



Lantern Festival FAQs

What is the Lantern Festival?

The Lantern Festival is a family-friendly community event and fundraiser organized by the Alliance for Greater Good, a local non-profit. It features activities such as face painting, lantern decorating, photo booths, and music by DJ Skooch. The festival's theme is *Illuminating Community Kindness*, and it aims to support people facing housing insecurity.

When and where is the Lantern Festival held?

The Lantern Festival takes place on Saturday, September 28, 2024, from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM at South Mill Pond, Portsmouth, NH. A brief ceremony will begin at 6:30 PM, featuring remarks by Deaglan McEachern, Mayor of Portsmouth. Lantern lighting and floating will follow the ceremony.

Is there a rain date?

Yes, the rain date is Sunday, September 29, 2024 with the same start time of 5:00 PM.

How much does it cost to purchase a lantern?

Suggested donation amounts are as follows:

	Prior to Event	Day of Event
Lantern- Individual	\$10	\$15
Lantern- Family (up to 3 lanterns)	\$25	\$35
Lantern- Party Pack (10 lanterns)	\$80	\$110

Attendance is free, but all donations are appreciated. Proceeds benefit Womenaid of Greater Portsmouth, providing financial assistance for those facing housing insecurity.

Can I bring my own lantern?

No, please use the lanterns provided at the festival, which are approved by the City of Portsmouth.

What do I need to know about decorating the lanterns?

- Use magic markers for decorating; avoid glitter or stickers to keep waterways clean.
- Place a square Kleenex box inside the lantern for added structure during decoration.
- Decorate with messages and images that promote kindness and community spirit.

Where do I get the tea light for my lantern?

Tea lights will be provided at the Lantern Festival. Our volunteers will attach them to your lantern for you.

Who lights and launches the lanterns?

For safety reasons, our volunteers will handle the lighting and floating of the lanterns on South Mill Pond.

Will the lanterns be removed from the South Mill Pond?

Yes, volunteers will remove all lanterns and any trash from the South Mill Pond that evening.

Where can I park?

Please use off street parking lots. Refer to the [Park Portsmouth map](#) that includes Portsmouth's two parking garages: [Hanover Street Garage](#) (near Market Square) & [Foundry Place Garage](#) (near Sheraton, Residence Inn, Fairfield Inn & Suites).

Will there be food at the Lantern Festival?

Yes, food will be available for purchase from two food trucks: Moe's Italian Sandwiches and the Whoo(pie) Wagon.