

# KINGWOOD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

Sponsors And Producers Of The

## PRESTON COUNTY BUCKWHEAT FESTIVAL

Beginning Annually The Last Thursday Of September

115 Brown Avenue • Kingwood, West Virginia 26537

September 1, 2024

Dear Band Director;

We welcome you to the 82nd Annual Preston County Buckwheat Festival and would like to extend a cordial invitation for your band to participate. There are parades planned for September 26, 27, 28, 2024.

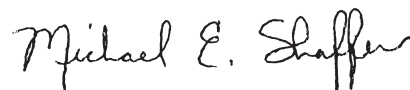
Let me tell you about our parades:

1. Parade route is of **“Loop” Design**. You start and end close to your buses.
2. **Convenient Parking** - adjacent to Buckwheat Festival Fair Grounds.
3. **Excellent Carnival, Exhibits, and Attractions** for your entertainment.
4. **Refreshments and Food** conveniently available.
5. **Financial Help** – We pay **\$2.00** per mile (round trip mileage) per bus/truck for transportation. (Minimum of **\$200.00** per bus)
6. **Large Trophies** – Presented after parades to the first place bands in each division.
7. **Professional Judges**
8. Choice of **Three Parades** – you can attend any or all three.

More information (Dates, Band Classification, Etc.) can be found on the enclosed Band Enrollment and Publicity Sheet for Parades Form. Please return your Band Enrollment Form by September 20, 2024.

We hope that you will plan to help us celebrate the 82nd Annual Preston County Buckwheat Festival in Kingwood, West Virginia, during September 26 - 29, 2024.

Sincerely,



Michael E. Shaffer  
Band and Judge Coordinator  
Phone or Fax (304) 329-1730  
Phone (304) 329-6453  
Cell (304) 288-8998

**Please check the Buckwheat Festival Website  
for parade line-ups and  
other information.**

**[www.buckwheatfestival.com](http://www.buckwheatfestival.com)**

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115 Brown Avenue • Kingwood, West Virginia 26537

September 1, 2024

Dear Band Director;

We are looking forward to the participation of your band in the 82nd Annual Preston County Buckwheat Festival held in Kingwood, West Virginia on **September 26, 27, 28, 2024**.

A map of Kingwood is enclosed for your convenience. Your attention is directed to the following points on the map:

- **School Bus Parking** on South Price Street. This is located convenient to the line-up area, end of parade, and refreshment stand/carnival grounds. **ALL BAND STUDENTS NEED TO BE CHAPERONED IN THE BUS PARKING AREA.**
- **Bands Line Up Area** on Morgan Street. A Parade Marshal will be available at the head of Morgan Street for your assistance. Restrooms will also be located in this area. (Porta-Johns)
- **Parade Route** is marked on your map. The parade route on Thursday will be approximately .7 mile and on Friday and Saturday will be .9 mile.
- **Band Judging** will occur on Main Street. There is a crosswalk in front of the Preston County Assessors Office. This designates the beginning of the judging area. Please make certain your band plays in front of the Judges' Stand. There is a severe point penalty for not doing so.

### **Here are some other tips which will facilitate your trip and enhance your band's appearance:**

- Please allow ample time for buses to enter town and park. Traffic congestion is the usual thing at the Buckwheat Festival.
- The bands will be adjudicated by professional judges.
- Trophies and score sheets will be available at the Festival Information Booth approximately 45 minutes after completion of the parade. A composite report with scores of all **COMPETITIVE BANDS**, will be given to each Band Director.
- We have had problems with some bands holding up the parade in past years. **Any band stopping for alignment purposes on Main Street or otherwise holding up the parade or not marching to designated end of parade route (past Kingwood Elementary), will be disqualified from the competition.**

I hope these suggestions will be of some benefit to you. If I can be of any assistance in making your trip a more pleasurable one, please give me a call. (304) 288-8998 (Cell), (304) 329-1730 (Day), (304) 329-6453 (Evening). **During the Buckwheat Festival days, you may call anytime at (304) 329-0101.** Thank you for coming and Good Luck!

**Parade Times: Thursday 7:30 p.m.      Friday 2:00 p.m.      Saturday 12:00 Noon**

Michael E. Shaffer, Band and Judge Coordinator

**— IMPORTANT SAFETY INFO —**  
**All band students need to be chaperoned in the bus parking area.**

# 2024 Preston County Buckwheat Festival

## Band Enrollment and Publicity Sheet for Parades

Name of School/Band \_\_\_\_\_ School Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Director \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

We wish to be a **COMPETITIVE** band in the parades \_\_\_\_\_.

We wish to be a **NON-COMPETITIVE** band in the parades and receive judges comments only \_\_\_\_\_.

**Please indicate your Band Classification: Please Read Carefully, Band Classifications have Changed.**

\_\_\_\_ Division III (Total Marching Members – 101 or more including auxiliary)

\_\_\_\_ Division II (Total Marching Members – 61-100 including auxiliary)

\_\_\_\_ Division I (Total Marching Members – 1-60 including auxiliary)

\_\_\_\_ Junior High School

\_\_\_\_ Middle School

\_\_\_\_ Adult

**We plan to attend the following parade(s):**

\_\_\_\_ Firemen's Parade — Thursday, September 26, 2024 – 7:30 P.M.

\_\_\_\_ School Community Day Parade — September 27, 2024 – 2:00 P.M.

\_\_\_\_ Farmer's Day Parade — Saturday, September 28, 2024 – 12:00 Noon

**We will be using \_\_\_\_\_ (number) buses to transport our band. (This is important for parking)**

### REVIEWING STAND / MARCHING INFORMATION

Name of Drum Major(s), Field Commander(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Uniform Colors \_\_\_\_\_ Mascot \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Selection(s) to be played in the Parade \_\_\_\_\_

Recent Honors \_\_\_\_\_

Number of students in the line of march \_\_\_\_\_ (Include Majorettes, Silks, Color Guard, Etc)

**Round Trip Mileage to the Preston County Buckwheat Festival in Kingwood, WV: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please return this completed form by September 20, 2024 to: Michael Shaffer, Band Coordinator**

**16775 Veterans Memorial Hwy  
Kingwood, WV 26537**

Phone or Fax (304) 329-1730

Phone (304) 329-6453

Cell (304) 288-8998

More Information and Band Enrollment Forms can be found at:

**[www.buckwheatfestival.com](http://www.buckwheatfestival.com)**

