

October 9th - 18th, 2015

1915
BOWSER FORD
BRIDGE
CROSS THIS BRIDGE AT A WALK

Bowser Ford Covered Bridge is 100 years old!

Built in 1915 by Eugene Britton this year's featured covered bridge is the Bowser Ford Covered Bridge. Parke County Inc. has lapel pins, magnets, patches, ornaments and other memorabilia available in honor of this particular bridge. These items may be purchased in the Tourist Information Center any time or during the Festival under the "Big Tent".



Welcome to the 59th Annual Parke County

Covered Bridge Festival

"Covered Bridge Capital of the World"

Parke County Communities

- ◆ Bloomingdale offers chicken & noodle dinners, ham & beans, barbeque and vegetable soup at the Friends Meeting House (Quaker Church) and it is here that some of the best apple butter is made and sold during the Festival. Don't miss this stop on the Blue and Yellow routes.
- ◆ Bridgeton is known for it's covered bridge and the mill that is in operation during the Festival. Hundreds of crafters and vendors abound the community along with food and entertainment. Bridgeton is located on the Red and Black routes.
- ◆ Mansfield is home to a roller mill operated by the Indiana DNR as well as the Mansfield Covered Bridge and hundreds of vendors for your shopping pleasure. Located on the Black route.
- ◆ Mecca is home to the one-room schoolhouse located next to the covered bridge and a tent full of handmade and homemade items. Located on the Red and Brown routes.
- ◆ Montezuma boasts ham & beans, a hog roast, crullers, an antique tractor show, community-wide yard sales, and canal tours with plenty of festival entertainment along the Wabash River. Located on the Brown route.
- ◆ Rosedale boasts a civic center filled with special treasures - great gift ideas or something for yourself. This community offers a little bit of everything. Make sure you stop by. Located on the Red route.
- ◆ Tangier is home to the world-famous buried beef served daily at the Tangier Community Building with shopping on the side. Check it out! Located on the Blue and Yellow routes.

Festival Headquarters

- The historic courthouse square in downtown Rockville is the festival headquarters. Festival hours are 9am to 6pm daily on the square. Some areas operate from 8am to 5pm.
- Rockville, the headquarters and starting point for the Festival since 1957 offers "The Big Tent" on the courthouse lawn full of crafters and vendors with a wide variety of products. Food provided by non-profit organizations of Parke County gives visitors choices of breakfast, lunch, and supper.
- Entertainment on the south side of the courthouse is always free with some seating available at picnic tables.
- Streets around the town square provide more shopping and eating opportunities. Public restrooms are located in the basement of the courthouse along with portable facilities on the southwest corner of the square.
- The courthouse lawn is ADA accessible by sidewalks, with marked parking available on the west side of the courthouse on Market Street.

During the Festival maps and visitor information may be obtained at the Tourist Information Center at 401 E Ohio Street (train depot) in Rockville or the Information Booth located on the west side of the courthouse on Market Street. Information is also available under the Big Tent where you may purchase official souvenirs of "Parke County, Covered Bridge Capital of the World."

Bus Tour Breakdown 2015

Covered Bridge Festival

Friday, Oct. 9th

10:15 - North
1:30 - South

Wednesday, Oct. 14th

10:15 - North
1:30 - South

Saturday, Oct. 10th

10:15 - North
10:15 - South
1:30 - North
1:30 - South

Thursday, Oct. 15th

10:15 - North
1:30 - South

Sunday, Oct. 11th

10:15 - North
10:15 - South
1:30 - North
1:30 - South

Friday, Oct. 16th

10:15 - North
10:15 - South
1:30 - North
1:30 - South

Monday, Oct. 12th

10:15 - North
1:30 - South

Saturday, Oct. 17th

10:15 - North
10:15 - South
1:30 - North
1:30 - South

Tuesday, Oct. 13th

10:15 - North
1:30 - South

PETS AND GOLF CARTS AT THE FESTIVAL

Many ask if pets are allowed at the Festival. Because of the layout of the event and so many thousands in attendance, it is recommended that your pets remain at home. If you bring your pet you might have limited access to buildings and grounds **unless you have a service animal.**

Golf carts are NOT allowed at the festival.



Tickets: \$15 per person *see disclaimer
Each route takes about 3 hours to complete

North Route:

Includes the towns of Tangier (known for their famous buried beef) and Bloomingdale (known for their apple butter) as well as 5 covered bridges (West Union, Marshall, Rush Creek, Jackson, and Catlin).

