



2025 Parade and Festival FAQs

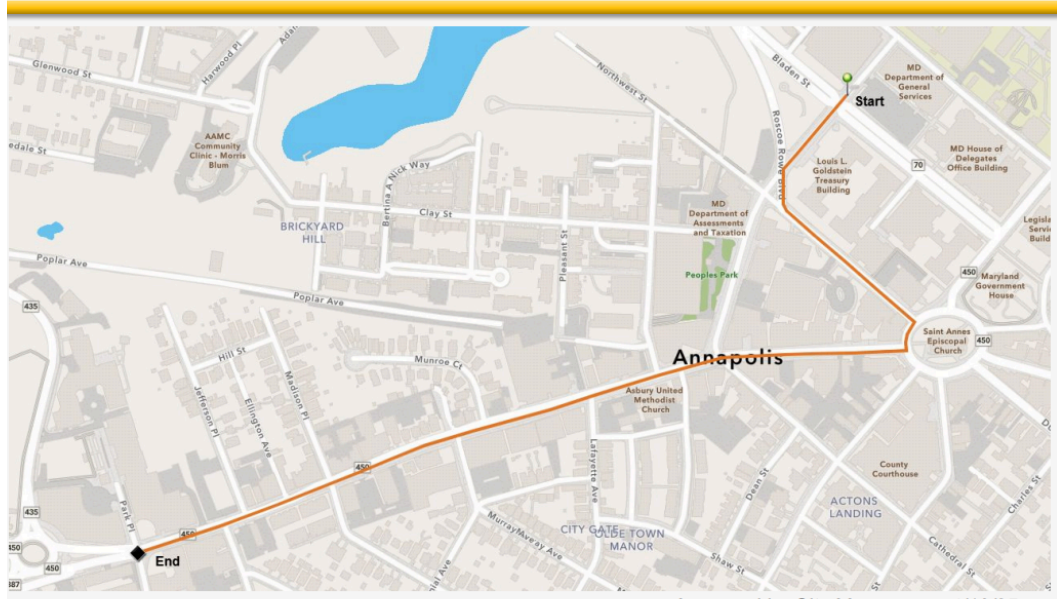
October 18, 2025

General Event FAQs

- **Where and when is the event? Saturday, October 18, 2025**
 - **NEW PARADE START TIME: October 18 at 10:00 am.** The parade will begin promptly at 10:00 am and will last around 90 minutes. Check-in will start at 8:30 am, and participants will receive a reporting time closer to the event.
 - **FESTIVAL LOCATION:** Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts (801 Chase Street) and Bates Athletic Complex (935 Spa Rd.). 190+ Vendors, including 20 food trucks!
 - **FESTIVAL TIME: October 18, 2025, from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM - FREE** and open to the public. Vendors may begin setup at 8:00 AM, and all vehicles must leave the festival area by 10:00 AM.
- **Where should I park?**
 - No parking is available at Maryland Hall or the Bates Field Complex.
 - Recommended: USNA Stadium - \$15 for all-day parking (\$30 for oversized vehicles).
 - USNAMC stadium only accepts credit/debit cards for payment. NO CASH
 - We will use the Blue Lot, Gate 5 at 550 Talyor Avenue.
 - Attendants will be available to assist and direct you.
 - Annapolis Pride will provide free shuttle service to the parade route and the festival grounds and return you to the stadium.
 - Line up for shuttles at the bus shelter, by the Blue Angel. More information is [here!](#)
 - Shuttles will run from the stadium starting at 7:30 AM and ending at 5:30 pm.
 - Other parking options are available at [garages](#) and parking lots.
- **Does it cost anything to attend?**
 - The event is FREE and open to the public.
- **Is it family-friendly?**
 - Yes! This is a family-friendly event that is suitable for all ages.

- **Where is the best place to watch the parade?**

- The parade can also be watched anywhere along the route, free of parked cars, and roughly 1.2 miles long.
- The parade begins at St. John's College (Calvert Street), proceeding down Bladen Street, around part of Church Circle, down West St. to Amos Garrett Blvd.



- **Is the Parade and Festival Accessible for People with Disabilities?**

- YES! Some shuttles moving from the USNA parking lot to the parade and festival will be ADA-accessible.
- AGAIN THIS YEAR: A section of the parade route near the intersection of West and Amos Garrett Streets will be blocked off for people with disabilities and one person accompanying them. We will have volunteers posted there to assist.
- Please consider arriving early enough to park in the nearby garages.
 - [Park Place Garage, One Park Pl](#)
 - [Knighton Garage- 1a Colonial Av.](#)

- **What happens if it rains?**

- The Annapolis Pride Parade & Festival is a rain-or-shine event. If the weather is extreme, we will communicate appropriately. A little rain is fine, but we are hoping for no further dangerous storms!
- Please [join our email list](#) and follow us on social media @annapolispride to receive alerts.
- OR text PRIDE25 to 38276 to receive alerts on the day of the event and for any important updates.

