



# UNITED WAY GINGERBREAD HOUSE CHALLENGE



December 5-17, 2024  
The Village at Woods Edge

*Team up with your friends, family, or coworkers and display your holiday spirit and creativity by constructing a gingerbread house! Entries will compete online and at reception to see who will be crowned the Gingerbread Champions. Every \$1 donation from our community counts as one vote towards your team's entry!*

Entry Fee: \$100 Per Team  
Register Early - 15 Team Limit



Deadline to Register: November 29  
Gingerbread Check-In: December 4  
Online Judging Open: December 6-16  
Awards & Reception: December 17  
2:00 - 4:00 PM at the Village at Woods Edge

Contest rules and entry forms are  
available at [www.franklinunitedway.org](http://www.franklinunitedway.org)



*Event Hosted By*



PROCEEDS FUND COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANTS AND  
PROGRAMS IN FRANKLIN AND SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY.



## UNITED WAY GINGERBREAD HOUSE CHALLENGE 2024 RULES AND ENTRY FORM

### EVENT DESCRIPTION

The 2024 Gingerbread House Challenge will take place at The Village at Woods Edge from Wednesday, December 4 through Tuesday, December 17. Team up with your friends, family, or coworkers and display your holiday spirit and creativity by constructing a gingerbread house for a good cause. Entries will compete online and at a closing reception event to see which team will be crowned the Gingerbread Champion. Every \$1 donation from our community counts as one vote towards your team's entry!

### KEY DATES

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ENTRY FORM DEADLINE:	Nov. 29, 2024
\$100 ENTRY FEE DUE:	Dec. 04, 2024
ENTRY NARRATIVE DUE:	Dec. 02, 2024
ENTRY CHECK-IN & SET-UP:	Dec. 04, 2024; 10:00AM-1:00PM or 3:00PM- 6:00PM at the Village at Woods Edge
ONLINE VOTING:	Dec. 06, - Dec. 16, 2024
RECEPTION & AWARDS:	Dec. 17, 2024; 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

### ENTRIES AND EVALUATION

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#### Theme and Design:

The 2024 theme for contest entries is "Hometown Holiday." Entries are not limited to the structure of a traditional house. Competitors are welcomed and encouraged to uniquely design their entry for the competition as long as the entry is in keeping with the competition rules and procedures. Examples include designs of local businesses, schools, parks, and landmarks.

#### Size Limits:

Entry must be placed on a base. Entries combined with the base must not be larger than 24 inches high, 24 inches wide, and 24 inches long. We suggest using ½" or ¾" plywood as a base for your entry. Use of pegs or risers on the bottom of the base is encouraged for ease of transport but not required. If you wish to install "legs" on the underside of your base, the legs are considered as part of the base and should not cause the entry's height to exceed 24 inches.

#### Materials:

All visible elements of your entry must be edible; interior structures are allowed to be made of non-edible material. The main structure of your entry must be constructed from gingerbread, some of which should be exposed. Gingerbread may be homemade or pre-made kits may be used.

Edible materials are not limited to candies and icings. Creativity in using other edible materials are encouraged - think pretzels, cereals, rice krispie treats - anything is possible! Handmade elements are encouraged. Note that refrigeration for entries will not be provided. Entries will be on display for 2 weeks.

Power sources will not be provided. Should you choose to add lighted or powered elements, they should be battery powered. Non-edible materials such as paint and/or ribbon are approved only to decorate the outer edge of your base (not to exceed the length and/or width of the base). All structures must be free standing with the ability to be viewed on all sides.

**Entry Narrative:**

Each team is required to submit a brief narrative no later than Monday, December 2. Share why your design is the best! How did you decide on your design? What does it say about your organization or team? Narratives will be included in social media posts and displayed with the houses that can be viewed by the public. Please keep your narrative to 200 words or less.

**Community Choice Voting:**

Each entry will be on display at the Village at Woods Edge to be viewed by the public from December 5-17. Displays will include the name of the team, the submitted narrative, and a link to vote online while making a donation. Each dollar donated counts as one vote. Donors will choose which Gingerbread House team entry to designate their vote for when donating online. Online voting will open on Friday, December 6 and will end at midnight on Monday, December 16. Links for voting will be posted on social media, with photos of each entry - teams are encouraged to share and ask for support for their entry.

At the reception event on Thursday, December 17, all entries will be on display. Teams and the community are invited to attend to cast their final votes and see which team is crowned the Gingerbread Champions. We encourage teams to have representatives present at the reception to drum up excitement and inspire votes for their entry, however it is not required.

**Awards:**

The first place "People's Choice" winner will be determined by donations collected and will receive a trophy, along with the bragging rights as the Gingerbread Challenge Champions! A panel of judges will also pick additional entries to receive award certificates in the following categories: Best Use of Theme, Most Creative, Most Festive, Most Detailed, and Judge's Choice.

