

SAFETY TIPS FOR THE SHENANDOAH APPLE BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

Festival Fun & Safety

The City of Winchester wants everyone to have a fun time, but more importantly, a safe time. With a little pre-festival planning, you and your family can enjoy all the parades and events safely. Police and fire/EMS Medical Aid Stations will have a presence throughout the festival weekend to assist you. We urge you to follow the laws and act responsibly to avoid unintended consequences.

Detour Routes & Street Closures

The streets designated as Parades or races will be closed and the Detour Routes (refer to map) will become effective as listed below. The city will open the streets to traffic as soon as the Parades have cleared.

Friday: The *Firefighters' Parade* route will close at 3:00 pm until approximately 8:30 pm.

Special note: at 3:00 pm, the area around Handley High School will close for the *Kids Bloomin' Mile*. The race begins at 4:00 pm and ends at 5:30 pm. The course begins and ends on Handley Blvd in front of the Grandstand, the race wraps around the High School campus.

Saturday: The *10K Race* and *Grand Feature Parade* routes will close to all traffic at 7:45 am and will remain closed until the end of the parade at approximately 7:00 pm. There are no exceptions.

Downtown Parking

With all the street closings and parking restrictions, the parking garages are the best alternative for you and your family. All downtown garages are an easy walk to the Parades or the Midway. Parking can only be paid for by credit card only, **NO CASH**.

Special Note: The Braddock Street Parking Garage will be closed during Apple Blossom.

Friday: Garages will open at 9:00 am. The fee is \$15.00.

Saturday: Garages will open at 8:00 am. The fee is \$15.00.

Handicap Parking

Handicap parking will be available in all three parking garages and at Handley High School in the student parking lot

Drink Responsibly

Persons attending any Festival event on public streets or grounds are prohibited from consuming alcoholic beverages or being in possession of an open container that contains alcoholic beverages. This includes the Parade routes and designated seating areas, the Old Town Midway, and the Carnival. Local ordinance offenses are punishable by fines or arrests.

Consumption by persons aged 21 years or older is allowed at Festival events within approved areas and restaurants where state licenses have been obtained. Be responsible and designate a driver.

Personal Safety Tips

- Plan a designated meeting place and emergency plan if family members are separated. If you have lost a child or parent, call 540-662-4131 for assistance
- Hydrate with water often
- Don't forget your medications
- Dress for the elements
- Be aware of what is going on around you

Medical Assistance

A Medical Aid Station is located at South End Fire Station on Monmouth St., and medical personnel staged at the end of the Parade route on Gerrard and Cameron Streets, plus other emergency units at various points along the parade route. If you need medical assistance and cannot get to the emergency station or units on your own, dial 911 for emergency service.

Towed Vehicles

Parade line-up routes and traffic detours create changes to on-street parking areas close to all of the events. Do not park on streets marked "Closed to Parking" – pay close attention to parking restriction signs or your car will be towed. If your vehicle does get towed, contact the non-emergency assistance line at 540-662-4131 to get its location.

Seating on the Parade Route

Parade-goers have many options to find seating that is convenient to parking and many concessions. The Festival, civic organizations, and church groups rent chairs on the Parade route. Many people bring their own chairs to watch the Parades. For safety reasons, chairs must stay on the sidewalks. You may sit in the cross streets once the parade routes are closed to traffic. However, you may need to move for emergency vehicle passage.

Important phone numbers

Information Resource Center
Street closings, detour routes,
handicap parking
540-533-1382 or 540-533-0234

**Winchester Police Department
Assistance (non-emergency)**
Lost children, towed vehicles, etc.
540-662-4131

City of Winchester

Apple Blossom Detour Routes

DETOUR ROUTE ACTIVATION

FRIDAY @ 3:00 PM:
remains in effect until the end of the
Firefighter's parade (~8:30 PM)

SATURDAY @ 7:45 AM:
remains in effect until the end of the
Grand Feature parade (~7:00 PM)

