



BANKFIRST

Saturday, November 15, 2025

COOK-OFF GOALS

- To demonstrate that responsible hunters and anglers properly utilize the wild game they harvest, and that wild game makes excellent and healthy table fare
- To provide an opportunity for cook-team enthusiasts to interact in a friendly competitive manner
- To bring awareness to Bay Springs and Jasper County's great outdoors
- To generate funds to support local wildlife conservation and Bay Springs revitalization efforts

COOK-TEAM GUIDELINES

- 1) ENTRY FEE \$100.** A Cook-Team may consist of a group of friends, a couple, or a single individual. The team may represent a business, club, hunt camp, restaurant, etc. or simply be a local cook. **Teams may have up to 5 members. You must fill out a cook-team form to compete.**

PLEASE NOTE: *The Bay Springs Chamber of Commerce* is a tax-exempt 501(c) (6) organization.

As such, we cannot endorse candidates for political office or participate in/endorse electioneering of any kind.

- 2) The Wild Game Cook-Off** is a celebration of the game animals, game birds, and game fish that can be harvested and utilized for food. Therefore, "*Wild Game*" is defined as any fish, fowl, or game that can be found in the wild of North America. We are also celebrating the people who harvest and/or utilize "*Wild Game*" for food. **Teams are strongly encouraged to utilize fish, fowl, or game that they have harvested themselves or have been harvested by other hunters and anglers.** However, use of fish, fowl, or game species that are also commercially available does not result in disqualification.

3) WILD GAME CATEGORIES:

- **FISH** (All Fresh & Saltwater Species)
NOTE: Category also includes Amphibians and Reptiles such as Alligators, Frogs, Snakes, and Turtles
- **FOWL** - Game Birds including but not limited to: Dove, Duck, Goose, Grouse, Pheasant, Quail, Wild Turkey
- **GAME** - Game Meat including but not limited to: Bear, Beaver, Bison, Wild Boar, Deer, Elk, Rabbit, Squirrel

- 4) \$100 Entry Fee per category entered / Teams may submit ONLY (1) DISH per category**

5) COOK-OFF AWARDS and CASH PRIZES:

- Trophies awarded for 1st Place in each category
- **\$1,000 Cash Prize awarded for 1st Place** in each category
- **\$200 “People’s Choice” Award** for the overall best-tasting dish voted on by the public
- **\$200 “Taste of Freedom” Award** for the best-decorated tent that exemplifies ***Patriotic Spirit***. This award will be judged on creativity, patriotism, and originality. Scoring is separate from the judging of Wild Game dishes submitted to the food judges. All cook-teams will be considered for the “Taste of Freedom” Award regardless of how their dishes score or place in the three categories.

6) Dishes will be judged on **Taste** and **Creativity/Originality** with taste weighted more heavily. **Creativity/Originality** includes imagination, uniqueness, and difficulty of the dish.

7) To be eligible for Cook-Team Awards the teams must provide to the public *at least* **250 “Bite Sized” Samples** of any dish submitted to the judges.

8) Due to the number of cook-teams and entries, the time a particular cook-team’s entry is picked up will vary. We will make every effort to communicate with the teams as to when their dish will be picked up. **All entries will be submitted in clam shell boxes provided by the Chamber of Commerce. No plates or other dishes allowed. Bowls w/ lids will be provided for soups, stews, etc.**

9) Cook-Teams ARE REQUIRED to provide the following:

- EXHIBIT TENT and TEAM SIGN
- TABLES, CHAIRS, and TABLECLOTHS (None are provided)
- Grill, Smoker, or other cooking device necessary for your special wild game entry
- Warmer such as a large pot or chafing dish with heat source
- Charcoal/propane or other fuel. Limited electricity available (Try to be as self-sufficient as possible)
- Food-handler Gloves, Serving Utensils, Paper Napkins and Water Containers (water source available)
- FIRE EXTINGUISHER in accordance with State requirements

10) The *Bay Springs Chamber of Commerce* will provide the following:

- **ONE 10’x12’ Exhibit Space per entry fee.** Additional 10’x12’ spaces are \$100 each
- One JWW Apron included per entry fee (additional ones available for purchase)
- Small plates, sample cups, sporks, toothpicks, and paper towels
- Containers for entries submitted to the judges
- Garbage Bags

Any additional questions, please contact DONALD BROWN at **601-670-1523** or **bayspringschamber@gmail.com**