



For Immediate Release
September 23, 2024

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Bridge Day celebrates 45th annual event on October 19, 2024

Fayetteville, WV - On the third Saturday of October, the Fayette County Chamber of Commerce along with a bevy of local organizations will welcome tens of thousands to the region to celebrate its annual Bridge Day. The largest one day festival in West Virginia, Bridge Day hosts a variety of adrenaline-seekers and spectators for this rare extreme sports display. BASE jumpers, rappellers, highliners, vendors, 5K racers, Camp Royal bicycle stunts, and whitewater rafters provide entertainment for the thousands of onlookers who gather on the bridge.

What started as a celebration of the completion of an engineering marvel, Bridge Day has evolved into a familiar tradition for WV residents and visitors from around the country. Bridge Day is the only day of the year that pedestrians are allowed on the New River Gorge Bridge and the highway gets turned into a festival grounds of sorts from 9 am to 3 pm.

BASE (Buildings, Antenna, Spans and Earth) jumpers come from all over the world to take the extraordinary leap of 876 feet from the bridge to the shore of the New River below. Far-traveling rappellers descend and ascend the incredible structure of the bridge. Spectators come to take in the views of fall foliage, parachutes opening over the New River, and to enjoy the variety of vendor food and wares. All weekend long, folks wishing to fill a little of their adrenaline junkie can sign up to do the Highline through Bridge Walk or go rafting on the New or Gauley Rivers through one of the river outfitters.

Timeline:

- Travel Advisory - Road closure from 7 a.m. - 5 p.m., 10/19/2024 (see 2nd page)
- Event hours - 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., 10/19/2024. More schedule details at <https://officialbridgeday.com/bridge-day-info>
- Highline through Bridge Walk available Friday - Saturday
- In an effort to maintain an effective schedule for preparations, in-person media interviews will only be available at 310 W. Oyler Avenue Oak Hill, WV on Oct. 14, 15 and 17 from 10 am - 12 noon.

Welcome to fall in West Virginia! Welcome to Bridge Day!

For more information, please visit [OfficialBridgeDay.com](https://www.facebook.com/bridgedaywv) or follow <https://www.facebook.com/bridgedaywv> for current updates. As of this release, Fayette County, WV is under an outdoor burning ban. All Bridge Day attendees are responsible for checking the updates on that ban by visiting the [Fayette County Commission's Facebook page](#).

Event contact: Tim Naylor, Executive Assistant
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(304) 465-5617



TRAVEL ADVISORY
Road Travel Information for
Bridge Day - 3rd Saturday in October

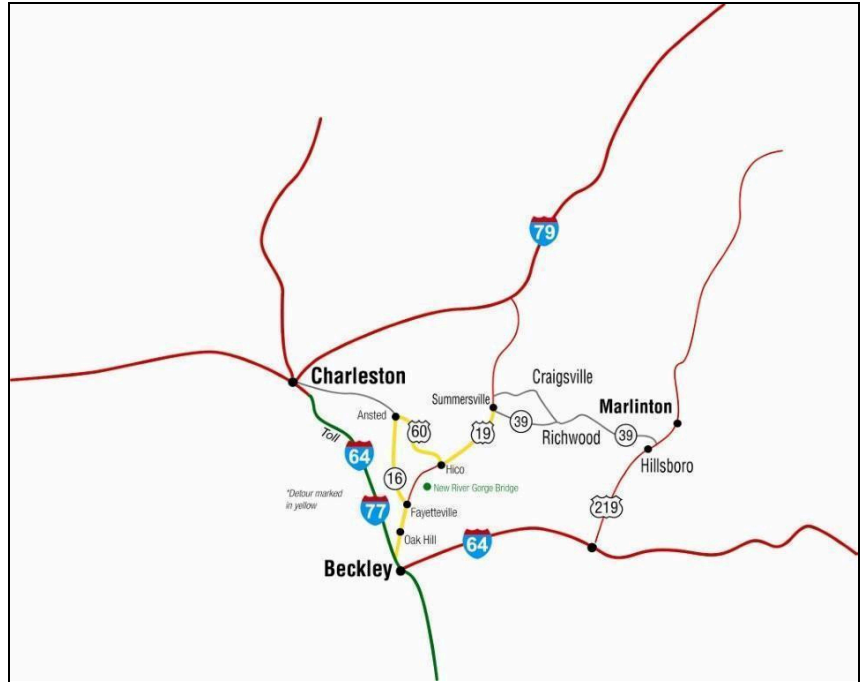
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Fayette County Chamber of Commerce
(304) 465-5617

Date: October 19, 2024

Affected travel corridors:

- **West Virginia US Route 19**
from I-64/I-77 and I-79 exits
- **West Virginia Route 16**
- **US Route 60**

Please note that US-19 North and South, will be closed on Saturday October 19 from 7:00 am until 5:00 pm. Vehicle traffic on the New River Gorge Bridge (beginning at WV-16 northbound) and Ames Height Road (southbound). **Travel on the bridge during this time is limited to event, emergency and security personnel; no exceptions.**



Expect heavier than usual vehicle and pedestrian traffic for the Bridge Day celebration.

For travel on I-79 through southern West Virginia: If you do not plan to attend Bridge Day, stay on either Interstate 79 and/or Interstate 77 and go through Charleston.

For travel on US-19 between the hours of 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM: You will need to take a detour.

- From the North: Exit US-19S onto US-60W through the town of Ansted. Then take WV-16S to US-19S intersecting south of the New River Gorge bridge.
- From the South: Exit US-19N onto WV-16N in Fayetteville. Follow WV-16N to US-60 E through Ansted. This will intersect US-19N well north of the bridge.

For Tour Operators attending the event, please contact Tim Naylor at (304) 465-5617 for logistical and parking arrangements.

Bridge Day, the state's largest festival, offers excitement from every angle of the bridge. Above the famous white water rafting on the New River, jumpers, rapellers, and thousands of onlookers gather for the state's biggest party of the year. It is held annually on the third Saturday in October.

It's fall. It's time. Welcome to West Virginia! Welcome to Bridge Day!