



**2026 Ohio Challenge Hot Air Balloon Festival
FOOD VENDOR APPLICATION FORM
Smith Park – Middletown, Ohio
July 17-18, 2026**

Hours of operation for food vendors are: Friday July 17th 4pm to 10:30pm
Saturday July 18th 4pm to 10:30pm
Vendor Entrance at 805 Columbia Ave, Middletown, OH 45042

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE (All areas MUST be **legibly** filled in.)

Registration Fees are subject to change at the discretion of Ohio Challenge Committee prior to notice of acceptance of application.

\$600.00 per site – Food & non-alcoholic beverages*

*** Lemon Shake-Ups, Lemonade and Lemon Smoothies may only be served by APPROVED Lemonade Vendors**

Carefully review the Rules and Regulations provided. Sign and return this application only if you are fully in agreement with the terms and conditions stated herein along with your registration fee and a valid, current Certificate of Liability Insurance naming The Ohio Challenge as an additional insured for the duration of the event. A photo of your truck, trailer, tent or booth must be provided with this application. Ohio Challenge has sole discretion to determine how many food booth spaces/sites vendor occupies based upon truthful information provided by applicant with this application or upon request of event personnel. After acceptance a written notice of confirmation will be sent to you by e-mail. **Registration fee must be received with application for consideration.**

The Undersigned hereby applies to reserve a food booth space at the 2026 Ohio Challenge Hot Air Balloon Festival and agrees to abide by all rules and regulations of The Ohio Challenge and the City of Middletown - Health, Parks & Grounds, and Fire Departments.

Food Vendor _____
Contact Name _____
Address _____
City / State / ZIP _____
E-Mail Address _____
Alternate E-Mail Address _____
Daytime Phone # _____ Evening Phone # _____ Cell # _____

(Please provide no less than TWO **different** Phone Numbers for contact purposes)

Complete list of desired food and/or beverage items to be sold (Please be specific; attach separate sheet if needed):

Size of Trailer _____ or Tent _____ or Truck _____
(Indicate size in feet for both length [side that faces customers] and width) • ***Include tongue hitch or drop gate in measurement***

Depth needed: Depth _____ Specify electrical needs - either 220 or 110 _____

Pick One: I will apply for a Temporary Food Service License _____ **or** I have a Current Mobile Food Service License _____

Approved vendors will be listed in promotional materials and contact information may be shared with event sponsors.

Indemnification:

To the fullest extent permitted by law, you (the vendor) shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless The Ohio Challenge Hot Air Balloon Festival, the City of Middletown, Ohio, sponsors of the event and their respective employees, directors, officers, agents, volunteers and other persons acting on their behalf from and against any and all claims, actions, suits, causes of action, or demands which arise or are in any way connected with the acts or omissions of you, your employees, directors, officials, agents, volunteers or other persons acting on your behalf. **LIABILITY: The City of Middletown, Ohio Challenge Balloon Festival Committee**, its sponsors and volunteers assume no liability for loss or damages to a vendor's wares or property occurring during the festival or resulting therefrom.

Signature _____ Date _____ Amount Enclosed _____

**Return Food Vendor Application Form and Registration Fee to:
The Ohio Challenge, Attn: Food Vendors, 1505 S. Breiel Blvd. Middletown, OH 45044**

Visit www.ohiochallenge.com for additional information regarding the event
Email: mt Dixon45044@gmail.com for more information regarding application.

Application Deadline: April 30, 2026

Application window may be adjusted in the sole discretion of the Event Management based on available space

Make Check Payable to: The Ohio Challenge (The current bank fee will be assessed for any returned checks. A cashier's check or money order in the amount of any returned check plus the current bank fee will then be required for payment.)

