



**TOWN OF WARE
126 Main Street
Ware, MA 01082**

SPECIAL EVENT CHECKLIST & APPLICATION PACKET

Thank you for considering Ware as the venue for your organization’s special event. While every Town has different procedures, they are typically driven by State regulation. Ware has developed the following Special Event Checklist and Permit Application Packet to help you plan out the logistics of your event. Event sponsors are responsible for obtaining all proper licenses and permits and abiding by the rules listed on said licenses. It is our hope that this checklist will enlighten you about the permitting process and the various Town Departments involved in event planning.

A **Special Event** is any activity that occurs upon public or private property that affects the ordinary use of parks, playgrounds, beaches, fields, buildings, public streets, right-of-way, or sidewalks and it may feature entertainment, amusements, food and non-alcoholic or alcoholic beverages. Examples of a **Special Event** include (but are not limited to) festivals, road races, Farmer’s Markets, block parties, carnivals, and parades.

Once you have received the application packet, the best practice is to begin by reading through the Special Event Checklist to determine what is needed for your event. Permits, licenses and inspections may be required for your event. Please check all of the applicable boxes in each section of the checklist. Complete the application packet (the checklist and the permit application) and return it to the Board of Selectmen’s office at Town Hall.

Your application packet will be time stamped and forwarded to all departments for DEPARTMENT SIGN OFF AND APPROVAL/COMMENTS. Once all departments have reviewed your application, it will be placed on an upcoming agenda for final approval by the Board of Selectmen.

The authorized special event permit must be posted in a visible location at your event.

THE SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT IS SUBJECT TO ANY AND ALL LAWS, REGULATIONS, STANDARDS, GUIDELINES AND POLICIES OF THE TOWN OF WARE AND DEPARTMENT OR BODY OTHERWISE HAVING JURISDICTION AND FURTHER SUBJECT TO THE SPECIFIC TERMS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS PRINTED OR WRITTEN HEREINBELOW OR ATTACHED AND MAY BE VOIDED OR REVOKED AT ANY TIME IF ANY REGULATION, STANDARD, GUIDELINE OR POLICY OF THE TOWN OF WARE ARE VIOLATED.

THIS PERMIT IS GRANTED UPON THE CONDITION THAT THE PERSON OR PERSONS TO WHOM IT IS ISSUED SHALL FULFILL ALL REQUIREMENTS OF THE REGULATIONS GOVERNING OF THE TOWN OF WARE AND SHALL NOT BE TRANSFERRED, ASSIGNED OR CONVEYED.

PLEASE NOTE: Contents of this checklist are presumed accurate. All information is subject to change.

Listed below are general items that could apply to any department's requirements for an event:

ADA AWARENESS

- Special events should be accessible to people with disabilities. Building Inspections will assist you in ensuring that your event is accessible.

INSURANCE

- When alcohol is served or sold, an insurance rider in the amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence with a \$1,000,000 aggregate is required. Be aware that such coverage usually requires a thirty-day lead time.
- When renting Town property, an insurance rider in the amount of \$500,000 per occurrence with a \$1,000,000 aggregate is required.
- The vendor must submit an insurance certificate for all coverage, listing the Town of Ware as an additional insured, to the Town Manager's office prior to the event.

NEIGHBOR NOTIFICATION

- If the special event will require street closings, traffic or bus route changes or other features that will affect the public, the event planner must notify all abutting neighbors and prepare and distribute a press release and a site map to local media outlets ten days before the event.

OVERTIME COSTS

- Overtime charges *may* be passed along to event organizers requiring inspection services outside of normal business hours.

RAIN DATE / PLAN CHANGES

- Event organizers must anticipate – and include in their application – changes in plans due to foul weather or other calamities.

TRASH COLLECTION AND REMOVAL

Event sponsor may be responsible for trash collection and removal. Review details with property owner / manager.

- Dumpster permits are issued by Fire Department.

UTILITIES – ELECTRIC, PLUMBING, GAS

Review requirements with property owner / manager.

- Temporary electrical accommodations require services of Wire Inspector (Building Inspection Department-see below) to prevent overloading or other unsafe conditions.

Each vendor will be restricted to one electrical appliance.

- Temporary use of gas or propane will require permits from the Plumbing & Gas Inspector and Fire Department (Building Inspection Department & Fire Department-see below).

