



20th Annual
LILAC FESTIVAL
& Street Fair



DEFIANCE, OH
MAY 10, 2025





TABLE OF CONTENTS

- ① A Letter from our Mayor
- ② Taking Root:
A History of the Lilac Festival & Street Fair
- ④ Blooming Traditions:
The Growth of the Lilac Festival
- ⑥ Festival Overview Map
- ⑧ 300 Block Vendor Map
- ⑨ 400 Block Vendor Map
- ⑩ 500 Block Vendor Map
- ⑪ 600 Block Vendor Map
- ⑫ Triangle Park Vendor Map
- ⑬ More Events from the DDVB

A Letter from our Mayor

It is my great honor to welcome you to Defiance, Ohio for the 20th Annual Lilac Festival, a cherished tradition that brings our community together in celebration of beauty, history, and hometown pride.

What began as a way to honor Defiance's official city flower has grown into a beloved event that showcases our vibrant downtown, supports local businesses, and brings friends and families together year after year. This milestone anniversary is a testament to the dedication of our organizers, volunteers, sponsors, and all who have helped make the festival a success.

As we celebrate 20 years of tradition, I invite you to enjoy the sights, sounds, and flavors of this special occasion. Be sure to pick up a lilac seedling for your home, visit a new downtown storefront or event vendor, and enjoy strolling our beautiful downtown district.

Thank you for joining us in this annual celebration that helps make Defiance, Ohio "A Great Place to Live".



MAYOR MIKE McCANN






TAKING ROOT

On April 9, 1937, Mayor Joe C. Krutsch, by the power of Resolution No. 599, designated the lilac as the official city flower. All citizens were urged to plant this colorful and hardy flower on his or her home grounds to “make a more beautiful Defiance.”

This resolution, combined with the dream of a vibrant main street, spurred a group of community members to meet at Charlie’s Bakery & Deli at 200 Clinton Street on February 22nd, 2006. This discussion led to the birth of the Lilac Festival in May of the same year.





In a letter by Janet Hitchcock, one of the founders of the Lilac Festival, she expressed her dream for the festival. "The vendors are busy showing their wares to the many attendees. Spring flower vendors fill the streets with bouquets of beauty. Crafts and antiques line the streets. Shop owners have filled their windows with the things of spring in every color of purple imaginable!" Hitchcock's vision of a vibrant, bustling festival quickly took root, capturing the hearts of the community and setting the stage for a beloved annual tradition.

Even the rain at the first annual Lilac Festival couldn't dampen the community's spirit, as they longed for the joy of the event to become a lasting

tradition. What began as a dream envisioned by Mayor Krutsch in 1937, nurtured by dedicated community members, has flourished into what we now celebrate as the annual Lilac Festival & Street Fair.



BLOOMING TRADITIONS



The Lilac Festival & Street Fair traditions celebrate community, art, and natural beauty. From the vibrant lilac blooms, local artisan vendors, and family-friendly activities, these traditions create lasting memories for residents and visitors alike.



Honoring the tradition set by the original resolution, the Lilac Festival & Street Fair has distributed lilac seedlings since its inception.

When the event first began, the vendors set up along the sidewalks and Third Street, while Clinton Street remained open to traffic.





In addition to the vendors on the sidewalks, there was a large tent on Third Street for additional vendors.

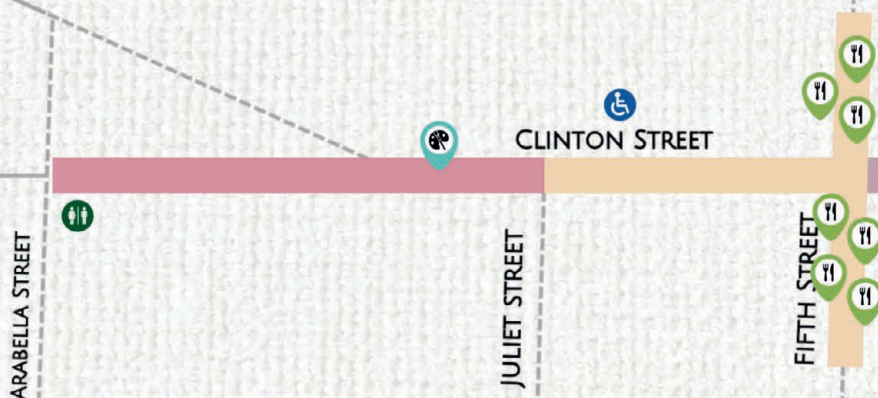


In the early years of the Lilac Festival, a local artist from the Defiance Society of Artists painted a piece honoring the lilac. Each year, the artwork was transformed into a commemorative poster available for attendees to purchase. In celebration of the 20th Annual Lilac Festival, we're proud to bring back this cherished tradition.



