



CITY OF BALTIMORE
Special Events and Street Vendors Section
200 Holliday Street, Counter 4, Baltimore, MD 21202

What is a Special Event?

A Special Event is an outdoor event held on public or private property. There are many different types of special events; some examples are organized races, walk-a-thons, festivals, pageants, celebrations, historical reenactments, church processions, concerts, entertainment, exhibitions, parades, fairs, pub crawls, social gatherings, movies or similar events occurring in, on or utilizing Public Space or which impacts a Public Space to an extent that the public's use of the Public Space is significantly curtailed or impeded.

A Special Event held on private property requires a permit when an event being held outside, involves the erecting of temporary structures over 400 sq. ft., involves sales of alcohol, has over 200 people and/or has the possibility to impact a Public Space to an extent that the public's use of the Public Space is significantly curtailed or impeded.

A Special Event is **not**:

- 1) A Block Party (see definition below)
- 2) A Demonstration – Applications must be received at least two (2) business days prior to the demonstration/free speech activity. There is a non-refundable \$235 application fee for demonstrations/free speech activities held on park property or in the Right-of-Way
- 3) Regularly occurring markets such as a Farmer's Market that are permitted by an approved use permit by DOT or Recreation & Parks

A Block Party permit shall be issued when the following criteria are met:

- Held on a residential block that is free of bus routes and does not include an intersection
- It is not open to the general public
- There is no sale of food, beverages or alcohol
- There is a maximum of 200 people
- It will end by 9:00PM
- The applicant must be a resident of the block in which the party is held and can provide a photo ID as proof

For more information on Special Event, Block Party and Farmer's Market permits please visit our website at <http://permits.baltimorecity.gov/SpecialEvents.aspx>

If you are unsure if your event qualifies as a special event, please contact us at SpecialEvents@baltimorecity.gov or 410-396-1916.