

Hardwick Spring Festival (aka *Springfest*) - every Memorial Day weekend since 1950

YOU can be a part of Springfest. All entries and inquiries should be sent to springfest@hardwickdowntown.org. See program for more information.

- **Join the Parade** - Make a float, decorate a car, truck, bicycle or any vehicle, march with a group, put on a moving performance, do something fun and creative, all entries welcome. Send us the name of your entry, short description, and contact info with "Parade" in the subject line.
- **Host a Contest, Game, or Other Activity** - Have an idea to add to the festivities?--we'd like to hear it and help make it happen. It can be anything, really.
- **Perform** - have a talent or skill you'd like to share?--we have a spot for you.
- **Be a Vendor** - Food and all kinds of vendors are welcome. Just complete and return this **form**.
- **Run, Walk, Roll** - Our annual Fun Run and Hardwick Trails Bird Walk happen Saturday morning before the parade.
- **Volunteer** - Want to help but not sure how? We need plenty of volunteers to make it all work.
- **Sponsor or Donate** - Our sponsors and supporters make Springfest possible. Sponsors are recognized and appreciated in print, digital, and broadcast advertising and other publicity. More info for sponsors [here](#) or show your support [here](#).

2025 Program

FRIDAY, MAY 23 - Atkins Field

Farmers Market & Food Trucks, 3:00-7:00 pm

Springfest kicks off with a special edition of the Hardwick Farmers Market with food trucks, food vendors, local musicians, and miscellaneous fun.

Concert & Dance Party with *Beg, Steal or Borrow*, 7:30-10:00 pm

Shuffle and stomp into the night with *Beg, Steal or Borrow*, Vermont's own high-octane. "triple-crown" bluegrass band, known for their vocal harmonies and dynamic instrumental arrangements, BSB keeps it pumpin' with originals and classic covers blending Appalachian, country, and folk influences. Hosted by The Civic Standard.

Grand Marshal Reception, Hardwick Town House, 6:30-7:30 pm

A chance to meet and mingle with the Grand Marshal and other local celebrities. Hardwick Town Manager David Upson (Opie) is this year's honoree. Families welcome, refreshments served.

SATURDAY, MAY 24 - Downtown Hardwick

Birdwalk, 7:00-8:00 am

Calling (pun intended) all birders and birder-wannabes of all ages. The Hardwick Trails woods are alive with the sound of music and an incredible variety of songbirds this time of year. Meets at the kiosk behind Hazen Union School. Hosted by Hardwick Trails.

Fun Run, 8:45 am Start, Registration 8:00-8:40 am

A fun-first, family-oriented 5K run on the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail with prizes for age-group placers and other categories. All runners, walkers, and adaptive vehicles are also automatically entered into our raffle. Meet at the Hardwick Area Health Center. Hosted by the Hardwick Recreation Committee.

Memorial Day Observances, 9:45 am, Memorial Park

A time to honor those who have served and given all for their country and to support their families with a speech and the laying of a memorial wreath. Flags are also placed for veterans at four Hardwick cemeteries. Hosted by the American Legion. All are invited to attend.

The Parade, 10:00-11:30 am, North and South Main Streets

A perennial favorite of Springfest, the parade celebrates all things Hardwick. Make a float, decorate a car, truck, bicycle or any vehicle, march with a group, put on a moving performance, or do something else fun and creative, all entries welcome. The parade commences with the ringing of the bell at Hazen Union School and ends on Spring Street. Hosted by the Hardwick Kiwanis Club. To register, send the name of your entries, a brief description, and contact info to springfest@hardwickdowntown.org with "Parade" in the subject line.

Downtown Street Fair, 11:30-3:00 pm

Something new this year--a street fair in downtown Hardwick with **music, food, performances, vendors, contests, games**, and other activities hosted by local organizations, businesses, and families. North Main Street will be closed between Church Street and the Hardwick Inn. Hosted by the Hardwick Downtown Partnership.

We're fixing to bring back some past favorites--e.g. [cubmobile races](#), square dancing, maypole dance--while adding some new twists. Have an idea to add to the mix? Tell us about it at springfest@hardwickdowntown.org.

Tristan Southworth Memorial Day Classic, Hardwick Elementary Ballfield, 3:00 pm

The day will conclude with players and spectators gathering for the Tristan Southworth Memorial Day Classic little league baseball game. Sergeant Tristan Southworth, a Hazen Union graduate and member of the Vermont National Guard, was killed in combat in 2010 while serving in Afghanistan. An outstanding athlete, he was described by one coach as "an unbelievable kid. unselfish, always putting everyone ahead of himself, a great athlete and a far better human being," Tristan was posthumously awarded a Purple Heart, Bronze Star, and Combat Infantryman Badge. Come enjoy this annual tradition and honor those who have sacrificed all. Hosted by the Hardwick Area Little League.

About the Hardwick Spring Festival

Since 1950, the Spring Festival (affectionately known as *Springfest*) has been Hardwick's biggest annual community celebration. Originally started as the renowned Tulip Festival (the Dutch ambassador once attended), Springfest has evolved over its long history. It's been part old-time country fair with horse pulls and square dancing, part carnival with rides and fried dough, and part home-grown festival with homemade games and attractions. The constant centerpieces have been the parade—with spectators lining the streets of downtown Hardwick—and Memorial Day observances, honoring those who have given all for our country.

The **Hardwick Kiwanis Club** has spearheaded Springfest since its inception; however, it has always been a community effort involving local organizations, businesses, vendors, artists, schools, and residents. The **Hardwick Downtown Partnership, The Civic Standard, Center for an Agricultural Economy, American Legion, Jeudevine Memorial Library, Hardwick Trails, Hardwick Recreation Committee, Hardwick Area Little League**, and the **Town of Hardwick** now jointly host the event with the Kiwanis Club.