**, Tobacco Pavilion, Heritage Circle
- Sunday, Oct. 26, 10 a.m., **Livestock Hall of Fame Ceremony**, Graham Building
- Sunday, Oct. 27, 2 p.m., **Junior Livestock Sale of Champions**, Graham Building

PARKING & PARK AND RIDE

- All parking in N.C. State Fair-operated lots is free.
- Accessible parking is available on a first-come, first-served basis outside Gate 10 off Trinity Road, with overflow accessible parking inside Gate B at Carter-Finley Stadium.
- Free parking is available at Carter-Finley Stadium daily.
- Free parking is available at Lenovo Center, except during event days at the Arena.
- Free parking is also available at our satellite lots. The Cardinal Lot at 5766 Chapel Hill Road offers accessible trams straight to Gate 7. The Bandwidth Dogwood Lot at 4501 Reedy Creek Road offers accessible busses to the tunnel across the street from Gate 8 at Carter-Finley Stadium.
- Ride-share services, taxi transit and fairgoer drop off should use entrance off Hillsborough St. and enter the fair through Gate 1.
- Ride with GoRaleigh to the Fair! Park at Garner Station (behind Goodberry's) and ride the bus to the fair. Round trip is \$5. Shuttle runs every 30 minutes and drops off at Gate 1.

PRICES

Prices	Advance	Gate*
Adult, ages 13-64	\$10	\$13
Military Adult	N/A	\$8
Youth, ages 6-12	\$5	\$7
Child, ages 5 & under	Free	Free
Senior Adult, ages 65+	\$5	\$5

*Advance tickets are available through Oct. 16 online and at Gate 9 of the State Fairgrounds. See website for other locations and discount packages.



HOME GROWN MUSIC FEST

THURSDAY, OCT. 16
SAY LESS THE BAND
JON SHAIN & FJ VENTRE

FRIDAY, OCT. 17
THE GENIUS PARTY
DALLAS TETNUS
TRE. CHARLES
STORY CHARLEMAGNE
BIG FAT GAP

SATURDAY, OCT. 18
LYDIA SALETT DUDLEY &
JAZZ XPRESSIONS
FOLKKNOT
ELIZABETH MCCORVEY
YAKAMASHII

SUNDAY, OCT. 19
ROBERT HUNTER
CHRISTINA EAGLE
PARKER DUNCAN
AVEN FAMILY BAND
MONDAY, OCT. 20
RESERVED PARKING
FANCY GAP
MEGAN DOSS

TUESDAY, OCT. 21
THE EMBERS
FUNKELSTILTSKIN
MASSIVE GRASS

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 22
MILITARY DAY PROGRAM MUSIC
MORGAN CREEK BLUEGRASS

THURSDAY, OCT. 23
MORGAN HUDSON BAND
DUCK
PUREBRED MUTTS

FRIDAY, OCT. 24
DRAGMATIC
EMANUEL WYNTER
STRIKING COPPER
JOSH DANIEL
ZACK LEE

SATURDAY, OCT. 25
MARCEL PORTILLA BAND
THE PHOEBES BAND
TENNESSEE JED FISHER
EMILY BURDETTE BUO

SUNDAY, OCT. 26
SCHOOL OF ROCK RALEIGH
LANDSLIDE - A TRIBUTE TO
FLEETWOOD MAC
EVAN BLACKERBY
PICKARD MOUNTAIN

CURTIS MEDIA
LIVE & LOCAL
WATERFALL STAGE

N.C. STATE FAIR
HERITAGE CIRCLE
BLUEGRASS STAGE

UNDER CONSTRUCTION: NEW, COMPLETED AND FUTURE PROJECTS AT THE N.C. STATE FAIRGROUNDS:

The State Fair is under construction. Over the next several years fairgoers should see several improvements made on the grounds. A few projects include:

Midway Events Center: Steel is in place and the new building is on target to open before the 2026 N.C. State Fair. (Coming soon!)

