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Public Notice

Fall Harvest Festival Location Change To Riverside Middle School and Road Closure Cancellation

Town of Pendleton, South Carolina October 8, 2026

The Town of Pendleton announces that the planned road closures for Friday, October 9, and Saturday, October 10, 2026, have been canceled. Due to forecasted high winds associated with Hurricane Isaias, the Fall Harvest Festival has been relocated to Riverside Middle School to provide an indoor venue for this year's event.

We understand that this change may come as a disappointment to those who look forward to celebrating Fall Harvest Festival in our historic downtown. Please know that this decision was not made hastily. The Community Engagement Team and department heads carefully evaluated all available scenarios, weighing the safety and security of our residents, visitors, artists, vendors, and staff. With the support of the Mayor and Town Council, the decision was made to move forward with an indoor venue.

Forecasted winds ranging from 15 to 35 mph present significant safety concerns for an outdoor event involving tents, temporary structures, vendors, and large crowds outdoors. Additionally, the Village Green has recently been resodded. Continued rain, wind, tents, and heavy foot traffic could significantly damage the new grass and compromise the integrity of the green.

The Town recognizes that Fall Harvest Festival is more than a community event. It is an important opportunity to showcase Pendleton, support local businesses, artists and vendors, and welcome visitors to our community. With support from the South Carolina Arts Commission and Anderson County Accommodations Tax (ATAX) funding, the Town has invested in expanded promotional efforts across South Carolina and North Carolina to attract visitors and increase Pendleton's exposure to this year's festival.

Moving the festival indoors was not an easy decision, particularly given the planning, resources, and community partnerships that go into making this event successful. We extend our sincere appreciation to Anderson School District Four (ASD4) for working with us on such short notice and welcoming the festival to Riverside Middle School. Our team remained hopeful that the forecast would improve; however, with a hurricane making landfall in the Gulf, causing increased rain and winds, we believe

moving to an indoor venue is the safest option. We are grateful to ASD4 for helping us make this transition possible.

As we look ahead, the Town will also consider reviewing its current rain-or-shine policy as part of future event planning.

Although the vendor setup and overall atmosphere may look different from what residents and visitors have come to expect, the festival experience will continue! The entertainment schedule, art demonstrations, community art project, Michaels activities, and participating musical artists will proceed as planned.

We sincerely hope our residents, and visitors will join us at Riverside Middle School on Saturday, October 10, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Your continued support means a great deal to our community, our artists, our vendors, and everyone who has worked hard to bring this event to life.

Thank you for your understanding, flexibility, and continued support of the Town of Pendleton. We look forward to welcoming you to Fall Harvest Festival!

Fall Harvest Festival 2026

- Date: Saturday, October 10, 2026
- Time: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
- **New Location: Riverside Middle School**
- Road Closures: Previously scheduled closures for October 9 and 10 are canceled.

Lindsey Watley

Community Engagement Manager

Town of Pendleton, South Carolina