- **Are there other events happening on Pride weekend?**

- Yes! There will be some events around town for LGBTQ+ History Month. Stay tuned to our social media and [Check out our community calendar here.](#)

- **Will there be food trucks?**
 - We have many food trucks offering a diverse range of food, including vegetarian and vegan options.
- **What kinds of beverages will be available?**
 - This year, Absolut returns with a DJ, drinks at Maryland Hall, and beer tents.
 - No alcohol can leave the Maryland Hall property. Security will be monitoring this.
 - Vendors will check IDs at the point of sale, and ID check stations will be available to provide wristlets, expediting the purchase process.
 - Lemonade, boba, other soft drinks, and water are available from vendors.
- **Annapolis Pride Merch**
 - Annapolis Pride will be on the lawn of Maryland Hall selling t-shirts, branded Annapolis Pride fans (they clack!), hats, and water bottles.
 - We will give away car magnets, pins, stickers, bracelets, and a special giveaway to match our theme.
- **How will I know where different vendors/organizations are?**
 - Printed maps will be available from the Annapolis Pride tent at the front of Maryland Hall.
 - QR codes will allow you to download the map to your phone.
 - We will post the map and a list of vendors on the Annapolis Pride website once it is complete.
- **What are the organizers doing to ensure this is a safe event?**
 - Board members of Annapolis Pride have been meeting with city and county officials since January, and safety is a paramount concern for all.
 - City and county officials are continuously working with law enforcement groups to monitor chatter and ensure the event will be safe.
 - Annapolis Pride hires private security personnel, and city and county police will be present nearby.
 - The road to Bates Field will be blocked from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM to prevent vehicles from entering the area.
 - Remember, if you see something, say something - tell one of the Annapolis Pride volunteers if you see someone acting suspiciously or leaving a bag unattended.

- **Other important information:**

- Stay hydrated and wear sunscreen! Water will be available to purchase or fill up inside Maryland Hall.
- **Leave your pets at home.** If it is hot, it can burn their feet and the thousands of people at the event can be overwhelming to pets. Trained service dogs are welcome, but we recommend putting shoes on them to protect their feet on the pavement.
- There are two cooling (or warming) stations- one inside Maryland Hall and the other is a bus in the parking lot at Bates Field.
- Umbrellas can be helpful for shading.

- **How do I find First Aid?**

- The Annapolis Pride tent will have a First Aid kit for simple injuries.
- If more care is needed, the Fire Department will have individuals on site who can provide more first aid at their tent in the Maryland Hall lot, and bicycle responders will be around the festival area.
- To avoid overheating, a cooling bus is located in the parking lot of the Bates Field, and attendees can enter Maryland Hall to cool off, use restroom facilities, and get water, as needed.

Parade & Festival Parking Information

The recommended parking location for the parade and festival is at the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium (NMCMS). The local garages will fill up quickly, and visitors are highly discouraged from parking in residential areas with restricted parking. The City of Annapolis strictly enforces parking violations with tickets and towing.

Location:

Enter the parking lot at NMCMS from Taylor Ave (550 Taylor Ave) at Gate 5 in the Blue Lot.

Cost:

The stadium charges \$15 for parking for the day, payable by CREDIT/DEBIT only.

TIMING: Gates open for parking at 7:30 am



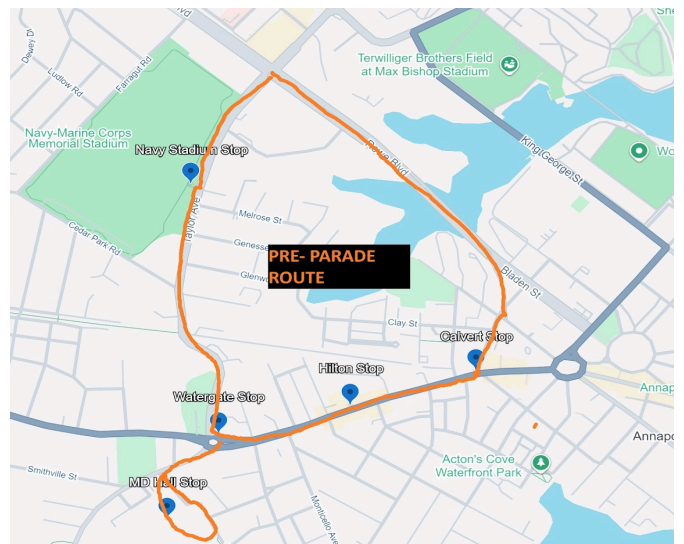
FREE Shuttle 7:30 am - 5:30 pm:

Annapolis Pride & Chesapeake Charter, Inc. provides a free shuttle to transport you to the parade and festival location and back to the Navy-Marine Corps Stadium. Some of the shuttles are accessible to people with disabilities.

From Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium to the Parade (Downtown) from 7 am to 11 am)

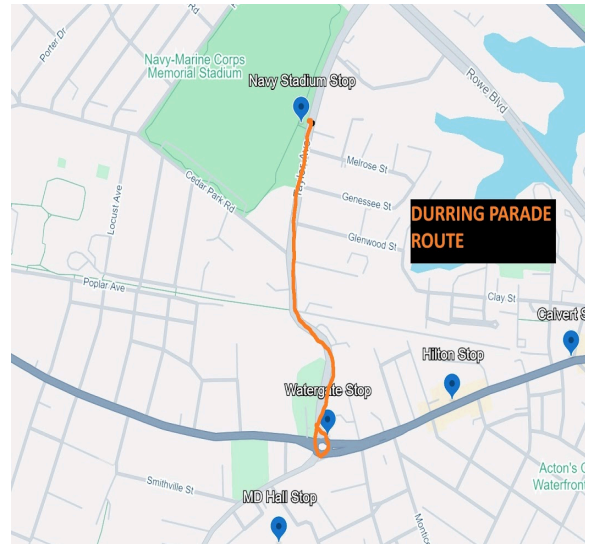
For parade viewing:

- to Calvert/West Street corner
- to stop at Hilton pull-in
- to Westin
- to MD Hall
- Return to stadium.



From Navy-Marine Corps to Parade Viewing During the Parade from 10 am - 11:30 am

- From Navy stadium.
- To Watergate circle.
- Return to stadium



Immediate Post-Parade Routes from 11:30 am Until Crowds on West Street Reduce

There will be two routes to take people directly to Maryland Hall for the festival. Some buses will go directly from Navy Stadium to Maryland Hall, while others will pick up parade watchers along West Street and bring them to Maryland Hall.

Route 1:

- From Navy Stadium
- to Calvert/West Street corner
- to stop at Hilton pull-in
- to Westin
- to Maryland Hall
- Return to stadium.

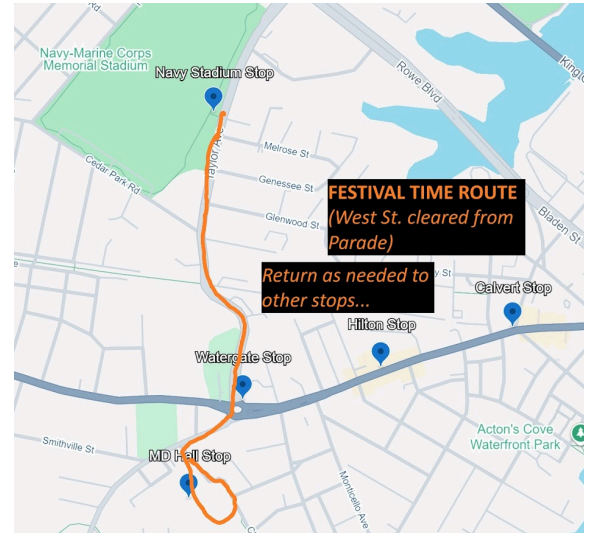
Route 2:

- From Navy Stadium
- to Maryland Hall
- Return to stadium.



Festival Only After West Street Clears until 5:30 pm.

- From the stadium,
- To Maryland Hall.
- Return to the stadium.
- Buses will also return to West St. as needed.



Annapolis Public Transport to Maryland Hall

After the streets reopen post-parade, Annapolis City buses will have their usual Saturday schedule. The purple and green routes will run from downtown to Westgate Circle. See this [map](#).

The Annapolis free magenta downtown shuttles will also run from [City Dock to Westin Circle](#).

Other parking options:

Additional parking is available at [garages and lots across the city](#). For individuals with disabilities, the [Park Place Garage](#), located at One Park Place, is the closest lot and can be reserved in advance. Additional lots can also be reserved, if you wish. Click on the parking garage on the site to see if reservations are accepted.