

Veggie Fest Chicago 2026 Celebrates Record Saturday Attendance and a Successful 16th Annual Festival

Veggie Fest Chicago 2026 celebrated record attendance at its 16th annual festival, featuring global cuisine, wellness, music and family fun despite bad weather.

LISLE, IL, UNITED STATES, August 19, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Veggie Fest Chicago 2026 Celebrates Record Saturday Attendance and a Successful 16th Annual Festival

Veggie Fest Chicago 2026, one of North America's largest and longest-running health, wellness, and vegetarian food festivals, concluded its 16th annual celebration at Danada South Park in Lisle, Illinois, following a vibrant weekend of international cuisine, wellness talks, cooking demonstrations, yoga, meditation, live music, family activities, and community connection.

“

Despite Sunday's early closure, Veggie Fest 2026 was a tremendous success. Saturday's record turnout, enthusiastic guests, and dedicated volunteers showed how strong and vibrant is the community”

*Jonathan Kruger, member
organizing team*



Arial Shot of VeggieFest 2026 Showcasing the scale of the festival

Held Saturday, August 8, and Sunday, August 9, Veggie Fest Chicago welcomed an extraordinary Saturday turnout, with organizers reporting record attendance and a strong mix of longtime Veggie Fest fans and first-time visitors. On Sunday, August 9, festival activities were cut short due to inclement weather on the advice of authorities. Organizers made the decision in close coordination with local safety partners, prioritizing the well-being of attendees, vendors, volunteers, speakers, performers, and staff while thanking guests for their patience and cooperation.

"Veggie Fest Chicago 2026 showed the very best of this community," said Jonathan Kruger, a member of the organizing team. "Saturday's record attendance, the joy of returning fans, and the number of people discovering Veggie Fest for the first time reminded us why this festival has become such a cherished Chicagoland tradition. While Sunday's weather required us to conclude earlier than planned, we are deeply grateful to everyone who came out and helped make the weekend such a success."

A highlight of the weekend was the opening ceremony and ribbon-cutting with community leaders on the live music stage. The ceremony set a warm tone for a festival built around service, healthy living, cultural exchange, and community, drawing families, food lovers, wellness seekers, longtime supporters, and newcomers from across the Chicago area and beyond.

With free entry and free parking, Veggie Fest continued its tradition of making healthy living and family-friendly programming accessible to all. Guests praised the International Food Court for its outstanding vegetarian and vegan food, broad global variety, and excellent value, with accessible pricing that made it easy for families and groups to enjoy cuisines from around the world.

The festival also featured expert-led health and wellness talks, live cooking demonstrations, yoga and meditation programming, live music, more than 75 eco, wellness, lifestyle, and community vendors, and a dedicated Children's Activity Tent. Families especially enjoyed the kid-friendly activities and the daily evening kids parade.

Organizers credited much of the festival's success to approximately 1,200 volunteers from across



People Having a good time at VeggieFest 2026, held in Lisle IL, Aug 8th and 9th



VeggieFest 2026 - Young attendees getting pictures clicked at the VeggieFest sign on the festival grounds, Lisle, IL

the world. Smiling, welcoming, and ready to help, volunteers supported parking, shuttles, vendor services, food areas, accessibility needs, information points, and guest assistance throughout the weekend.

Attendees and vendors also praised the festival's organization and facilities, including helpful parking and shuttle teams, accessibility support for guests with disabilities and mobility needs, clean restrooms, stocked supplies, water access, clear traffic flow, and responsive on-site support. Vendors reported strong sales, high attendee engagement, and a well-supported festival experience.

Veggie Fest Chicago expressed appreciation to the public safety partners and local agencies who supported the event. Their professionalism and collaboration helped ensure a safe and well-coordinated festival experience.

Additional information, updates, photos, and future announcements are available at <https://www.veggiefestchicago.org> and through Veggie Fest Chicago's official social media channels.

Event Information:

What: Veggie Fest Chicago 2026

When: Saturday, August 8, and Sunday, August 9, 2026

Where: Danada South Park, 2701 Navistar Circle, Lisle, Illinois 60532

Admission: Free

Parking: Free

Website: <https://www.veggiefestchicago.org>

About Veggie Fest Chicago

Veggie Fest Chicago is one of North America's largest and longest-running health, wellness, vegetarian food, and lifestyle festivals. The annual event brings together speakers, chefs, wellness experts, performers, exhibitors, volunteers, and community organizations to inspire healthier living through education, delicious vegetarian and vegan cuisine, meditation, wellness practices, compassionate living, and community engagement.

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