

http://starlocalmedia.com/lewisvilleleader/get_out/lone-star-iced-tea-festival-coming-to-lewisville/article_14e05b92-54fe-11e6-bda2-0b217465e073.html

<
PREVIOUS

Witherspoon Distillery celebrates birthday in style

>

SPOTLIGHT FEATURED

Lone Star Iced Tea Festival coming to Lewisville

Heather M. Goodwin, hgoodwin@starlocalmedia.com Jul 28, 2016



Volunteers Pat Dugas, left, Carol O'Toole, center, and Amanda Vermillion, festival director, enjoy tea time at the Lone Star Iced T Festival.

A new kind of festival is making its debut in Lewisville, and officials are hoping it draws a large crowd.

The Lone Star Iced Tea Festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 13 at Premier Event Center, 1165 S. Stemmons Freeway. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door and children 12 years old and younger are free.

“Tea festivals in general have been happening for the past 10 years, but this is a subset of those that are fairly new,” said Amanda Vermillion, Lone Star Houston Tea Festival director. “This festival celebrates iced tea and sweet teas.”

The festival will include speakers who will talk about tea recipes, how to make the perfect iced tea, flavored teas, herbs and alcoholic mixed drinks made with tea. There will also be vendors and shopping, live music, entertainment, children’s activities and a best iced tea contest.

Vermillion said the theme, “Texas Tea,” is a reference to Texas’ oil and gas heritage as well as a modern reference to tea.

“We’ll have a lot of Texas-themed speakers including Smokey Culver, a cowboy poet,” Vermillion said. “We’ll also have children’s author Angie Barton. Several speakers are authors, who will autograph their books at the festival.”

The vendors will include numerous tea companies, but jewelry and other items will also be available for sale.

The event will also include a silent auction benefiting Hearts Afire Deer Rescue. Vermillion said various items were donated by some of the vendors including tea baskets, nutritional products, essential oils and jewelry.

Sample size tastings are included in the price of admission, and other sizes will be available for purchase.

For \$20, there will also be smaller tea tastings including one for a tea known as bubbles/boba/tapioca tea. Half of the proceeds from that tasting will benefit All As One Children’s Center, which provides Sierra Leone’s children and women with education, health care and other basic needs.

“In addition to trying out the tea, people will learn all about what the tea is,” Vermillion said.

Vermillion said at first ticket sales were low, but she said it’s picking up now.

"We've sold about 250," Vermillion said. "At the second event held in Houston we had 1,000 the first day and 800 the second. There were a lot of people who came to the Houston event from all over Texas."

Vermillion brought the festival to Lewisville after visiting a tea room in the city a few months ago.

"When I left the tea room I saw the event center," Vermillion said. "I knew it was exactly what I wanted for the festival."

The first 100 adult ticket buyers receive a swag bag.

Free admission is available for birthdays on Aug. 12, 13 or 14.

For information email festival@icedteafest.org or call 832-403-0823 or visit

icedteafest.net.

Like us! www.facebook.com/lewisvilleleader

Follow us on Twitter [@LVLeaderNews](https://twitter.com/LVLeaderNews)