

EXHIBITOR RULES AND REGULATIONS
2025 Florida Gulf Coast Hope Spot Festival
February 08, 2025 – 349 Main St, Dunedin Florida 34698

Please read completely. ALL the below information is important

Zero Waste

This festival is being co-hosted by the City of Dunedin's Department of Sustainability and the nonprofit organization Blue-Green Connections, whose mission it is to promote sustainable use of land and waters. As such, we are striving for a zero-waste event. Please help us achieve 90% or more waste diversion from the landfill. Exhibitors agree to not distribute single-use items or swag that will end up in the waste stream. If single-use items are required (ie. by food vendors), they must be recyclable or compostable according to the standards set by Suncoast Composting by Renewable. Please contact us at info@bluegreconnections.org for assistance in ensuring appropriate products. Compostable material will be turned into rich compost or clean energy immediately after the festival. Not all items labeled compostable will break down in the systems being utilized, so if compostable materials are utilized, please verify they are either BPI Certified, ASTM 6400 certified, or CMA Composter Approved products. Tips to help achieve zero waste: Print one flyer for people to photograph rather than handing them out; if you choose to bring your own lunch, please bring it in reusable container and/or pack out your trash.

Times

7:30am – 9:30am – Booth Setup
10am - 2pm – Festival hours
2pm - 4pm – Booth Breakdown

Exhibit Space

All booth spaces are 10 X 10 unless approved in advance. Exhibitors will be listed on the festival webpage with links to your website and promoted on the Facebook event page. **Booth reservation is for physical space only. No canopy, table or chairs are included.** All booth material must be provided by the exhibitor. All tents must be 10'x10' or smaller. Anything larger will need a permit.

Exhibit Fees

Nonprofits, Student Entrepreneurs (K-12) and hands-on educational booths are free of charge. All other booth fees are \$40 per 10' X 10" space. If you require electricity, that is an additional \$35. Payments should be made via the [Blue-Green Connections Exhibitor Resources page](#).

Booth Selection

If specific booth space is required, you may request it by adding it into the comments/question section of the Exhibitor Sign-up form. Every attempt will be made to accommodate each exhibitor's needs. Final exhibit space placement is done by festival management committee. Sponsors will have priority. Blue-Green Connections reserves the right to alter locations of exhibitors or of booths as shown on the official map, if deemed necessary by Blue-Green Connections for the good of the festival. Blue-Green Connections reserves the right to fill space vacancies occurring for the reason of non-arrival or late arrival of the exhibitor's display.

Liability and Insurance

Blue-Green Connections will not be liable for any loss or damage to the property of the exhibitor and its employee due to fire, robbery, accidents, or any cause whatsoever that may arise from use and occupancy of the leased space. Exhibitor hereby releases and agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Blue-Green Connections, Inc, City of Dunedin, their managers, officers, members, sponsors, employees, agents, successors, and assigns, or guest, or for any damage or loss from any cause whatsoever to property owned or controlled by, or in the custody of exhibitors or their employees, agents, or guest. Also, for any loss or property damage, or loss of property, or personal injury by whosoever sustained on or about exhibitor's display space, arising out of exhibitor's participation.

Food Trucks

All food trucks must be inspected by the Dunedin Fire Marshal prior to the event to ensure code compliance. If cooking inside the mobile unit, a commercial exhaust hood with UL300 compliant fire suppression system must be in place along with the proper type of fire extinguishers. Fire suppression system and fire extinguishers must have a current inspection and tag at the time of the event inspection.

Inclement Weather:

The City reserves the right to cancel or suspend an event due to inclement weather, emergencies, or other unsafe or hazardous conditions. If the event is canceled, Blue-Green Connections will notify participants promptly upon receiving notification of cancellation. Event may be rescheduled pending availability and registered exhibitors will be given the new date and priority to secure a booth for the new date.

Exhibit Limitations

Overhead canopies are allowed but must be secured with weights to prevent displacement in the event of heavy winds. Exhibitor decorations may not obstruct other displays nor project into the aisles, unless approved. The exhibit activity of each exhibitor must be within the exhibitor's allocated exhibit space. Exhibitors may not use noise, lighting, or other distractions judged by the Blue-Green Connections managers to be offensive to other exhibitors. Exhibitor literature shall not be distributed outside the exhibitor booth area unless otherwise contracted. Exhibitors are subject to all applicable laws and ordinances, and the exhibitor agrees to abide by any rules and regulations or other instructions from Blue-Green Connections and the City of Dunedin. Blue-Green Connections reserves the right to restrict or refuse or expel at any time exhibits which in its judgment are not in keeping with the nature, character, or appearance of other exhibits or the festival as a whole.

Refunds and Cancellations

Cancellations within 45 days of the scheduled exhibit date will not be entitled to refunds. The exhibitor is responsible for the total booth rental, irrespective of the reason for cancellation, including cancellation by the exhibitor because of failure of any exhibit to arrive for any reason. Cancellations more than 45 days from the event must be in writing and will be subject to a \$25 charge.

General Information

No exhibitor may, without written permission from Blue-Green Connections management, assign, sublet, or apportion all or any part of its privileges or the space assigned to him/her, nor permit any other party to exhibit herein, nor be allowed to distribute any literature or advertising materials for the purpose of promoting any business other than that of the exhibitor to whom the space is assigned. Exhibitors shall care for and keep in good order space occupied by them and surrender such space at the close of the festival in the same condition as it was when it was taken over. Exhibitors must keep their own exhibits clean and constantly in first class condition. No exhibitors shall be allowed to remove any of their booth's display until the show is officially closed. Exhibitors violating this policy will lose all priority and may be excluded from the next year's festival.