

The Caddo Gap Heritage Festival
“Celebrating our Ouachita Mountains Legacy”
The First Saturday in October, 9 am - 4 pm
(At the historic Gap Mercantile, 35 Vaught Street, Caddo Gap, Arkansas)

Festival Description

You’re encouraged to apply for a vendor’s booth at the annual Caddo Gap Heritage Festival (every first Saturday in October), which highlights our southern heritage amidst the unique Ouachita Mountains. And there’s no more scenic place to hold a festival like this than in beautiful Caddo Gap, Arkansas—in and around the historic 1932 Gap Mercantile general store. This family-friendly festival is unique in Arkansas, in that it seeks to preserve and promote the old time skills, crafts, and lifestyle of the Ouachita Mountain settlers and natives in southwest Arkansas from the period of early settlement up until about the 1940’s. Along with an interesting variety of vendors offering many homemade or handmade items that fit the general scheme of the festival, there are numerous handpicked demonstrators that captivate both children and adults of all ages. These demonstrations include a host of old-fashioned skills, chores, and exhibits: blacksmithing, wool-spinning, weaving, broom-making, quilting, tatting, log hewing, shingle making, Native American crafts, flintknapping, antique tractors/engines/cars, herbs & medicinal plants, along with Civil War re-enactments...and much more! And if YOU are a knowledgeable craftsman or artisan in a particular historic craft or skill that fits well into the theme and spirit of the festival—and you’re willing to demonstrate to the public during the event—don’t hesitate to inquire about the possibility of a negotiated discount on your vendor fee!

Vendor Rules and Regulations

- Each vendor must be approved by the festival coordinator and should not be “at odds” with the general theme of the festival which highlights our southern heritage and Ouachita Mountains foothills culture. It’s also recommended that a good portion of each vendor’s merchandise should be one of the following: hand-made, home-made, or home-grown items. Final determination or approval of vendors is at the discretion of the festival coordinator. The festival coordinator reserves the right to accept or reject any application. (For further information, permission, specific approval, or to ask questions, don’t hesitate to contact the festival coordinator at 870-356-3909.)
- Booth space is for one day (the first Saturday of October) from 9 am till 4 pm. Booth fee must be paid in full in advance to reserve space. Booth fees are non-refundable unless your application is rejected by the festival coordinator. No booth sharing is allowed without prior approval from coordinator.
- Assignment of booth spaces is at the sole discretion of the festival coordinator. The most desirable booth spaces with potentially higher trafficked areas are generally assigned on a “first register/pay, first served” basis. However, the festival coordinator reserves the right to change booth locations either in case of conflicts or due to festival needs.

- The CGH Festival is an outdoor event and will be held rain or shine. Come prepared for inclement weather conditions. No refunds will be issued for vendors who decline to attend for whatever reason.
- All vendors must provide their own tents, signage, tables, chairs, and provisions for shade, rain, or comfort.
- Setup times for vendors will be from 7 am till 8:15 am on the morning of the festival. Upon arrival that morning, vendors and demonstrators MUST check in with festival staff at the front porch of the mercantile so they can direct you to your booth space or area and issue you your state tax paperwork. Festival staff will direct you as to where to park your vehicles or trailers after unloading. Our vendor areas are very “tight”, so to avoid congestion please unload your vehicles/trailers as quickly as possible and relocate them to the vendor parking area so as to not keep other vendors waiting. If you have a lot of set up to do, come as close to 7 am as possible.
- Items not mentioned on the vendor application (or displays) may be removed if they are deemed inappropriate by the festival coordinator.
- There will be no breakdown of booths or booth displays/demonstrations removed before 4 pm without prior approval from festival coordinator. Vendors are responsible for any clean-up and/or trash removal from their booth sites after the festival.
- If you would like CGHF flyers or digital materials to promote your appearance on your own social media platforms, contact the festival coordinator at gary@farmhandscompanion.com. No unauthorized printed or print-screened merchandise (T-shirts, etc.) with Caddo Gap Heritage Festival on it will be permitted.
- Vendors are responsible for complying with all state and local sales tax requirements. Sales tax forms will be issued to vendors upon check-in at the mercantile the morning of the festival. Vendors are responsible for completing and turning the forms and envelopes that contain your calculated taxes back in to the checkout counter inside Gap Mercantile BEFORE leaving the festival at the end of the day. (In compliance with Arkansas state law, within 30 days following the festival vendor names and contact info will be turned into the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration.)
- Gap Mercantile will not be held responsible for accidents, loss, or thefts occurring on the premises, either prior to, during, or after the festival. Entry into this event constitutes an automatic waiver of any claim for damages, liability, or loss against the sponsors, staff, or representatives thereof.

Again, further questions may be directed to the festival coordinator, Gary McWilliams, at gary@farmhandscompanion.com

Caddo Gap Heritage Festival Vendor Application Form

To apply as a vendor in the Caddo Gap Heritage Festival, return page 3 only of this completed application form (please retain the Vendor Rules and Regulation portion of this document for your own reference) by scanning it and emailing it back to us at gary@farmhandscompanion.com . Vendor space at the festival is limited, so register early. Once approval is granted by the festival coordinator, a check made payable to *Gap Mercantile Enterprises* for the relevant amount may be turned in in person at Gap Mercantile during store hours. (The mercantile is open Tuesday through Saturday from June through October, and Fridays and Saturdays from November through May, 10 am till 4 pm). We can also accept credit or debit card payment if you'd prefer, either in person at the mercantile or over the phone. To make payment, call the mercantile during business hours stated above at 870-356-2100.

____ 12' X 12' Retail Vendor Booth = \$45

____ Food/Beverage Vendor = \$80 (*apply early; limited availability for food vendors*)

____ I want to apply for a *Demonstrator's Discount* off my vendor fee [If your vendor booth and/or the merchandise in it exceptionally fits the theme of the festival from the 1800's up to the 1940's—and you're willing to demonstrate your craft, then you may be eligible for a negotiated discount off your vendor fee. Or even if your booth or merchandise is NOT an exceptional fit, but you're willing to demonstrate a heritage skill or craft that DOES fit (and dress in period style clothes while manning your retail vendor booth), then describe the skill or craft you're proficient at and willing to demonstrate here below to see if you're eligible for a negotiated discount:

Please provide a general description of the items you will be selling (food vendors, please list the menu items you will be offering):

Booth Name _____

Responsible Party Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, & Zip _____

Cell/Contact Phone _____

E-mail _____

I hereby agree to abide by the Caddo Gap Heritage Festival Vendor Rules and Regulations (as described earlier in this document) and release all organizers, hosts, and sponsors from any responsibility and /or liability due to accidents, theft, loss, or damages.

Signature _____ Date _____