What began as a small event with 40-50 vendors has blossomed into a vibrant festival featuring over 150 vendors, stretching across 12 downtown blocks.





MAP KEY

- Road Closed
- Lilac Seedlings
- Portable Restrooms
- Handicap Accessible Portable Restrooms
- Defiance Fire and Police Station
- Information Booth
- Food
- Entertainment
- Art Activity
- Kids Activity

300 Block Vendor Map

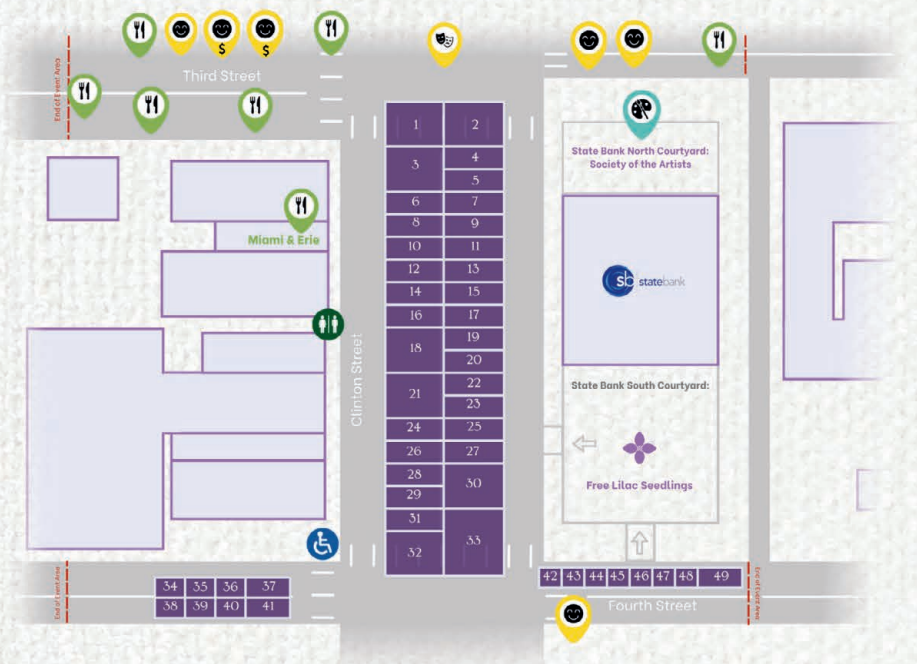


1. Too Crazy Crafty Sisters
2. Big Dreams, Small Town Crafts
3. Anthony & Co. Candles and Wax Melts
4. M & N Kettle Corn
5. 28 Stitches
6. Jamie Taylor
7. Mae's Baby Boutique
8. Dreaming of Pearls
9. Wispy Willow Farm
10. CATastrophe Creation
11. Kingdom Seasonings & Rubs
12. Uncle Al's Woodshop
13. Color of Hughes
14. Kat's Kitchen
15. Hooked by Stephanie 419

16. Julie Jarzembski
17. P. 31 Macarons
18. Garden Thyme
19. Kel's Crafting Creations
20. Love & Joy Earrings
21. Studio 3740
22. Forever & Always Permanent Jewelry
23. K & B Elderberry Acres LLC
24. Graphic Tees & Co.
25. Color Street Dry Nail Polish Strips
26. Tastefully Simple
27. Maria's Bakery
28. Art in the Making
29. Lilac Shrubs for Purchase



