

Volunteer Orientation 2026



Introductions



Mike Moriarity
Volunteer Manager



Amanda Gardner
Volunteer Coordinator



Sarah Van Sickle
Event Manager

Agenda

Purpose: The purpose of this session is to **help you feel more comfortable with where you're going and what to expect when you get there.**

1. Introduction to Twin Cities Irish Fest
2. What to wear, what to bring, what not to bring
3. Getting to Harriet Island (directions, parking, volunteer shuttle)
4. Checking in
5. Getting to your area after check-in (event map)
6. Event protocols (medical emergencies, lost child)
7. Q&A

Introduction to the Irish Fair - dba TCIrishFest

The Irish Fair of Minnesota is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 1980 to promote, preserve, and educate MN about Irish culture.

We've been at Macalester College, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul Armory, and now Harriet Island (since 2000)!

Last year, 13,000+ guests attended the event.

We need ~1200 volunteer shifts covered each year.



What to wear



- Family-friendly attire
- Comfortable shoes (2 pairs & extra socks are recommended if working multiple shifts)
- Irish Fest volunteer t-shirt & name badge
- Hats are ok
- Dress for the weather!!

What will be provided

The Volunteer Check-in tent doubles as the volunteer hospitality area for you

- Volunteer t-shirt & name tag (get during check-in)
- Water, soda, coffee, and tea
- Snacks (chips, granola bars, etc.)
- Shade and chairs to rest
- 1 drink “wooden nickel” per shift for N/A beverages, beer, wine, mead, hard seltzers at pub tents



What to bring

Most areas have a place to put volunteer belongings but...
only bring what you NEED and
keep your valuables on you!

What NOT to bring

These items are prohibited on Harriet Island

- Pets
- Coolers
- Outside food & beverages (other than water)
 - OK to bring food if you have allergies/restrictions
- Skateboards, scooters, bicycles
- Glass containers
- Large backpacks or bags (larger than 17" x 12" x 10")
- Chain wallets, fake or real swords & knives
- Weapons, fireworks, drones



Getting to Harriet Island

Harriet Island is located just across the Mississippi River from Downtown St. Paul (over the Wabasha St. Bridge)

Use **175 W Water Street, St. Paul, MN 55117** to help you locate our main gate.

- Use this address for passenger drop-off, rideshare apps, taxis, etc.
- Parking on Water Street during the festival is signed & enforced handicap parking.
- Bicycle racks are located outside each gate. Bring your own lock!



Free Volunteer Parking

Day of your shift only – IrishFest (August 7-9)



Drake Bank
60 Plato Blvd
Suite 100
St. Paul, MN 55107



Same location as last year.

Free Volunteer Shuttle

(day of your shift only)



Names of volunteers for each day will be provided to the shuttle driver for access.

Shuttle will take you to the East Gate

Volunteer check-in

Shuttle hours:

Friday, 8/7: 9:00 am - 11:30pm

Saturday, 8/8: 9:00am - 11:30pm

Sunday, 8/9: 9:00am - 9:00pm

****Shuttle loops - pick ups average 10-15 minutes (longer if there is a train). Plan your arrival accordingly!**

Free Volunteer Parking

Day of your shift only – Festival set-up



Festival set-up team (Aug. 5 - 6)

Can park in East or West lot, Water St.

*No access control in place on the 5th



Checking in



Enter via the East Gate (Volunteer Shuttle Drop-off)

Follow the signs to the Volunteer Check-in Tent.

Tell the check-in volunteer your name.

You will receive the following:

- Your volunteer t-shirt (if you didn't already get one)
- A name tag (please write what you want to be called)
- A beverage "wooden nickel" (1 per shift on that day)

Proceed to your area for your shift or hang out until your shift begins!

You must check in each day you volunteer!

Getting to your area

Event Map available at
www.tcirishfest.com

Click on **Tickets & Info > Event Map**

Look for the Area Manager (red shirt) for instructions.

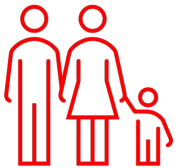


Event protocols



Medical emergencies:

Tell your Area Manager (first) or find someone with a radio (police, security, Board Members) who will call the on-site Emergency Medical Service team or 9-1-1, as appropriate.



Lost child or parent:

- Wait with the child/parent for 10 minutes in the location where they were found.
- Take the child/parent to the Info tent for reunification.
- Find someone with a radio (police, security, Area Managers, Board Members) so they can help.

Emergency protocols



If you see something, say something:

Report to someone with a radio (police, security, Area Managers, Board Members)



Severe weather

- Communication chain will reach your Area Manager, who will give you instructions.
- Info to guests will be communicated via announcement, jumbotron, social media, & website
- Shelter locations:
 - Short-term: pavilion
 - Evacuation: East gate for shuttle back to your car

Help us promote TClrishFest!

Please like, share, & tag our last 5 posts with 3 friends!

FACEBOOK - <https://www.facebook.com/TClrishFest/>

INSTAGRAM - <https://www.instagram.com/tcirishfest>
[@tcirishfest](https://www.instagram.com/tcirishfest)

YOUTUBE - <https://www.youtube.com/@TClrishFest>

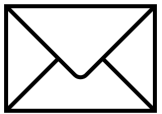
LINKED IN - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/irish-fair-of-minnesota>

Contact us

volunteer@tcirishfest.com

651.615.7474 (calls and text messages)

- Call or text if you need an immediate response
- Text is preferred (can be hard to hear over music!)



Please let us know if there is an emergency situation that impacts your shift.

You will get an email from your Area Manager (or me) next week.

You will also get automated reminders about your registered shifts.

THANK YOU

