

## **Franklin County Watermelon Festival Rules**

For the safety and enjoyment of everyone attending Franklin County Watermelon Festival, the following rules are in place:

### **All ages are welcome**

#### **Pets**

We know pets are like family, however, we ask that you leave your pets/animals at home. This policy is due to the festival environment, and presence of food and drink, being stressful for animals and has led to bites and other incidents. It is hot, crowded, and loud. This environment can be very stressful for animals and a usually well-behaved pet may feel the need to protect its owner by attacking another person or animal. Anyone bringing an animal to the Franklin County Watermelon Festival will be responsible for and liable for any damage or injury caused by the animal. Traveling into Russellville with your pet? Be a responsible and loving dog-parent by leaving them at an animal kennel before the festival. For Americans with Disabilities Act info, please see the "SERVICE ANIMALS" section below.

#### **Service Animals**

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, the definition of "service animal" is limited to a dog (or pony) that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability who is in attendance. The task(s) performed by the dog must be directly related to the person's disability. Under the ADA, "comfort," "therapy," or "emotional support animals" do not meet the definition of a service animal. – U.S. Dept. of Justice. Unfortunately, people abuse the right to have a service animal with them and these dogs may cause problems on-site. These pet-owners are taking advantage of people with disabilities, threatening the health and safety of all people and of service animals. If you have a certified service animal that you are required to have with you at all times, you'll be required to have your service animal with you and ON LEASH at all times. Under the ADA, service animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless these devices interfere with the service animal's work or the individual's disability prevents using these devices.

#### **Behavior**

- No fighting or threatening behavior: any person found fighting will be evicted from the festival without refund.
- No disorderly or disruptive behavior, abusive, foul, or disruptive language and obscene gestures.
- No fighting, taunting, threatening remarks, or gestures.
- Over intoxication or signs of impairment related to excessive alcohol consumption is not allowed.
- No weapons of any kind (Includes guns, ammunition, pocket knives, pepper spray, etc.)
- No fireworks or explosives.
- No Illegal substances.