400 Block Vendor Map



- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Pam's Pantry | 18. SG Creative Creations | 34. EL BEE CRAFTS |
| 2. Crafts by Chris | 19. Paul's Gourmet Jerky | 35. Captivating Creations |
| 3. Hill's Heartfelt Creations | 20. Dee Young | 36. Stitches of Hope |
| 4. Jennifer McAtee | 21. DC Soaps/Scented Serenity Candle Co. | 37. Whispering Bees |
| 5. Author Randy D. Pearson | 22. Cellphone Saddles & Crafts | 38. Stateline Sauce Co. |
| 6. Tumbler Craft | 23. Amanda Holbrooke | 39. Tupperware |
| 7. Grandma's Tasty Treats | 24. Osister Jams & Jellies | 40. Miss Mel's Bakery |
| 8. Friendly Findings | 25. Friends of Feline Rescue Center | 41. Wood Expressions |
| 9. Feel the Burn Hot Sauce | 26. Kuron Publishing | 42. Highland Ridge Creates |
| 10. Rinehart Acres | 27. Sewn by Chynna | 43. Mc's Pics |
| 11. Vallejo Stitchery | 28. P. Buckley Moss Society | 44. Mark Hohler |
| 12. Paula's Pursuit | 29. Think Goodness Origami Owl | 45. Brandi's Boutique |
| 13. Homestead Herbal Wellness | 30. A. Little Something Pretty | 46. Beeez Nutz |
| 14. L&C Creations | 31. Mulberry Bay Soaps | 47. Lazer Etched Creations |
| 15. Silver Wear by Nadine | 32. Silver Lane Boutique & Straight Way Farm | 48. The Gardens of Shagbark Ridge |
| 16. Damsel in Defense | 33. Family Creations | 49. 3D Printed Store |
| 17. The Little Rae of Sunshine | | |