Southwest Route:

Includes the towns of Montezuma (known for their hog roast), Mecca (known for their one-room schoolhouse), and Rosedale (known for their shopping at their civic center) as well as 6 covered bridges (Melcher, Sim Smith, Phillips, Mecca, Roseville, and Thorpe Ford).

***Disclaimer:** Payment is to be received upon reserving seats. If you cannot make it to the tour, please cancel at least 24 hours in advance. Refunds will be initiated via check in the mail if your reserved seats can be sold.



WAXI 104.9 is the official radio station of "The Covered Bridge Festival". Tune in for up-to date festival information.

Festival Foliage & Weather Tidbits

In order for trees to produce color, the weather has to be just right. Cool evenings with sunny afternoons make for the best colors possible. We are hoping for a brilliant array of color to splash the county's trees through out the month of October.

What to expect in October:

- ◆ The average high during Covered Bridge Festival is about 65 and the average low is 45.
- ◆ The average rainfall during the 10-day festival is about 1.25".
- ◆ Average rainfall during the month of October is 3.35".
- ◆ The highest temperature ever recorded was 93 set on October 8th, 1952.
- ◆ The lowest temperature ever recorded was 18 on October 21st, 1952.
- ◆ An interesting weather event happened October 9th, 1989 when 3-5" of snow fell during the Covered Bridge Festival.

**No matter what the weather,
the festival runs for 10 consecutive days- rain or shine!**



JOHN DEERE



Tomorrow's Solutions Today

AHW LLC is a John Deere dealership with locations in eastern Illinois and western Indiana. We combine **The Strength of Tradition** and **A Vision for the Future** in order to deliver **Tomorrow's Solutions Today.**

Join us for our 2nd annual



Always the first Saturday of December.
Shop our local vendors for your gift ideas.
Hope to see you there!

Come back and visit us during our annual



Always the last weekend in February and
the first weekend in March.
Hope to see you there!



Always be on the look out
for our little tourists!
Whether on foot or
vehicular traffic. Those little
ones can move pretty fast
and we want them to have a
safe and enjoyable time at
the Festival too!



Be sure to hash tag the festival when capturing
your moments during this 59th Parke County
Covered Bridge Festival. Use the hash tag

#ParkeCountyCBF

when you post pictures.
Let's spread the beauty of Parke County!



The courthouse lawn is ADA
accessible by sidewalks with
marked parking available on the
west side of the courthouse on
Market Street. Public restrooms
are located in the basement of
the courthouse along with
portable facilities on the
southwest corner of the square.



Covered Bridge Festival Traveling Precautions

- ◆ The covered bridge at Mansfield (Black Route) is closed to through traffic during the Covered Bridge Festival.
- ◆ Please, be cautious of motorcyclists and bicyclists, they share the same road as you do.
- ◆ The local Amish use the roads, too; be mindful of them on their scooters, walking, and horse and buggies.
- ◆ Traffic in the area can get backed up due to thousands of visitors, expect slow travel time.
- ◆ Roads are mostly paved in the area, but we do have several gravel roads to be aware of (see map and dotted lines).
- ◆ Watch for pedestrians crossing roads unexpectedly, that includes animals as well.



The Covered Bridge Art Gallery

located on the north side of the square in Rockville.
Hours during the festival are
Sunday-Thursday 9am-6pm
Friday & Saturday 9am-8pm.
www.coveredbridgeartgallery.org

Daily Events & Entertainment

-
- Rockville
(Festival Headquarters) — Open Daily 9am-6pm and Sunday 18th - 9am-5pm
- Tangier
'Home of the Buried Beef' — Open Daily 10am-6pm
- Bloomington Friends
Meeting House (Apple Butter) — Open Daily 8am-5pm
- Mansfield Mill — Open Daily
- Bridgeton Mill — Open Daily
- Canal Tours (Montezuma) — Open Daily
- Montezuma Hog Roast — Friday's, Saturday's and Sunday's
- Marshall Fish Fry — October 9th and 10th, 4-8pm
- Lyford Chicken Fry (Lyford) — TBA
- Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show
(Montezuma) — TBA
- Portland Mills Hayride — TBA
- 1812 Overture on the Square
(Rockville) — Monday 13th, 5pm
- Military Honors Day (Rockville) — Wednesday 14th, 11am
- Billie Creek Village — Open Daily
- Bloomington Pancake Breakfast — Saturday's and Sunday's 7-11am
- Southside of the Square
Entertainment (Rockville) — Live music daily
-

All times are listed as Eastern Daylight Time!
Events subject to change (or added) without notice.