

Virginia Beach Neptune Festival Art & Craft Show 2026

Drive On & Drive Off Information

DRIVE ON

All artists will be assigned a Drive On date and time with the goal of getting all artists into their booth spaces in a safe, organized, and orderly manner. All required documentation must be on file and all fees fully paid to receive a Drive On date and time.

Expect to receive Drive On assignments on or before September 17, 2026. Drive On will take place throughout the day on September 24, 2026.

Larger trucks and vehicles with trailers (larger than 20'x10') will be scheduled earlier in the day to reduce congestion on the boardwalk. Only one (1) vehicle and connected trailer is permitted per artist for Drive On. Additional vehicles are not permitted.

Artists will arrive at the designated location where they will be provided with boardwalk access passes, instructions, and be placed into position for the Drive On caravan. The caravan will depart the parking lot in descending order (those heading the furthest will be in front of the line.) Exact directions and maps will be provided at this time.

Security will meet the caravan lead at the Atlantic Avenue access street to escort the caravan onto the boardwalk. All artists in the caravan will turn left onto the boardwalk and head North and drive to their assigned location. Artists that have a passenger side operation will drive onto the boardwalk north to south and will be given specific street access directions and will not be a part of the Drive On caravan. Artists will have one (1) hour to get into position on the railing and/or unload their items, equipment, etc., remove their vehicle and trailer from the boardwalk, and then return to set up their booth.

Artists are strictly prohibited from driving or parking on the bike path, grass, or landscaping within the boardwalk and hotels. Failure to comply with the Drive On guidelines will result in removal from the event and the opportunity to participate in future Neptune Festival events will be rescinded.

DRIVE OFF

Important Times – Sunday, September 27, 2026:

6:00 pm	Festival concludes, begin breakdown of booth
6:30 pm	Artist access to boardwalk opens, authorized by festival staff and security
7:30 pm	Access to boardwalk for trailers, large vans, and box trucks opens
8:00 pm	Access for artists driving north to south opens

Streets available for boardwalk access during Drive Off:

8th, 10th, 14th, 16th, 20th, 24th, 27th, 30th, 33rd Streets*

**Access points subject to change*

The festival concludes at 6:00 pm on Sunday, September 27, 2026. Please begin breakdown after the conclusion of the festival.

Access streets to the boardwalk will be barricaded and closed to oncoming boardwalk traffic throughout the festival. Festival staff and security personnel will be stationed along the boardwalk and exit streets to ensure an orderly and safe departure from the festival.

Access to the boardwalk will be authorized by festival staff and security personnel beginning at 6:30 pm to let festival attendees disperse off the boardwalk. Artists are required to break down and pack all their operations completely prior to requesting access onto the boardwalk. 20'x10' operations, trailers, or operations that require a large van or box truck to pack must wait until 7:30 pm to request access to the boardwalk. Vendors that require driving north to south must wait until after 8:00 pm to request boardwalk access.

Vendors should enter the boardwalk from the accessible street south of their assigned location and drive north, as was done during the Drive On. Boardwalk access streets for Drive Off are as follows but are subject to change: 8th, 10th, 14th, 16th, 20th, 24th, 27th, 30th, 33rd Streets.

We ask that vendors show patience and understanding and follow these Drive Off procedures. Festival staff and security personnel will be working diligently to get all vendors off the boardwalk in a safe and efficient manner. Failure to comply with the Drive Off guidelines will result in removal from the festival and the opportunity to participate in future Neptune Festival events will be rescinded.