

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Remains OPEN with FREE Admission; Shares Support for Families Impacted by Hazmat Emergency and Confirms Safe Operations**

**Garden Grove, CA — May 24, 2026** — The Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Association extends its heartfelt support to every family and neighborhood affected by the ongoing hazmat emergency in Garden Grove. This has been an emotional and unsettling time for many residents, and the Festival stands in solidarity with all those impacted.

Festival leadership has been in continuous communication with the **Garden Grove Police Department**, the **Orange County Fire Authority**, and the **City of Garden Grove** to ensure the safety of guests, volunteers, and the surrounding community. Several members of the Festival's Board of Directors have themselves been directly affected by the evacuation, underscoring the personal impact this situation has had on the organization.

Planning for the Garden Grove Strawberry Festival is a **nine-month undertaking**, involving extensive coordination that cannot simply be "rescheduled." Admission to our festival is **FREE** and this weekend brings together **184 vendors, NEW festival merchandise, 30+ carnival rides, FREE concerts, and 21 nonprofit organizations**, many of whom rely on this event as their **largest fundraising opportunity of the year**.

As a **nonprofit organization**, the Festival's mission is to donate its proceeds back into the community to support Garden Grove families, schools, youth programs, and local charities.

Officials have confirmed that the Festival grounds are not within the evacuation zone or the explosion radius and are located **more than 4 miles** from the affected area. Based on this information, and with ongoing guidance from public safety agencies, the Garden Grove Strawberry Festival remains open and operating safely.

"Our priority is the safety and well-being of our community," and the Festival's leadership team. "We are committed to providing a safe space for families to gather during this difficult moment for our city, and our hearts are with everyone affected by this unprecedented situation."

The festival will continue to monitor updates closely and will provide further information should conditions change.

**Steve Sanders** - President, Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Association

**Website:** [strawberryfestival.org](http://strawberryfestival.org)

**Socials:** @strawberry.festival (Instagram) | @GGStrawberryFst (X) | StrawberryFestivalGardenGrove (Facebook)

**Festival Location:** Village Green Park (Euclid & Main St)

**Dates:** May 22–25, 2026

**Admission:** FREE | Benefits Local Nonprofits