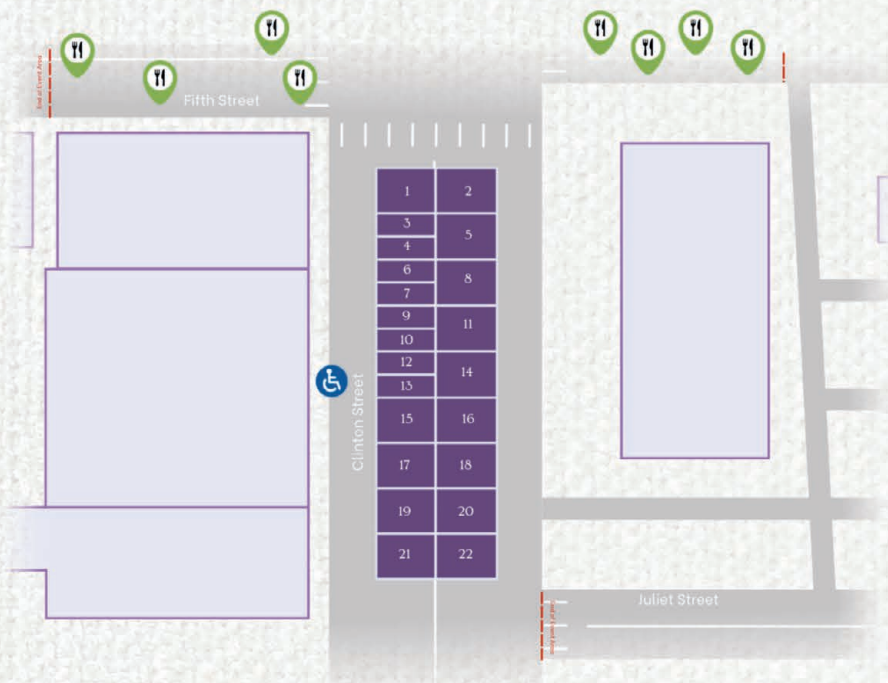




- ## Jewelry



600 Block Vendor Map

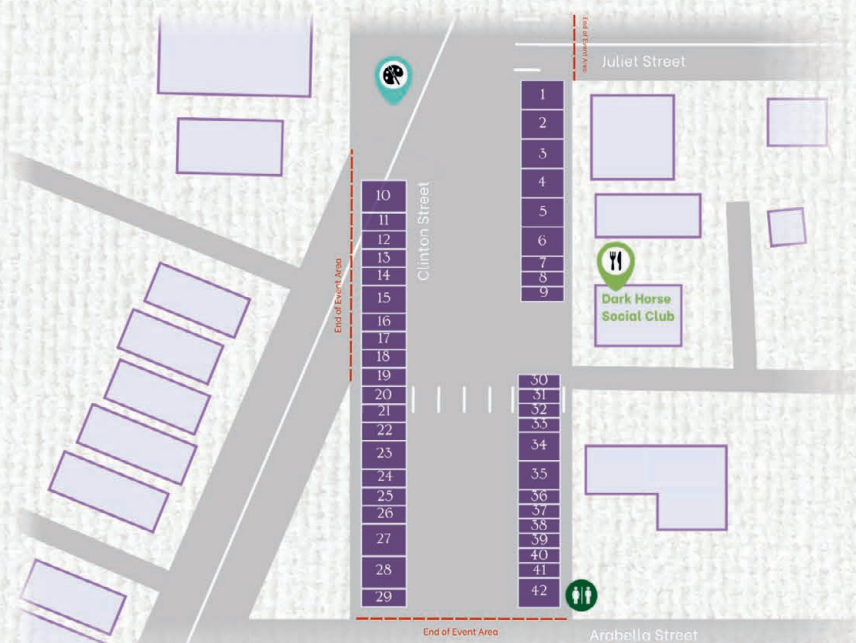


1. Pizzazzed Paper
2. Seven Jays Farm
3. Fateful Findings Jewelry & Collectibles
4. ScentWick Candles
5. Gypsy Swan Boutique
6. Woodcrafts by Bill Wendell
7. Two Crafting Dragons
8. Forever in Bloom
9. Defiance Bark & Run

10. Bluebird Crafts & Crochet
11. Ashlee's Creations
12. Kelley's Creative Side
13. Cobb Cabin Crafts
14. Caszkins Clothing Co.
15. Ray of Hope Creative Metal Art
16. Pens with Personality
17. Gardens of Gaia
18. S Designs
19. Painted Under Moonlight
20. Poletta's Canine Crew Boarding Kennel
21. M&R Produce
22. Craft Shak



Triangle Park Vendor Map



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|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Warrior Clocks & Apparel | 21. Tina Straub |
| 2. Great Lakes Treasures | 22. Sassy Sisters Creations |
| 3. Carlin Honey | 23. Artesania's Handmade |
| 4. Wood Co. Boutique | 24. Rustic Wax |
| 5. Simply from Scratch | 25. Sinfully Sweet |
| 6. Pop of Sweetness Candy Shop | 26. The Irresistible Owl |
| 7. Crafty Chicks & Co. | 27. Rose Garden Creations |
| 8. Tame Fox Studio | 28. Crocheted Critters |
| 9. KareMor Creations | 29. Dave's Designs |
| 10. Toadily Handmade | 30. DAM FINE LEATHER |
| 11. Owen & Liv's Homemade Goodies | 31. MoseArt |
| 12. Indigo Seas Clay Co. | 32. More Than a T-Shirt |
| 13. Gypsy Chick Creations | 33. Zhong Zhang |
| 14. Copitas Con Amor | 34. Renlee Custom Crafts |
| 15. Concrete Creations | 35. GG's Crafting Again |
| 16. PaperPie | 36. WanderMore Creations |
| 17. Front Door Designs | 37. Totes "N" Things |
| 18. Snap-tastic Creation | 38. Heirloom Branch Baked Goods & Seasonings |
| 19. Red Aspen | 39. Grandma's Beauties |
| 20. Bean Creek Farms | 40. August Jett Room Sprays & Wax Melts |
| | 41. Cenci Creations |
| | 42. CATARI |

2025 *Defiance Main Street & Visitors Bureau* EVENTS



June 6

Family Fun Friday

July 3

Defiance Fireworks Celebration

July 11

Family Fun Friday

July 12

Defiance Jazz Festival

Aug. 1

Family Fun Friday

Aug. 16

Battle of the Bands

Sept. 27

Defiance Rib Fest

Oct. 9

Witches Brew for CASA

Dec. 5

Santa's Arrival

Dec. 6

Cookie Crumble





Save Next Year's Date:

MAY 9TH, 2026

This is a rain or shine event

A heartfelt thank you to all the incredible volunteers—past, present, and future—who make the Defiance Lilac Festival & Street Fair possible. Your dedication, time, and effort bring this event to life each year, creating a wonderful experience for our community. We truly appreciate all that you do!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR:



THE LILAC FESTIVAL & STREET FAIR IS PRESENTED BY:

It's our Nature.

LEARN ABOUT MORE EVENTS
HAPPENING IN DEFIANCE COUNTY

