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# Participant Information Old Car Festival 2026

Program Registration Office  
The Henry Ford  
20900 Oakwood Blvd.  
Dearborn MI 48124-5029  
313.982.6058  
Email : [ParticipantInfo@thehenryford.org](mailto:ParticipantInfo@thehenryford.org)  
Participant Information Updates : [www.thehenryford.org/participants](http://www.thehenryford.org/participants)

## Application & Participant Information

For Application and Participant information please visit: <https://www.thehenryford.org/participants/>. **Please check the above link frequently, as this page will be updated with the most current information as it comes in.**

A mailing containing Check-In information, including the location and a map, will be sent near the end of August. Also included in the mailed packet will be your vehicle dash card(s), historic parking zone assignment, and other pertinent information, including:

- **Vehicle Dash Card** (DISPLAY FOR THE EVENT WEEKEND)

Unique to you and your historic vehicle, your dash card provides important information (generated directly from registration details you provided) for our parking crew, narrators, and guests. **Following onsite check-in, it is important to immediately place the card in a visible location on your vehicle and leave it in place at all times while inside the Village.** (Note: reprints are available at the information booth in front of Town Hall on Saturday morning.)

*If the card has incorrect information, please email the corrections to us at [ParticipantInfo@thehenryford.org](mailto:ParticipantInfo@thehenryford.org).*

- **Historic Parking Zone Placard** (DISPLAY AFTER CHECK-IN TO PARKING LOCATION)

The historic parking zone assignment will be printed on a designated colored sheet and is specific to your vehicle(s) year. After checking in, place the colored zone placard on the dashboard of your participating historic vehicle(s) to allow our parking attendants to direct you once inside the Village.

## Onsite Check-In Procedure & Credentials

All participants in the Old Car Festival program must pick up their packet at Check-In. Stop *FIRST* at Check-In and pick up your participant packet. Walk-up registrations will not be considered. If you have not received communication by email after submitting an online application, your application may not be in the system.

### ➤ Check-In Procedures

Registrants may pick up their packets at their convenience at these dates and times:

Check-In Hours:           **Thursday, September 10, 2026 – 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm**  
  *\*Designated for packet pick-up ONLY\**  
  **Friday, September 11, 2026 – 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
  **Saturday, September 12, 2026 - 7:00 am – 11:00 am**

**MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ARRIVE DURING CHECK-IN HOURS. If there are unforeseen circumstances that prevent you from being able to utilize these times, please be sure to either call or e-mail the**

**Registration Team at 313-982-6058 or email: [ParticipantInfo@thehenryford.org](mailto:ParticipantInfo@thehenryford.org). Sunday arrivals require special accommodation.**

### ➤ **Credentials**

At check-in, each accepted participant receives a credential packet containing the following items:

- **Participant Wristbands** – These are your credentials for the weekend. They identify you as a participant, allowing you admittance to the Village and Museum for this weekend only. Your wristband must be securely worn on your wrist for the duration of the weekend.
  - Participants receive four wristbands per single accepted application. If you have multiple entries, you will receive four wristbands for the first entry, and one for each additional entry for up to six wristbands. There are no exceptions, and no additional wristbands will be available, so please plan accordingly. Note that wristbands are not valid for rides, movies, or the Ford Rouge Factory Tour.
    - 1 vehicle registered = 4 wristbands
    - 2 vehicles registered = 5 wristbands
    - 3 or more vehicles registered = 6 wristbands
  - Only registered participants **with wristbands** are permitted:
    - to enter Greenfield Village through the Village Service Road.
    - on participant shuttles.
    - to enter Greenfield Village prior to 9:30am.
  - If you wish to leave participant wristbands for guests arriving later, you may leave them in an envelope with staff at the Check-In Tent. The wristbands will then be delivered to the Will-Call window located at the front of the Greenfield Village Ticket Building, where your guests can pick them up. *Please inform your guests that they must enter Greenfield Village through the Main Village Entrance if they are not in attendance with you.*
- **Popular Choice Ballot** - Use this to vote for your favorite vehicles at the event. (Yes, you can vote for yourself.)
- **Commemorative Vehicle Dash Plaque** - Limit *one* per vehicle packet.
- **ON REQUEST - Participant Discounted Admission and Ride Trio Coupons** may be used to purchase up to a TOTAL of four (4) *Admission and/or Ride Trio tickets* to Greenfield Village in any combination (Senior/Adult/Youth) at the member price (15% off). This discount applies to Greenfield Village admissions/rider pass and is only valid for this event weekend. Tickets for any other venue must be purchased separately at full admission price.

### ➤ **Parking and Modern Vehicles**

It is preferred that you unload your modern equipment in the off-site parking lot at Fairlane Town Center and drive your historic vehicle into the Village. However, if you need to bring any modern vehicles or trailers into the Village, please be aware that modern vehicles of any kind are not allowed in Greenfield Village during these hours:

- ❖ **Any time on THURSDAY – this has been reserved for packet pick-up only.**
- ❖ **Before 5:30 pm on FRIDAY**
- ❖ **9:15 am – 9:30 pm on SATURDAY**
- ❖ **9:15 am – 5:30 pm on SUNDAY**

Alternatively, you may also drop off and/or pick up a modern vehicle before opening (9:30 am) and after closing (9:00 pm on Saturday, and 5:00 pm on Sunday). You may also drive your historic vehicle in and out of Greenfield Village as needed throughout the weekend.