Bathroom Renovation and Repair work includes bathrooms at Kiddieland and Grandstand. New construction for Gate 8 bathrooms.(completed)

Significant **asphalt replacement** on the grounds (completed)

Roof replacement for five facilities including Graham Building, Grandstand, Commercial and Education Buildings. (ongoing)

Flower Show building replacement (to be completed before 2026 N.C. State Fair)

Holshouser Building renovation (to be completed before 2026 N.C. State Fair)

N.C. STATE FAIR SELFIE CHALLENGE

- ☐ State Fair Waterfall
- ☐ Field of Dreams
- ☐ Casey Cardinal
- ☐ Giant Pumpkin
- ☐ Flower Garden Chair
- ☐ Livestock Show
- ☐ Favorite Food
- ☐ Blue Ribbon Winner
- ☐ Photo Booth Station
- ☐ Favorite Ride
- ☐ State Fair SkyGazer
- ☐ Got to Be NC Jeep
- ☐ Big Smokey Bear
- ☐ State Fair Flyer

SHOW US YOUR SMILE! #ncstatefair

NORTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR DEEP FRIED BINGO

Taste: A Funnel Cake	Ride: State Fair SkyGazer	See: Got to Be NC Area	Hear: Waterfall Stage Act	See: Giant Veggies
Watch: Monster Trucks	See: The Baby Pigs	Watch: Cast in Bronze	Ride: A Roller Coaster	Thank: State Fair Staff
Hear: Children Laughing	Taste: A Corn Dog		Watch: The Fireworks	Meet At: The Waterfall
See: Smokey Bear	Visit: Casey Cardinal	Taste: A New Food Item	See: Livestock Show	Visit: Germ City
Thank: A Food Vendor	Taste: A Fried Food Item	See: A Blue Ribbon	Visit: Heritage Circle	Ride: The Carousel

SNAP A SELFIE, OR IT DIDN'T HAPPEN!
#NCSTATEFAIR

DUKE ENERGY MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY

The State Fair is partnering with Duke Energy to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Military Appreciation Day. Thanks to Duke Energy's sponsorship, military personnel, with proof of identification, plus one guest will gain free entry into the fair on **Wednesday, Oct. 22**.

Activities saluting the service of military men and women will be held throughout the day, with events kicking off at 10 a.m. with a parade through the fairgrounds, followed by performances by the **440th Army Band** at 10:45 and 11:15 a.m. and at 12:30, 3:30 and 5:30 p.m. A Military Uniform Revue will be presented at 2:30 p.m. by the N.C. Department of Cultural and Natural Resources.

NEW FREE ENTERTAINMENT

(complete line up of fair entertainment is online at www.ncstatefair.org or check the daily schedule):

Cowboy Andy Rotz Wild West Show: A high energy, rapid fire wild west extravaganza including: world-class trick roping, whip crackin', gun spinning, knife throwing and K-9 performance. (Near Gate 10)

Conjurer Fortune Machine the Zoltar-style automaton fortune machine that dispenses cards with a fortune. With the Conjurer Fortune Machine, fairgoers will press a button to activate the real live Conjurer who offers funny insights and advice before handing out a souvenir fortune card with an inspiring message. (Near Scott Building)

Cast in Bronze: Returning after several years to Heritage Circle. Cast in Bronze consists of 35 bells, with a total weight of four tons each. This act is the only travelling carillon in the world.

HIGH SCHOOL RODEO

New this Year: Grab your boots and catch the High School Rodeo at the Hunt Horse Complex on Monday, Oct. 20, and Tuesday, Oct. 21, at 7 p.m. Events include bulls, broncs, barrel racing and more. Tickets to the Rodeo can be purchased online in advance or at the Hunt Horse Complex on the day of each event.

DID YOU KNOW?

The **Village of Yesteryear** first opened at the Fair in 1950.

Dorton Arena, which completed construction in 1952, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.

The **Waterfall** opened at its current location in 1999.

The **State Fair Flyer** first opened at the N.C. State Fair in 2016.

Final attendance for the 2024 N.C. State Fair was 998,926, the sixth largest in the fair's 156-year history.

Several competitions at the 2025 N.C. State Fair will celebrate **America's 250th**. Check out decorated trees, flower arrangements, cooking competitions, hay bales and more!

For more State Fair fun check out the Scavenger Hunts and Games section of our website.