The Ohio Challenge Food Vendor Rules & Regulations

1. FOOD LICENSE: All food vendors must have either a temporary food service license from the City of Middletown Health Department or a current mobile food service license from their Ohio health district. **Vendor** must apply for a temporary permit or provide a copy of their mobile license **directly to the City of Middletown, Department of Health, in advance**. See *Temporary Food License Information & Application* and *Health Department Guidelines for Temporary Food Service Operations* documents (available by request to mtdixon45044@gmail.com). Contact Middletown City Health Department at 513-425-1818 or Fax a copy of your mobile license to FAX 513-425-7852 **no later than June 18th, 2026**.
2. REGULATION COMPLIANCE: Vendors must comply with State of Ohio and City of Middletown Health, Fire Department, Electrical & Parks & Grounds rules and regulations and all applicable statutes and ordinances. Initial and periodic inspections will be made of all vendor facilities. Vendors will not be permitted to operate during the event if they are unable to pass all required inspections. See *Fire Extinguisher Requirements* and *Smith Park Electrical Diagram* documents (available by request to mtdixon45044@gmail.com).
3. INSURANCE: Vendors must provide a valid certificate of Liability Insurance, **naming The Ohio Challenge as an additional insured**. VENDORS WILL **NOT** BE ASSIGNED SPACE UNTIL CURRENT VALID INSURANCE CERTIFICATE IS RECEIVED. *Your certificate must extend coverage through the last day of the event (July 19) if you are not leaving until Sunday morning and must include Thursday (July 16) if arriving for early set-up. Failure to provide Certificate of Liability Insurance may delay acceptance of application.* If your insurance renews or changes after the application is submitted you must provide an updated Certificate of Liability Insurance.
4. COST: \$600 per site to sell food and/or non-alcoholic beverages. Event Management has sole discretion to determine if Food Vendor set-up occupies more than one space. Discounts may be offered by Event Management in their sole discretion subject to any advertised terms. **Full payment must be received with application**. Only vendors who have received written confirmation of approval as Lemonade vendors may serve Lemonade, Lemon Shake-ups, Lemon Smoothies, Lemon Granita or anything substantially similar.
5. FOOD VENDOR HOURS: 4:00pm to 10:30pm Friday and Saturday, rain or shine. A commitment to these hours is required. Early break-down may result in ban from future events. ***Note required set-up time for inspections on Friday**. Vendors may pack up after the event closes on Saturday night or on Sunday morning, Certificate of Insurance absolutely must include Sunday if you do not break down fully on Saturday. Individuals remaining overnight/camping on park premises is strictly prohibited.
6. CHECK-IN & SET-UP: Each vendor is responsible for supplying their own set-up equipment, setting it up, taking it down and cleaning up their area. All tents and other items must be firmly secured or tethered to prevent them from blowing away in high winds. All vendors are required to check in by Friday (July 17) near the 4-way stop just inside the park's Tytus Avenue entrance upon arrival at the festival site if arriving before park closes or at 805 Columbia Ave if arriving after the Tytus Avenue gate has been shut. Check-in and set-up is 8:00 am – 12:00pm on Friday (July 17). Booths must be fully set up for inspection no later than 2:00pm on Friday (July 17). **Failure to check-in/set-up on time could result in refusal of entry with no refund**. The Food Vendor Committee will assign booth location. Booth spaces will not be changed once assigned except as may be required by Event Management in their sole discretion. Early set-up may be available Thursday evening (July 16) depending on other scheduled uses of Smith Park.
7. ELECTRICITY: Only 110V (20A/120V outlet) and 220V (50A/230V outlet) electrical hook-ups are available. **It is the vendor's sole responsibility to connect to these hook-ups**. Electrical needs must be furnished with application. Vendors shall supply all adapters and power cords, subject to inspection and approval by the City of Middletown and/or Fire Marshal – maximum cord length 200ft. (*Electrical Diagram is available*).
8. WATER: Water hook-ups are available at most sites. Vendors must supply proper sanitary water hose (NSF 61), connections and check valve. Vendor is responsible for any damage caused by leaks in their equipment.
9. VEHICLES: Each vendor will be given **two (2)** Vendor Parking Passes upon check-in to park a vehicle and/or supply trailer, if needed, in the assigned Vendor Parking area located at the festival site. **Additional Parking Passes may be purchased in advance at a cost of \$20.00 each (Total Space is Limited)**.
10. VENDOR BOOTH RESTRICTIONS will include, but may not be limited to: Vendors must sell goods only from their assigned concession area. No hawking, obstructive signs, loud music, or public address systems. Use of golf carts by vendors is strictly prohibited. Each food and/or beverage item to be sold must be listed on application. Prices for all items being sold at the event must be posted in writing which is clearly visible and readable by event attendees. The Event Management reserves the right to request concession or menu changes. Approved menu items will be confirmed with acceptance. You will only be permitted to sell confirmed items. Menu changes requested after acceptance will be considered on a case-by-case basis. While the committee will attempt to limit excessive duplication of items by various vendors we do not guarantee exclusivity of any food or beverage item to any vendor.
11. PETS: Pets, other than ADA service animals assisting individuals with handicaps are prohibited.
12. REFUNDS: Registration Fees will not be returned or refunded for any reason after June 22nd, 2026. No refunds of registration fees will be offered due to inclement weather. No refunds will be made due to cancelation of some or all of the hours of operation by Event Management due to inclement weather, acts of nature, or other circumstances beyond the control of the event organizers.
13. GREASE: Food Vendors are solely responsible for ensuring that they dispose of any grease or oil waste in a safe, responsible and lawful manner. **DUMPING OF GREASE ON THE GROUND OR IN TRASH CANS IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED! All trash and residue must be removed from the site.**