For the duration of the event weekend, including the Friday night check-in, a continuously running shuttle service will be available to all participants. You must wear your participant wristband to ride these shuttles. They will pick up from our modern parking lot locations and will drop off in the Eagle Tavern parking lot.

### ➤ **Amenities:**

**To rent a scooter or wheelchair**, please visit the Concierge Office, located to the right of the Village Ticket Building. *Please note:* Scooters and wheelchairs cannot be reserved, and are issued on a first come, first served basis. It is recommended that you arrive close to 9am if a scooter or wheelchair is needed.

**Handicap Parking** is not available in the Eagle Tavern parking lot. Our shuttle services allow for easy access to and from your modern vehicle(s). At least one shuttle is **ADA compatible**. As always, modern vehicles are permitted in the Village to drop off guests before 9am both Saturday and Sunday.

**\*\* THANK YOU, MIXER! Please join us Friday night from 6:00 pm-9:00 pm for an informal meet-and-greet among fellow participants at the Lodge! Light food, beverages and music will be provided. Please stop at check-in first and park your vehicle(s) in the designated area before attending. Parking vehicles at the Lodge is prohibited and we ask that you stage your historic vehicle in your assigned parking zone first and walk over to the Lodge, and/or drop your modern vehicles off at our modern parking lot location and take the shuttle to the Mixer. Shuttles run continuously throughout the weekend.**

### **Event Days**

Please see the official program (available at check-in, at the information booth in front of Town Hall, and at the Village front gate) for additional event specific information.

- Greenfield Village is open to the public for this event from 9:30 am-9:00 pm on Saturday and 9:30 am-5:00 pm on Sunday. You are expected to showcase your vehicle during these times.
- Historic vehicles will be displayed throughout Greenfield Village in rough chronological order along the roads for guest viewing. Ramps or docks for unloading and loading are not available, nor is covered parking. Some vehicles may be used in historical vignettes.
- Covers must be removed from vehicles before 9:30 am the following morning, when the event opens to guests. Small, unobtrusive shade tents may be used during the show.
- Please note that as a multi-venue institution, there may be evening weddings or other activities taking place in Martha-Mary Chapel, Eagle Tavern, or elsewhere in the Village, in Lovett Hall, or in the Museum.

### ➤ **Pass-in-Review**

A few special presentations take place at the Main Stage on Main Street at Washington Boulevard. Our Pass-in-Review (times are listed in the official program) is narrated by expert automotive historians who share vehicle details, unique and innovative features, and related commentary. The activity features preselected participants will be notified when it is time to proceed to the Main Stage with their vehicle.

### ➤ **Awards and Highlighted Activities**

Please see our official program (available onsite) or our website for the most up-to-date information on event details.

**Car Games** - Will also be held on Walnut Grove. The games *really* give you an opportunity to show off your vehicle and your driving skills. They allow our guests to see you and your car in action in a fun setting and help put the "festival" into the event. We have scheduled the games to make it easy for you to get involved.

All participants receive a ribbon for playing in the Car Games. You can participate as often as you like on either or both days, but you will receive only one ribbon.

**Gaslight Tour** - Beginning at 7:00 pm, all are invited out into the streets of Greenfield Village for the Gaslight Tour. Whether it's gas, kerosene, or early electric, all are welcome.

**Special Evening Entertainment** with live music is presented for everyone on Saturday evening at 7 pm. See the official program or our website for more information about this offering, and for times and locations of other fun activities for the whole family throughout the weekend.

**Vignettes of the Decades** is a car show favorite! Look for special sights, sounds, and activities of decades past as we celebrate our history.

**Popular Choice** - Guests and vehicle owners cast their vote for their favorite vehicle by filling in the ballot using the participant number shown on the Dash Card displayed on your vehicle. One overall 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place awards will be presented on Sunday at approximately 4:30 pm.

**Curator's Choice** is awarded to the best preserved, unrestored cars. Very few vehicles have had no restoration work, and these awards allow our curators the opportunity to review vehicles that are both unrestored and unmodified from their original condition. This review has no bearing on whether a vehicle is accepted or denied participation in the event. Two Curator's Choice awards are presented on Sunday.

**Vehicle Class Judging** - Judges examine the authenticity of the vehicle, the workmanship of all the restoration work, and the quality of maintenance performed by the owner. Then, using a 400-point judging system, they determine a first, second, and third place winner in each of the eleven (11) judging classes. From these winners, one (1) Grand Champion is chosen on each day of the Festival.

## **THANK YOU!**

As a participant, you are in a unique position during this program. Not only are you a respected guest, but you are also a representative of The Henry Ford! Help make guests' visits memorable by showing a genuine interest in them, sharing in their excitement, and engaging in some friendly conversation. We understand that we may ask more of you at this program than at other events you attend, and we are so appreciative of your efforts. We are grateful for your active participation in this year's event! THANK YOU!