

A banner for the Palisade International Honeybee Festival. The background is a collage of images related to bees and honey: a honeycomb pattern on the left, several bees in flight, a large sunflower in the center, and various green leaves and stems on the right. The text "Palisade International Honeybee Festival" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font across the middle of the banner.

Palisade International Honeybee Festival

P. O. Box 1105 Palisade, CO 81526-1105

<http://palisadehoneybeefest.com/>

3-19-19 Vendors Wanted!
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

It's not too late for vendors to sign up for a booth at the 11th annual **Palisade International Honeybee Festival** on Saturday, April 13 says Tom Underwood, who organizes the street fair side of the event. The Festival will be located in a couple of blocks where Main and Third streets intersect at the Town Plaza. Hours are from 10 am to 4 pm.

This year's festival will focus on the pragmatic ways individuals can help bees through good everyday practices. Popular gardening experts Dennis Hill and Mona Dyer will share information about *Bee Friendly Plants*, while the Insectary's Dan Bean will tell about and show *Friendly Bugs*.

Anyone who wants to sell honey, bee products, crafts or services can download the 2019 Vendor Application form online at www.palisadehoneybeefest.org and send it in with a check or money order payable to PIHF to P.O. Box 1105, Palisade, CO 81526 before the cutoff date of April 6. As a convenience for those who do not have a current Palisade Vendor's License, vendors can add \$10 to their \$55 registration fee and send a check for \$65. The Festival will remit the fee to the Town of Palisade.

Food vendors have a more complicated process and must be on the approved list of vendors for special events by the Mesa County Health Department. If they are not on the list by now, there may not be enough time to get the necessary approval by the deadline.

"We still have space for more vendors and welcome any vendors who haven't sent in their paperwork yet," assures Underwood. "They may not get their first choice in location, but we will accommodate everyone as best we can."

He adds that the Vendor Map and the list of Vendor locations will be published on the website as soon as the application window closes. Since the festival is staffed by volunteers who have other jobs, there is not enough manpower to individually notify each vendor of location.

For those who might be considering participating, the booth slots will accommodate a 10 x 10 or an 8 x 8 pop up tent. Vendors provide their own tables, chairs, goods and creature comforts. There will be food available all day from local restaurants and food trucks. The TOP permanent public rest rooms are adjacent to the Town Plaza on Main Street.

Underwood says all vendors are advised to wear comfortable shoes and warm clothing and to bring snacks and bottled water in case they get busy and can't leave their booths. All vendors should have their tents and merchandise delivered to their locations by 9 am when the town closes those blocks of Main and Third streets. He says they need to deposit their belongings and immediately move their vehicles to adjacent parking lots and streets to keep the streets clear for other deliveries.

The Festival was founded by a group of local business owners who wanted to rally the community to celebrate its agricultural heritage and to draw attention to the documented crisis that exists worldwide with honeybee population decline. The festival is sponsored by the PIHF Committee in conjunction with the Town of Palisade and the Palisade Chamber of Commerce with KREX 5 News, MBC Grand Broadcasting, and the Western Colorado Beekeepers Assn.

The Blue Pig Gallery will kick off the Festival on Friday, April 12, with an Opening Reception from 5 to 8 pm. Expert speakers will share information and the gallery will be showing bee-related art. Wine and refreshments will be served.

The PIHF Committee includes Kay Crane, The Blue Pig Gallery; James Ferguson and Carrie Connors, The Meadery of the Rockies/Talon Wine Brands; Dan Bean, Palisade Insectary, Dixie Burmeister, radio and tv consultant; Carol Zadrozny, Z's Orchard; Howard Martslof, retired beekeeper; Jack Moore, Western Colorado Beekeepers Assn.; Tom Underwood, retired craftsman; Bridgett Gutierrez, Ryan Sawyer Marketing; Ron Koss, Master of Ceremonies; Michelle Gossage and Troy Ward, Town of Palisade and Jean Tally and Chris Christensen, Wine Country Inn.

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