

Fort de Chartres Rendezvous

Trade Rules

\$75.00 Business Commercial Reserved Space Trader Fee \$60.00 Non-Reserved Trader Fee \$30.00 Blanket Trader Fee \$25.00 Camp Fee

Pre-Registration is required for all merchants wanting a reserved a spot on Traders' Row. All spots along the gravel walkway will be assigned to vendors on a first apply, first served application process. After pre-registration, if there are open spots on the main roads, they will still be \$75 per spot on a first come first serve basis. Once the main area of the gravel walkway is full, the secondary location will be then filled next which is from the gate/bridge to the parking area in the field on the Prairie du Rocher side of the fort to the gravel area of the primary merchant's road. Everyone else is still welcome to pre-register to make the process a little smoother during the event. We don't want to have to disrupt business to take your fee and issue your license, so it just makes sense to be able to do it all ahead of time for everyone if possible.

****Please refer to the new addition to the Trade Rules that addresses size restrictions associated with Blanket Traders at Fort de Chartres Rendezvous, this will go into effect during the 55th Annual Rendezvous, June 2025, and will be for each event moving forward. See below****

Blanket Traders

Blanket trading is allowed at registered campers' campsites and must adhere to the same standards as all other merchants. A Blanket Trader is defined as a Registered camper who is selling from a single blanket that is no larger than a single 4-point blanket that measures 72"x90". There will be no tables in lieu of a blanket. If you are conducting business from a table, you are a merchant and will be charged a merchant fee. All items must be on the blanket and not on stands or hanging from tents/dining flies. If you have more than one blanket you will be charged a blanket fee per blanket unless you want to be considered a merchant. If you are a blanket trader on the main Traders Row, you will be charged as a Traders Row (Reserved Merchant) merchant and not a blanket trader. This is nonnegotiable and is not up for discussion.

Reserved Merchant

Reserved Merchant is defined as anyone selling on the main Traders Row. You must register in advance and send in your trade fee to reserve your spot. This is a \$75 trade fee no matter how big or small your setup is. Your setup will be sized according to what you send in on your application. If additional space is needed it is up to the discretion of the trade committee on what is allowable and how it is set up. The main goal of the Reserved Merchant is so that we maintain a respectable merchant area on the main road and not mixed with camping and merchants. This allows us to maintain a market feel to our main road.

Non-Reserved Merchant

Non-Reserved Merchant is defined as a merchant anywhere else on the grounds that is in a non-reserved area. This doesn't mean that you are held to a lesser standard than any other merchant or blanket trader, all rules and standards still apply. The trade fee for a non-reserved merchant is \$60.

All Merchants and Blanket Traders camping at the event will also be charged a camping fee when arriving that is not included in your merchant fees. **Trade license fees will not be taken at the registration tent. This year we can take your camping fee along with your vendor fee for pre-registrants, you will just need to show whomever at registration that you have already registered. This is only for pre-registered vendors.**

Rendezvous at Fort de Chartres is a re-creation of the traditional fur trappers' holiday in the time of 1720-1820 at Fort de Chartres and the surrounding Illinois Country. This event gives us the chance to be a part in teaching the history of the time frame and area. To maintain the representation of the event we have listed some guidelines that we ask you to follow when selling at the event. We appreciate your efforts in maintaining the following trade rules.

No sale of food or drink.

No Lollipops or candy not from the period.

Period candy will be allowed in a plastic sleeve for health code reasons.

No Fluorescent feathers.

No face painting.

No Bird houses.

No Central or South American Items which includes Mexican or southwest style blankets for sale or as table covers.

No enamelware.

No non-period jewelry (ex. - turquoise, costume, etc.)

No pow wow items (ex. - war bonnets, bolo ties, rattle drums, etc.)

No plastic items or coverings.

No harmonicas.

No bamboo flutes.

No black powder.

No modern or percussion firearms or supplies.

No pop, cap, rubber band guns, crossbows, sling shots, slings, and bull whips.

No artifacts or fossils.

No magnets.

No non-period craft items.

No Australian items (ex. - didgeridoo, rain sticks, etc.)

No Parasols with oriental writing or symbols (no neon-colored parasols)

No Plastic or modern price stickers, Plastic bags, or modern credit card signs.

Any Item deemed of low quality will be asked to be removed also.

Any merchant or blanket trader found in violation of our rules will be given a verbal warning first, then a written warning second. If a third violation occurs or any violation we deem as harsh you will be asked to leave and you will then be banned from any and all events at Fort de Chartres. All decisions made by the trade committee will be final and not up for discussion. These are the rules we have set forth and if you do not want to adhere to our rules this isn't the event for you.

Upon completion of the application process for all preregistered merchants, you will receive a return letter stating if you are approved along with a trade license. This event will be closely monitored each year for quality control in our merchant area. There will be secret shoppers walking around checking to make sure your items are correct. They may be in period or street clothes so no one will ever know who they really are. If you are asked to remove something and then it is found back out again you will be asked to leave the event and will not be welcome back again! We are striving to make this event a better event every year and we can't do it without your help, and we appreciate all the support thus far.