

## Vendor Application for Great Smoky Mountain Veg Fest 2025



Thank you for your interest in being a part of Friends with the Forest inaugural summer festival! We are seeking vendors who align with our mission of creating a healthy, compassionate, and regenerative community that makes conscious choices. Do you promote or sell products/services that encourage eco-friendly, cruelty-free, and healthy living? If so, this event is for you! Friends with the Forest honors the gift of living, respect, and freedom for ALL beings and species. To align with our mission of love, kindness, and compassion for all to thrive, we kindly ask that you do not bring any products that contain the following items to the event: meat, dairy, eggs, honey or beeswax, leather, silk, gelatin, feathers, fur, or any other animal-derived ingredients. We also request that items do not contain harmful plastics or styrofoam, and are as eco-conscious as possible.

**\*Before applying, feel free to contact us at [friendswiththeforest@gmail.com](mailto:friendswiththeforest@gmail.com) to be sure your business/organization aligns with our mission. All vendors will be provided with a 10'x10' space to place your tent/table unless other space requirements are specified. We look forward to collaborating with you!**

**\*The deadline for applications and payment is July 1st, 2025. Payments may be made via cash, check, Venmo, or credit/debit card.**

Dear Earth Advocates,

It's time to give summer in Bryson City the celebration it deserves! On Saturday, July 19, 2025, the inaugural Great Smoky Mountain Veg Fest will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and we invite you to be considered for participation! It will happen at Great Smoky Mountain Event Park at 1130 Hyatt Creek Rd, Bryson City, NC 28713. The event will be promoted by our experienced event directors who have coordinated over 30 educational and conscious-minded festivals for over six years.

The event will include healthy living and eco-friendly exhibitors, speakers, and presentations; non-profits; fun and games for kids; animal rescue information; delicious food & beverages; environmental and humane education; yoga & meditation; and live music and entertainment. GSM Veg Fest intends to draw all those who want to learn more about bettering themselves and their community through embracing practical and effective lifestyle solutions. You can promote your business or group to people who want to learn more about elevating consciousness, eco-sustainability, cruelty-free & guilt-free living, and the benefits of connecting deeply with nature. All money raised will be used for local environmental education and outreach through our new 501c3.

Below is the GSM Veg Fest 2025 vendor and sponsorship packet. Please fill out the application online as soon as possible. There are limited vendor spaces available, and we expect them to fill quickly. Please complete your application and payment by July 1, 2025 to ensure a space.

If you would like additional information, please contact Kevin at (727) 455-1573 or e-mail us at [friendswiththeforest@gmail.com](mailto:friendswiththeforest@gmail.com). Also please visit the Friends with the Forest website at [www.FriendswiththeForest.com](http://www.FriendswiththeForest.com) for updates. We hope that you will join us for veg fest!

Best Regards,

**Kevin Layton, Organizer**

**Friends with the Forest**

## Conditions of Agreement

Friends with the Forest reserves the right to accept or decline any applications at its discretion.

Each vendor must submit an individual application and payment. Spaces may not be combined.

Setup begins at 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 19, 2025. Vendors must be ready for operation by 9:30 a.m.

Vendors must staff their exhibits during the entire event from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to not disrupt the flow of the festival.

Vendors are responsible for setup and breakdown of their exhibit. Each vendor will provide their own tent (100 sq. ft. maximum) or table (8 ft. maximum) unless other arrangements are made in advance.

All tables must be covered with tablecloths. Vendors must provide their own tablecloths.

Vendors must have signage clearly identifying the name of the vendor. Food vendors must have signage clearly listing food offerings and prices.

Vendors shall exhibit, sell, or give away only merchandise, literature, and services specified in Application.

Vendors shall not sell or give away food or beverages without prior approval.

All food sold or given away must be vegan to be in alignment with creating a compassionate world for ALL. Vegan means no animal products: flesh, fat, broth, gelatin, egg, dairy, or honey.

