

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, 2023

Dear Band Director;

We are looking forward to the participation of your band in the 81st Annual Preston County Buckwheat Festival held in Kingwood, West Virginia on **September 28, 29, 30, 2023**.

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.

2023 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 28, 2023 – 7:30 P.M.

____ School Community Day Parade — September 29, 2023 – 2:00 P.M.

____ Farmer's Day Parade — Saturday, September 30, 2023 – 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, 2023 to: Michael Shaffer, Band Coordinator
16775 Veterans Memorial Hwy**

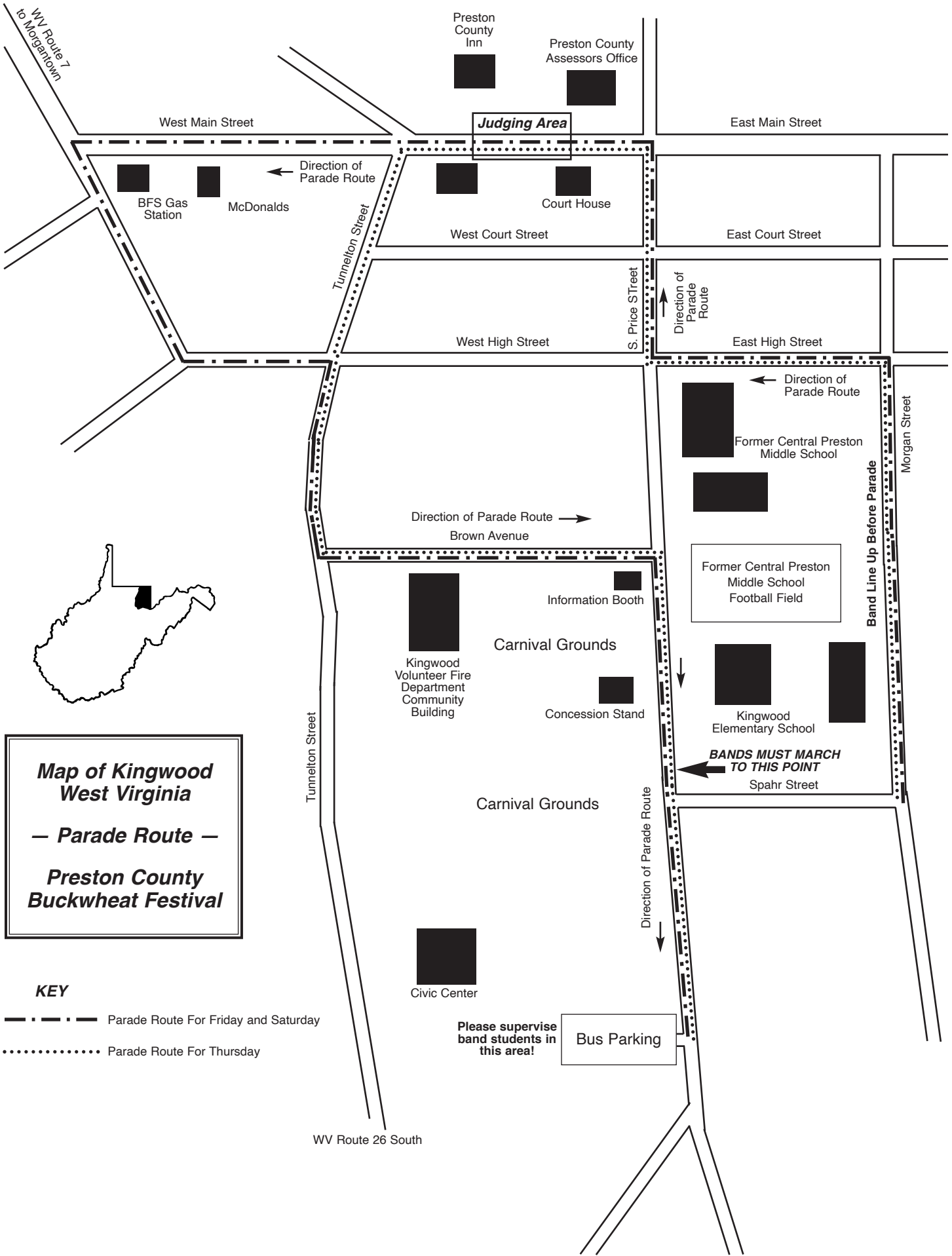
Kingwood, WV 26537

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



**Map of Kingwood
West Virginia**
— Parade Route —
**Preston County
Buckwheat Festival**

KEY

- Parade Route For Friday and Saturday
- Parade Route For Thursday

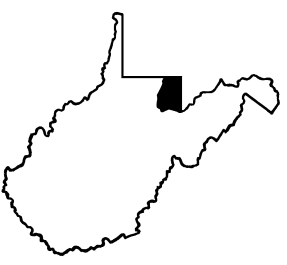
**Please supervise
band students in
this area!**

Bus Parking

Band Line Up Before Parade

**BANDS MUST MARCH
TO THIS POINT**

Judging Area



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, 2023

Dear Band Director;

We welcome you to the 81st Annual Preston County Buckwheat Festival and would like to extend a cordial invitation for your band to participate. There are parades planned for September 28, 29, 30, 2023.

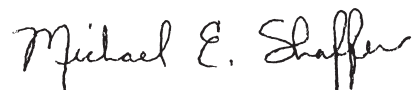
Let me tell you about our parades:

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, 2023.

We hope that you will plan to help us celebrate the 81st Annual Preston County Buckwheat Festival in Kingwood, West Virginia, during September 28 - October 1, 2023.

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