

Many of Victoria's neighbourhoods enjoy celebrations together with residents of their block. To ensure there is appropriate coordination and planning, the City of Victoria requires that anyone planning a block party on City streets, sidewalks and other public space has a permit. These guidelines will assist you in completing the permit application.

Please read the Guidelines and sign the statement on the bottom of the [application form](#). Upon approval, a permit to hold your Block Party will be issued free of charge. Block Party approvals require 4 weeks advance notice.

The following restrictions apply:

- Block parties can take place only between the hours of 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM
- Block parties must be held on Saturdays, Sundays and statutory holidays.
- All residents on the block must be notified with the majority in agreement for the event to take place.
- Alcohol is not permitted on public property.
- Amplification of music which would unreasonably disturb non-participating residents is prohibited.
- The organizer is responsible for participant conduct.
- A 20' emergency access lane must be maintained on closed streets. All structures (e.g. tables) should be placed at sides of the street or must be easily moved in the event of an emergency.
- Cleaning up is the responsibility of the organizers. Green practices (e.g. recycling) are strongly recommended.
- Street barricades are provided free of charge. Organizers are responsible for the return of barricades and will be invoiced for any lost or damaged barricades.
- The site should not be used for any other purpose than that specified in the permit.
- The organizer is liable for any damage to public property during the event.
- Nothing can be fastened to, or hung from boulevard trees, planters, or other City property unless otherwise approved.
- Vehicles, including media vehicles, are not permitted on sidewalks, paths or grass areas unless they are a functional part of the event and have been approved in advance.

Organizer Liability: In signing the application form, the organizer agrees to indemnify and save harmless the City in respect of any and all claims, demands, suits and costs arising out of any act or omission of the organizer or of any servant, agent or officer of the organizer arising out of or resulting from the use of the site by the organizer.

Costs: There are no costs to organizers for the permit or for use of barricades. The organizer will however be responsible for damage or any required clean up of public space and for ensuring that city barricades are left in good condition at designated pick up sites. Organizers will be invoiced following the event for equipment lost or damaged.

Notification: The organizer is responsible for notifying each home on the block and anywhere else that may be directly affected. This prevents people from being surprised on event day if, for example, arrangements have been made for movers, deliveries or parties. It also provides them with contact information should they have questions or concerns regarding your event (e.g. noise). The majority of the block must be in agreement for the event to take place. For the first year of the event, completion of a [Sign-off form](#) is required. In subsequent years, the same list of residents should be notified.

Noise: All events which include music or other amplified sound are required to have a plan for controlling the type and volume of sound produced by the event. Sound levels must not unreasonably disturb the surrounding neighbourhood. The organizer will make attempts to address any complaints regarding sound levels.

Cancellation: The City or any other approving agency retains the right to cancel the event up to and including the day of the event or at any time during the event if there is an emergency or if permit conditions are not adhered to (e.g. loud music). Organizers must designate an on-site liaison person with authority to intervene and/or stop the event if necessary at any time during event.