Prepared foods shall be organic and locally grown if at all possible. All food vendors must use recyclable and/or compostable service ware. No Styrofoam will be permitted.

All merchandise sold or given away must be vegan, not tested on animals, and should be as environmentally friendly as possible.

Should any contingency interrupt or prevent the holding of Great Smoky Mountain Veg Fest, including but not limited to inclement weather, etc., then event coordinators and Friends with the Forest shall in no way be liable to vendors. Should any contingency prohibit the event from taking place on July 19, 2025, event coordinators will make their best effort to reschedule the event on a weekend day as near to the original date as possible.

Vendors agree to make no claim for any reason against event coordinators or Friends with the Forest for loss, theft, damage, or destruction of goods, nor for injury to themselves, employees, volunteers, or visitors incurred at the event.

When you have read and understood the above requirements and have received approval, please fill out the form on the Friends with the Forest website to complete your application. Once approved, we will email you a link to complete payment if required. :)

**Link to Apply:** <https://www.FriendswiththeForest.com/Vendor-Application>

## Vendor/Sponsor Benefits

### **Vendor fees (before May 1st)**

Non-Profits/Animal Rescues: Free

Artists/Yoga: \$25

For-Profit Services (no sales): \$35

For-Profit Businesses: \$40

Food/Beverages: \$50

### **Vendor Fees (after May 1st)**

Non-Profits/Animal Rescues: Free

Artists/Yoga: \$35

For-Profit Services (no sales): \$50

For-Profit Businesses: \$60

Food/Beverages: \$75

### **Sponsors**

Level 1: \$100

Level 2: \$300

Level 3: \$500

Level 4: \$1000+

- **Vendors** will receive a **10x10 space to bring their own tent/table** to display products, services, and information. All vendors will be displayed and promoted on the Friends with the Forest website and event Facebook page.
- **Level 1 Sponsors** will receive:
  - 200 sq. ft. exhibit space for bringing tents and/or tables with premium placement
  - Logo in the Info Guide shared with guests
  - Website ([www.FriendswiththeForest.com](http://www.FriendswiththeForest.com)) listing on Sponsors page (including logo & hyperlink)
  - Mention in press releases & announcements as sponsor
  - Mention in e-mail newsletter as sponsor
  - Feature in promotional campaigns as sponsor
- **Level 2 Sponsors** will receive:
  - 500 sq. ft. exhibit space for bringing tents and/or tables with premium placement
  - Logo in the Info Guide shared with guests
  - ¼ page ad in event program shared with guests
  - Website ([www.FriendswiththeForest.com](http://www.FriendswiththeForest.com)) listing on Sponsors page (including logo & hyperlink)
  - Mention in press releases & announcements as sponsor
  - Mention in e-mail newsletter as sponsor
  - Feature in promotional campaigns as sponsor
- **Level 3 Sponsors** will receive:
  - 1000 sq. ft. exhibit space for bringing tents and/or tables with premium placement
  - Logo in the Info Guide shared with guests
  - 1/2 page ad in event program shared with guests

- Website ([www.FriendswiththeForest.com](http://www.FriendswiththeForest.com)) listing on Sponsors page (including logo & hyperlink)
  - Mention in press releases & announcements as sponsor
  - Mention in e-mail newsletter as sponsor
  - Feature in promotional campaigns as sponsor
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- **Level 4 Sponsors** will receive:
    - 2000 sq. ft. exhibit space for bringing tents and/or tables with premium placement
    - Logo in the Info Guide shared with guests
    - Full page ad in event program shared with guests
    - Website ([www.FriendswiththeForest.com](http://www.FriendswiththeForest.com)) listing on Sponsors page (including logo & hyperlink)
    - Mention in press releases & announcements as sponsor
    - Mention in e-mail newsletter as sponsor
    - Feature in promotional campaigns as sponsor
    - Included in event announcements by emcee
    - Listed on Friends with the Forest website as a supporter to launch nature center