

# Rochester Juneteenth Festival 2026

## Safety & Security Guidelines

**Please read before you arrive.** These guidelines are in effect for the full duration of the festival. Your cooperation helps ensure a safe and joyful celebration for all guests.

### 1. Entry & Security Checkpoints

All guests must enter through the designated security checkpoints. Please be prepared to open your bag for inspection upon arrival.

<p><b>GENERAL ADMISSION</b>  <b>Court Street Checkpoints</b>                  Enter through Checkpoint A or Checkpoint B on Court Street. Both are fully staffed. Allow extra time during peak entry hours.</p>	<p><b>WHEELCHAIR &amp; ADA ACCESS</b>  <b>Manhattan Square Drive</b>                  Dedicated ADA entrance on Manhattan Square Drive, near the Strong Museum of Play.</p>
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- All guests and their belongings are subject to screening upon entry.
- Security staff may use handheld metal detectors and visual bag inspections.
- ADA guests may be accompanied by one (1) personal care attendant through the accessible entrance.
- Mobility devices, wheelchairs, scooters, and strollers are permitted and are not subject to size restrictions.
- If you need additional accessibility assistance, please notify a staff member at the Manhattan Square Dr. entrance.

### 2. Clear Bag Policy — New for 2026

**New this year:** The Rochester Juneteenth Festival has implemented a Clear Bag Policy at all entry points to enhance safety and speed up entry for all guests.

ALLOWED BAGS	NOT ALLOWED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Clear plastic, vinyl, or PVC bags no larger than 12" x 6" x 12"</li> <li>✓ Small clutch purses 4.5" x 6.5" or smaller (with or without a strap)</li> <li>✓ Clear gallon-size zip-lock bags</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ Non-transparent bags of any kind</li> <li>✗ Backpacks (including clear backpacks)</li> <li>✗ Non-clear fanny packs</li> <li>✗ Tote bags (unless clear and within size limit)</li> <li>✗ Luggage or large coolers</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Medical and diaper bags (subject to inspection)</li> <li>✓ Camera bags and accessibility equipment bags (subject to inspection)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ Bags with excessive external attachments or pouches</li> </ul>
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- All bag contents are subject to visual inspection at entry.
- Prohibited items found during inspection will be confiscated and may not be returned.
- **Medical exception:** Guests requiring non-clear bags for documented medical needs should contact Festival staff in advance or proceed to the ADA entrance on Manhattan Square Dr.
- Organizers reserve the right to deny entry to any bag that does not comply with this policy.

### 3. Prohibited Items

The following items are strictly prohibited from the festival grounds. Guests found in possession of prohibited items will be asked to remove them from the premises or will be denied entry.

#### Weapons & Dangerous Items

- Firearms or any deadly weapon (concealed carry not permitted regardless of license)
- Knives, box cutters, or bladed weapons
- Pepper spray, mace, or chemical irritants
- Tasers or stun guns
- Fireworks, explosives, or flares

#### Other Prohibited Items

- Outside alcohol (not purchased at the festival)
- Illegal substances or drug paraphernalia
- Glass bottles or containers
- Large (golf/beach) umbrellas — compact umbrellas permitted
- Unauthorized professional recording equipment or drones
- Laser pointers
- Bicycles, skateboards, or non-mobility scooters inside grounds
- Pets (ADA-certified service animals are welcome)

Prohibited items found at security will be confiscated. The festival is not responsible for storing or returning confiscated items. Please leave prohibited items at home or in your vehicle.

### 4. On-Site Safety & Emergencies

#### Medical & First Aid

- First Aid stations are located at the middle of the festival grounds — look for the red cross signage.
- For a medical emergency, immediately alert the nearest security officer or festival staff member.
- **For life-threatening emergencies, dial 911** and notify on-site security simultaneously.
- Guests with known medical conditions are encouraged to carry identification of their condition and any necessary medications.

### Lost Persons & Reunification

- The Festival Information Booth is the designated Lost Person Reunification point.
- If a child is separated from your group, alert the nearest staff member immediately.
- **Children's wristbands** with guardian contact information are available at the information booth — we strongly encourage their use.

### Emergency Evacuation

- In the event of an emergency requiring evacuation, follow all directions from security personnel and law enforcement.
- Proceed calmly to the nearest marked exit — do not run or push.
- Do not return to the grounds until an official all-clear is announced.
- Announcements will be broadcast over the public address system.

### Severe Weather

- Festival operations may be suspended in the event of severe weather.
- Guests should seek shelter in designated areas if lightning or severe storms are detected.
- Real-time updates will be posted to the official Rochester Juneteenth Festival social media pages.

## 5. Guest Code of Conduct

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The Rochester Juneteenth Festival is a celebration of freedom, community, and culture. We are committed to providing a welcoming, safe, and respectful environment for everyone.

- Treat all festival-goers, staff, and performers with dignity and respect.
- Harassment, discrimination, or threatening behavior will not be tolerated and may result in immediate removal from the grounds.
- Disruptive or unlawful conduct will be reported to Rochester Police Department personnel on-site.
- Guests who appear intoxicated or impaired may be denied entry or asked to leave for the safety of the community.
- Please supervise children in your group at all times.
- Littering is prohibited — please use the designated waste and recycling receptacles throughout the grounds.

**See something, say something.** If you notice suspicious activity or a safety concern, please alert the nearest festival staff member or security officer immediately.

## 6. Contacts & Entry Quick Reference

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<b>Emergency</b>	Dial 911 or locate the nearest uniformed security officer immediately.
<b>Security Command Tent</b>	Located near the Main Court Street Checkpoint (Checkpoint A).
<b>General Entry</b>	Court Street — Checkpoints A & B. Open throughout festival hours for all standard guests.
<b>ADA / Accessible Entry</b>	Manhattan Square Drive, near the Strong Museum of Play.
<b>Information &amp; Reunification</b>	Festival Information Booth — Front of the festival grounds.
<b>First Aid Stations</b>	Middle of the festival grounds

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*Thank you for helping us keep Juneteenth safe, joyful, and free for everyone.*