**REGISTRATION****Teams:**

Due to spacing limitations, the number of entrants will be capped at 15. You are encouraged to submit your entry form early and before the deadline to ensure entry into the competition. To be eligible for the competition, a completed and signed copy of the **Competitor Entry Form must be received by email at [director@franklinunitedway.org](mailto:director@franklinunitedway.org) prior to 11:59PM on Friday, November 29, 2024.**

Teams are limited to 2-6 participants. Individuals will not be considered. The Competitor Entry Form must be signed by all members of the team (and parent/guardian where necessary), and one member must be designated the Team Captain. Team Captains must be older than 18 years of age at the time of the competition date and all team members must be committed to only one team.

**Entry Fee:**

To complete registration, your team's **\$100 entry fee must be received prior to set-up on Wednesday, December 4, 2024.** Payments can be made online, using the following link: <https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/8WHMLL6GDM8TJ> or by visiting [www.franklinunitedway.org](http://www.franklinunitedway.org). Checks should be made to Franklin-Southampton Area United Way and delivered in person or mailed to:

Franklin-Southampton Area United Way  
Attn: Gingerbread House Challenge  
PO Box 366  
Franklin, VA 23851

United Way understands that situations may cause competitors to withdraw from the competition. In the event you are no longer able to compete, please inform Event Organizer, Trish Tsitsera at [director@franklinunitedway.org](mailto:director@franklinunitedway.org). **Registration fees are non-refundable after November 29, 2024.**

**PLEASE SEE THE FOLLOWING PAGE FOR THE OFFICIAL 2024 GINGERBREAD HOUSE CHALLENGE ENTRY FORM. THIS FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY 11:59PM ON NOVEMBER 29, 2024. COMPETITORS WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL CONFIRMATION ONCE THE ENTRY FORM HAS BEEN PROCESSED.**

## GINGERBREAD HOUSE CHALLENGE

### 2024 COMPETITOR ENTRY FORM

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 29 2024

ENTRY FEE: \$100

Team Name or Affiliation:

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Name of Gingerbread Entry:

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Subject Depicted in Your Entry:

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Team Captain Information:

(First)

(Last)

(Mailing address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

(Phone)

(Email address)

Social Media Handles, If Applicable:

Instagram:

Twitter:

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Facebook:

Linked In:

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Acceptance of Rules and Liability:

I understand that to be eligible for the competition; I must agree to the following as indicated by my signature below:

1. I will adhere to all competition rules and procedures as stated above.
2. I must deliver my completed entry to the Village at Woods Edge on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, 10:00AM-1:00PM or 3:00PM- 6:00PM
3. I understand that at no time does United Way or the Village at Woods Edge guarantee the safety or security of my entry and cannot be held responsible for any damages incurred to my entry on or off the Village at Woods Edge property.
4. Permission is hereby granted to the Franklin-Southampton Area United Way and the Village at Woods Edge to print or otherwise duplicate the picture or likeness of my entry and/or myself with my entry for either internal or external release, this includes video productions, print and online publications. I understand that the image of my entry becomes the property of the Franklin-Southampton Area United Way.
5. I hereby RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE, AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE the Franklin-Southampton Area United Way, their officers, agents, affiliates or employees (hereinafter referred to as RELEASEES) from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions, and causes of action whatsoever arising out of or related to any loss, damage, or injury, including death, that may be sustained by me, or to any property belonging to me, while participating in such activity, while in, on or upon the premises where the activities are being conducted, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER SUCH LOSS IS CAUSED BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES, or otherwise and regardless of whether such liability arises in tort, contract, strict liability, or otherwise, to the fullest extent allowed by law.
6. I further hereby AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS the RELEASEES from any loss, liability, damage, or costs, including court costs and attorneys' fees that Releases may incur due to my participation in said activities, WHETHER CAUSED BY NEGLIGENCE OF RELEASEES or otherwise, to the fullest extent allowed by law.
7. IN SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT, I ACKNOWLEDGE AND REPRESENT THAT I have read the foregoing Wavier of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement, understand it and sign it voluntarily as my own free act and deed; no oral representations, statements, or inducements, apart from the foregoing written agreement, have been made; I am at least eighteen (18) years of age and fully competent; and I execute this Agreement for full, adequate and complete consideration fully intending to be bound by same.

Printed Name of Team Captain: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## GINGERBREAD HOUSE CHALLENGE

### COMPETITOR ENTRY FORM (cont.)

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 29, 2024

#### LIST ADDITIONAL TEAM MEMBERS BELOW

*Maximum team size is 1 captain (info on previous page) + 5 team members (listed below)*

Printed Name of Entrant: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Entrant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ I verify that the entrant listed above is authorized to participate in the competition.

Printed Name of Entrant: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Entrant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ I verify that the entrant listed above is authorized to participate in the competition.

Printed Name of Entrant: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Entrant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ I verify that the entrant listed above is authorized to participate in the competition.

Printed Name of Entrant: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Entrant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ I verify that the entrant listed above is authorized to participate in the competition.

Printed Name of Entrant: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Entrant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ I verify that the entrant listed above is authorized to participate in the competition.

Signature of Team Captain: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Forms should be emailed to [director@franklinunitedway.org](mailto:director@franklinunitedway.org) or mailed to Franklin-Southampton Area United Way,  
PO Box 366, Franklin, VA 23851, Attn: Gingerbread House Challenge.