



Gardendale Magnolia Festival Top 10 FAQ

1. What are the festival dates and times?

Friday, April 25, 2025, 5-10 PM (1 stage, food, carnival at GFBC parking lot). Saturday, April 26, 2025, 10 AM-5 PM (all events). [Entertainment Schedule](#) and Facebook at [Magnolia Festival in Gardendale](#).

2. What events are on Saturday?

Saturday, April 26, 10 AM - 5 PM: 2 stages of live entertainment, 160+ vendors, 26 food vendors, a midway carnival, a car show, a pooch parade, free art classes, a free kids zone, pony rides, a petting zoo farm bus, a Humane Society dog adoption bus, and more.

3. What's free?

Parking and admission! Also, 2 stages of live entertainment, the GFBC Free Kids Zone, art classes inside the exhibition hall, the Historical Society museum, the car show, the pooch parade on Larry York Dr, and many vendor giveaways. Sunscreen and hand sanitizer are available at the Welcome Tent in front of the high school entrance.

4. What stage entertainment is provided?

2 free outdoor stages on Saturday and 1 stage on Friday. Check the entertainment schedule at [MagnoliaFestival.org](#) under ENTERTAINMENT for a detailed schedule and artist descriptions.

5. What kind of vendors are there, and how many?

160+ arts, crafts, business, and nonprofit vendors on SATURDAY ONLY. Local and Southeast vendors are present. A map will be online at [MagnoliaFestival.org](#) on Saturday of the festival. Vendor maps will be at the Welcome tent and on yard signs.

6. What food is available this year?

A detailed list will be on the website at [Magnolia Festival Food Vendors](#) closer to the festival date, and will also be posted on Facebook at Magnolia Festival in Gardendale page. A list of food vendors will also be on the maps at the Welcome tent on Saturday.

7. Why is Friday only at night?

Friday night was added to accommodate families who couldn't attend the Saturday event due to ball tournaments. Friday is a smaller event that kicks off the main event on Saturday. Friday daytime is for vendor registration and Saturday preparation. Friday is carnival, one stage, food.

8. What is the Gardendale Magnolia Festival, and what does it benefit?

The festival began in 2001 by the Gardendale Rotary Club and is now a 24-year-old 501(c)(3) nonprofit, with the city of Gardendale as the Presenting Sponsor. It has awarded \$246,000 in college scholarships to north Jefferson seniors and donated over \$100,000+ to local charities, civic organizations, churches, pageant scholarships, nonprofits, and regional charities. Also, thousands of dollars have been generated for other organizations through proceeds from events like the Pooch Parade, Car Show, Fishing Tournament, Eating Contests, and past 5K Races.

9. Why is it called The Total Family Experience?

The Gardendale Magnolia Festival aims to provide economical family fun in an entertaining atmosphere. No alcohol is served, music is family-friendly, parking and admission are free, and there are activities for all ages, including canine family members. "Some of the best festival food in the Southeast!"

10. How much are midway carnival wristbands?

\$20 on Friday (5 PM - 10 PM) and \$25 on Saturday (10 AM - 5 PM). Wristbands are good for either Friday OR Saturday, but not both. They are not valid on Pony Rides or the Farm Bus Petting Zoo (\$5 each). Carnival rides are 3-5 tickets (\$1 each). Individual tickets are also sold. GFBC Kids Zone is free.