

United Way of St. Charles

2025 Jambalaya & Gumbo Cook-off

Thursday, October 2, 2025

PACKAGE CONTENTS

* Event Timeline
* Award Information
* Basic Information
* Cook-off Rules
* Registration Form

Edward A. Dufresne Community Center

**224 Judge Edward Dufresne Parkway**

**Luling, LA 70070**

**EVENT TIMELINE**

* Set Up 6:00 am – 11:00 am
* Contestants Begin Cooking 11:00 am
* Gates open to Public 3:00 pm
* Judges Arrive 3:30 pm
* Judging Occurs 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
* Serve Public 3:00 pm - 7:30 pm
* Live Music Begins 5:30 pm -7:30 pm
* People’s Choice voting ends 6:30 pm
* Ceremony / Award Prizes/ People Choice 7:30 pm
* Event Ends after awards are given out 7:30 pm
* Clean Up 7:30 pm - until

**AWARD INFORMATION**

* People’s Choice Award
* 1st place team for Jambalaya will take home a prize paddle for 1 year
* 1st place team for Gumbo will take home a prize paddle for 1 year
* 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will receive a plaque for Jambalaya
* 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will receive a plaque for Gumbo
* 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will receive a plaque for Pastalaya
* Each team will receive four (4) participation items

BASIC INFORMATION

* + Purpose:

To heighten awareness for the United Way Campaign. This fun 100% self-funded event mixes teams from businesses and industries in St. Charles Parish to compete for the title of Best Jambalaya and Best Gumbo.

* + - Registration and Participation Fee deadline:

Regular Registration Thursday, September 18, 2025, registration deadline

$175 per team per category. Please note if your team is cooking Gumbo, Jambalaya and/or Pastalaya it will be $175 for each dish entered.

LATE REGISTRATION (after September 19th, registration fee $200)

For more information please contact Tamara Plattsmier @ 985-331-9063 or tamarap@uwaysc.org

BASIC INFORMATION continued

* Make Check Payable & Mail to:

United Way of St. Charles

13145 Highway 90

Boutte, LA 70039

* Event Date:

Thursday, October 2, 2025

* Event Location:

Judge Edward Dufresne Community Center

274 Judge Edward Dufresne Parkway

Luling, LA 70070

* Judges (TBD)

* Open to the Public:

$10.00 pay one price entry fee -10 and under are free.

* **Booth Removal** / **Set up**
* Teams are allowed to set up tents on Wednesday, October 1st beginning at 12:00pm the day before the event. Overnight security will be provided.
* Overnight security will be provided Wednesday and Thursday. Booth removal should be completed by Friday, at 12:00pm.
* To ensure the safety of all participants, team and personal vehicles will not be permitted to enter the set up area after 11:00AM. on the day of event.
* Booth Removal will begin at 7:45 p.m.
* To ensure the safety of all participants, **NO** team or personal vehicles will be permitted to enter or exit the set up area prior to 7:45 p.m.

**IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ALL PARTICIPANTS AND THE PUBLIC, UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL ANY TEAM OR PERSONAL VEHICLE BE ALLOWED TO ENTER OR EXIT FESTIVAL BETWEEN 11:00 AM and 7:45 PM! NO EXCEPTIONS!**

COOK-OFF RULES

1. Teams must register and pay by **Thursday, September 18, 2025** in order to receive the souvenir gift. **Any Teams registering after September 19 2025, will pay a late registration fee. Contact information (name and cell phone number) for a team or company main contact that will be present at the event must be provided on the registration form.**
2. The team membership is 4 members maximum. **If you choose to have more than 4 members help with cooking they must pay the additional entry fee. You have the option to pre-purchase additional bracelets on the registration form; or, on the morning of the event.**
3. Participants must provide all cooking and cleaning supplies including water for cooking, serving utensils, **tents,** tables, chairs, **fire extinguishers**, etc., just as if you were tailgating.
4. Each tent/team must provide one (1) fire extinguisher per two (2) teams.
5. Bowls, spoons and napkins will be provided by the United Way.
6. Double pots are permitted: one pot for judging and one pot for extra food, if needed. **The judging pots must be a minimum of ten gallons.**
7. Jambalaya, Gumbo and Pastalaya meats are limited to a combination of beef, chicken, turkey, or pork only (any or all). **All meat must be boneless. No wild game or seafood**.
8. For the Gumbo, rice needs to be included for serving but will not be judged. The rice can be pre-cooked.
9. All cooking will take place at the Judge Edward Dufresne Community Center in Luling.
10. There will be no pre-cooking of the ingredients, including roux. Exception is smoked meat and gumbo rice. Meat can be seasoned ahead of time.
11. Serving will begin at 3:00 PM, when the gates open to the public, and shall continue until the end of the event or your ten gallon pot is empty. In order for latecomers to have samples, please do not package food in bags prior to 7:30 pm.  If you desire to begin clean up early, package your food in disposable aluminum pans (provided by you).  Taking bags or containers of food from the event site before the event ends, is strongly discouraged.
12. Judging will begin at 4:00 PM. An exact time for delivery to the judges will be provided to each team on the morning of the event.
13. Water, soft drinks and beer will be available for purchase after 3:00 PM. Participants should plan to provide their own beverages for their team members prior to 3:00 PM. **(No glass bottles please)**
14. A note to elected officials and candidates for public office:  United Way of St Charles and this event are apolitical. As such, we ask that you do not distribute any promotional items to the public. However; business giveaways are allowed.

**Battle for the Paddle**

**Registration Form**

Please make checks payable to United Way of St. Charles and mail to 13207 River Road, Luling, LA 70070. Or fax to (985)-331-9069. For more information, please call Tamara Plattsmier at (985) 331-9063.

**Due to the much-appreciated support and popularity of this event, tent sizes will be limited to:**

**10x20 Tent - 1 or 2 teams**

**20x20 Tent- 3 or 4 teams**

**30x30 Tent- 5 or more teams**

**TEAM REGISTRATION: $175 per Team.**

**Number of Teams being registered \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Registration deadline September 18, 2025, to guarantee team prizes. There is a $25.00 late registration fee per team after this date.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Company / Organization** | |
| **Company/Organization Name** |  | |
| **Main team contact present at the event** | Name | Cell Numner |
| Email address | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Team Name #1** |  |

Category

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 🞎 Jambalaya | 🞎 Gumbo | 🞎 Pastalaya |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Team Name #2** |  |

Category

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 🞎 Jambalaya | | 🞎 Gumbo | 🞎 Pastalaya |
| **Team Name #3** |  | | |

Category

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 🞎 Jambalaya | | 🞎 Gumbo | 🞎 Pastalaya |
| **Team Name #4** |  | | |

Category

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 🞎 Jambalaya | 🞎 Gumbo | 🞎 Pastalaya |

Please list additional bracelets needed. $10.00 per bracelet. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Bracelets will be given to teams on the morning during set up.