TOWN DEPARTMENTS/CONTACTS AND REQUIREMENTS

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT (413-531-3879) Located at: Grenville Park, Church Street

Office Hours: Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 3:00pm

TOWN PARKS

- Use of Town Parks requires permission from the Park Commission. The Park Commission meets the first Monday of every month. Requests for park use should be filed 30 days prior to event date.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT (967-9648 x110) Located at: Town Hall, 126 Main Street, 2nd Floor

Office Hours: Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm

FOOD AND BEVERAGES

- All vendors that handle, prepare, transport, and/or serve food, non-alcoholic beverages, and pre-packaged retail food must file an application with the Ware Board of Health.
- All food must be prepared in a Board of Health certified kitchen and transported to event in accordance with all applicable regulations and laws.

SANITARY FACILITIES

- Please specify the restroom facilities that will be used for food service vendors.
- Provisions for safe food handling practices with ready to eat foods include hand-washing stations, disposable gloves, etc.

DPW DEPARTMENT (967-9620) Located at: 4 ½ Church Street

Office Hours: Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm

- See “*Venues*” for buildings, parks, school buildings & school grounds
- Buildings, parks, school buildings & school grounds have separate paperwork and may have fees.

You will need to make arrangements for special requests (bathrooms needing to be opened, etc.)

GROUND PENETRATION

- Make arrangements with property owner / manager if penetrating the ground (tent stakes, etc.), and call Dig Safe at 1-888-Dig-Safe (344-7233), which covers gas, electric and telephone utilities. A report from Dig Safe is required prior to permit approval. Contact Public Works & Utilities for water, sewer and storm water information.
- Approval is required from the department of Public Works & Utilities.

SIDEWALK CLOSURE / OBSTRUCTION

- A permit is required from Public Works for sidewalk sales or other obstructions.

BUILDING INSPECTION DEPARTMENT (967-9648 x180) Located at: Town Hall, 126 Main Street

Office Hours: Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Some events requiring entertainment licenses (i.e. carnivals) will require Board of Selectmen approval and may also require Building Inspector services.

- All amusement rides, including climbing walls, require permits and inspection by State Building Inspectors

OCCUPANCY ISSUES

- Events utilizing space for purposes other than what the space was designed for (i.e. using a vacant storefront for an entertainment venue) constitute change of use. Any building in excess of 35,000 cubic feet requires an architect evaluation for change of use. Review proposal (including sketches) with Building Inspector.
- In a building that has a current certificate of inspection for a place of assembly, the maximum number of people that can occupy the room or space is posted on the certificate.

TENTS

Events that gather people outside in a tent or other structures that cover an area **in excess of 120 square feet**, including all connecting areas or spaces with a common means of egress or entrance which are used or intended to be used for the gathering together of ten or more persons will be required to obtain a permit from the Building Inspection Department.

- Organizers are encouraged to have the tent rental company secure necessary tent permits.
- All tents, regardless of size, must be properly secured or weighted.

SIGNAGE

- Review with property owner / manager and Building Inspector.

FIRE DEPARTMENT (967-5901) Located at: 200 West Street

Office Hours: Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

CONCESSION TRAILERS

- A concession trailer fire safety inspection is required during or prior to the event. A cooking suppression system check is required (certification must be current within 6 months prior). If deep frying is used, you must have a K-Type fire extinguisher. For all other cooking, you must have a 10ABC or larger fire extinguisher.

FIREWORKS / BONFIRES

- Permit required from Ware Fire Department.
Review with property owner.

GRILLS / PROPANE TANKS

- Permits required from Plumbing & Gas Inspector and Fire Department for the use of propane tanks or grilling at any public event including concession trailers. The Fire Department needs to know the number and size of propane tanks.

STREET CLOSURES OR DETOURS

- Notify Fire Department of street closures or detours 24 hours in advance. Also requires approval of the Board of Selectmen

DUMPSTERS

- Dumpster permits are issued by Fire Department.

POLICE DEPARTMENT (967-3571) Located at: 22 North Street
Office Hours: Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

STREETS/PUBLIC WAYS – BLOCK PARTIES

NOISE – Hours of operation 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. – Strictly enforced.

- Notify Ware Police Department if event may exceed acceptable noise levels.

