Area restaurants: Taste of Waterville 2020 gives new meaning to “eat, drink and be merry”!

Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce would like to invite you to participate in the 28th Annual Taste of Waterville. This year’s event is not new, but definitely improved! Our goal for 2020 is to hold an adult-focused experience highlighting the area’s ethnicity – both regarding culinary offerings as well as our cultural diversity. Taste of Waterville 2020, which will be held at the Head of Falls, will include a variety of food, cultural demonstrations, ethnic entertainment, and informative walks, along with live music, beer/wine gardens and brew samples.

We are asking our area restaurants to focus on ethnic food offerings with a special request for bite-sized samples priced at or near $5.00 to complement other options. The idea is to allow for increased sampling among the restaurants represented, and to show the diversity of foods available in our area. A member of the Taste committee would like to meet with each restaurant to discuss planned menus.

Restaurants will also have two options for participation. An all-day option is available from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., or a half-day option, from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Please note pricing options on the Restaurant contract.

Our marketing goal is to create widespread publicity for the restaurants and businesses in our region. Restaurants, bite booths and food trucks will fill Head of Falls on Sunday, October 11 throughout the day, through 9 p.m., offering the public affordable samples, or full course meals, along with side items. Diners will enjoy one of the most beautiful rivers in Maine and partake of wonderful, local cuisine under the stars!

**Restaurant Guidelines**

1. To encourage sampling, please include an item(s) in the $3-$5 range, along with additional full course meal (entrée/side dishes) options if desired. **Fast food items are not allowed.** Ethnic foods that your restaurant is best known for are always a good idea.
2. Include the price of each item(s) on the application; all items and prices will be final when the application form is submitted and accepted. A menu board will be provided for you with your menu items (we suggest you include drinks). Please place SOLD OUT signs (which the Chamber will provide) over the items no longer available.
3. Diners may pay with cash, check or credit cards (if you are able to accept).
4. You will need to provide napkins, cutlery and cups.
5. Paper bowls and plates **will be** provided for you and **must be** picked up at the Chamber office by October 9th.
6. You will need to supply a **heavy-duty, outdoor electrical 3-prong cord.** You will only have ONE outlet (110-volt) available to you; this will be strictly enforced. **NO generators are allowed.**
7. **Applications must be received by August 1st** and are approved on a first-come, first-served basis. We will continue to accept applications until August 15. Booth requests will be honored based upon completion of registration requirements. Booth maps/layouts should be available on or near August 15.
8. Participating restaurants **must reserve space** at the Head of Falls with the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce.
9. There will be a designated “trailer section”, for those using a trailer. There is an additional charge of $10 per 2 feet for trailers over 20 feet (including hitch). In the event of rain, please feel free to bring an extra tent or a trailer, which will be directed to our designated “trailer section”.
10. The **participation fee** for the **full day (11 a.m.- 9 p.m.)** for Chamber members is **$275.00**; (Non-Chamber members **$345**); **half day registration (3 p.m.- 9 p.m.) is $155.00** (Non-Chamber members **$225** and must be included with the registration form.)
11. You **must** provide a temporary food license (an off-premise catering license will not suffice) and proof of general liability insurance with the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce listed as additional insured with your application form.

12. Should the event be called off due to inclement weather, you will **not** be issued a refund, as we will have used this income to pay for event marketing.

13. All vendors are **required** to have a canopy or tent over their serving stations.

14. Tables for diners will be provided but will not be assigned to individual restaurants.

*Awards will be given for best sampler, best side dish/appetizer, best dessert, best decorated booth, and healthiest food choice.*

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