PARKING

- Review with property owner / manager
- May require permission from Ware Police Department.

STREET CLOSURE

- Permission is required from Ware Police Department for any street closures or detours.

SECURITY DETAILS

- Ware Police Department. _____ # of Officers Needed

SELECTBOARD (967-9648) Located at: Town Hall, 126 Main Street
Office Hours: Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm

ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE

- Outdoor concerts, carnivals, circus, fairs, etc., require permit from Board.
- Alcoholic beverages served or sold require license from Board.

RAFFLE – Town Clerk – Non-profit organizations only may receive a raffle permit – proof required

- A Permit good for one year is required from Town Clerk for any raffle.

SALES / CONCESSIONS (Hawker & Peddler License)

- State and Licensing Board permits are required for the planned sales or concessions.

WEB LINKS

Links to this document and all of the relevant Town departments are available at: www.townofware.com

LOCATION OF EVENT (Must be Checked for Event Location)

TOWN PARKS

- Grenville Park Including Bandshell and Pavilion
- Veterans Memorial Park and Lot
- Memorial Field

TOWN HALL

- Auditorium (Capacity 400)
- Selectboard Meeting Room

WARE SENIOR CENTER

- Auditorium
- Cafeteria

SCHOOL BUILDINGS

- Auditorium
- Cafeteria
- Gym
- Classroom – Room # _____
- General Grounds – Explain location: _____

OTHER LOCATION

- Name of Location: _____

**SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT APPLICATION- TOWN OF WARE
(To be posted or made available at event)**

Return to: Selectboard Office, Town of Ware, 126 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082

Application packet must be received no later than 30 days prior to the event.

Event Name: _____ Event Producer: _____

Primary Contact Information

Primary Contact Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Day Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Website: _____

Non-Profit Organization / Event: Yes No

Event Information

Event Address / Location: _____

EVENT DATE

Starting Date: ___/___/___ Time: ___:___M Attendance Expected: _____

Ending Date: ___/___/___ Time: ___:___M

RAIN DATE

Starting Date: ___/___/___ Time: ___:___M Attendance Expected: _____

Ending Date: ___/___/___ Time: ___:___M No Rain Date Scheduled

List any streets to be closed for special event: _____

Summary of Event - Please describe the special features of the event within the box below.

RELEASE/HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT (REQUIRED FOR USE OF TOWN PROPERTY ONLY):

I, _____, a representative from _____, does hereby acknowledge that in the course of its use of property owned by the Town of Ware, namely _____ located at _____, Ware, Massachusetts, for the purpose described above, and more particularly by virtue of the presence of its agents, servants, employees and invitees, (hereinafter collectively referred to as _____), in any manner whatsoever shall operate at its own risk on said property of the Town of Ware.

For and in consideration of the use of _____, _____ does for itself and on behalf of its agents, servants, employees and invitees, hereby, jointly and severally, remise, release and forever discharge the Town, it's agents, servants and employees (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Town"), of and from all debts, demands, actions, and any and all claims or demands whatsoever of any kind for damages or injuries to property or person, which may arise by virtue of _____ use of _____. _____ further agrees to defend and indemnify and hold harmless the Town from and against any claims of any nature whatsoever and the cost and expense, including, but not limited to, attorney fees and legal costs arising out of any claim in connection with its use of _____. Said indemnification shall not include claims arising from intentional malfeasance by the agents or employees of the Town of Ware.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20____, on behalf of _____ by _____, its _____.

Signature _____ Date: ____/____/____

Signature of the agent duly authorized by the Special Event Permit applicant to bind it.

This application packet (the checklist and the permit application) will be reviewed by each department for sign-off. Once all sign-offs have been received, this application packet will be placed on an upcoming agenda for final approval by the Selectboard.

Review & Submission for Sign-Offs Provided By Departments
Please note – Departments may provide additional comments below their sign-off

Name of Event _____ Date: _____

Department Comments/Concerns/Conditions for Certificate Approval:

Parks and Recreation _____ ***Date:*** _____

Health Department _____ ***Date:*** _____

Department of Public Works _____ ***Date:*** _____

Building Inspections _____ ***Date:*** _____

Fire Department _____ ***Date:*** _____

Police Department _____ ***Date:*** _____

of Officers (if applicable) _____