

Hay, Look at Us!



Annual Hay Bale Decorating Contest, Presented by the Pike Road Neighborhood Leaders ENHANCE Initiative Committee

It's almost fall, y'all! The Town of Pike Road's annual hay bale decorating contest, "Hay, Look at Us!," is rolling into Town! Gather your neighbors, coworkers and friends and get ready to transform an ordinary hay bale into an extraordinary work of art. The Town of Pike Road will provide your neighborhood or organization with a hay bale. You bring the creativity and bring it to life!

Review the key dates, contest rules and registration information below, and be sure to submit your forms on time. "Hay, Look at Us!" is an ENHANCE initiative event made possible by the Neighborhood Leaders and Community Enrichment committees.



Important Dates

- **Sept. 11:** Registration forms DUE by 5 PM at Town Hall (9575 Vaughn Road)
- **Sept. 14 - Sept. 25:** Hay Bales delivered to participating locations.
- **Sept. 26 - Oct. 16:** Decorate and tell us your story!*
- **Oct. 17:** Hay Bale Judging Begins - Decorations MUST be completed prior to 8 a.m.
- **Oct. 18:** Hay, Look at Us! winners announced on the Mondays with the Mayor Radio Show
- **Oct. 18-25:** People's Choice Judging begins on Facebook on Oct. 18. Be sure to place your vote by "liking" the photo of your favorite hay bale before voting closes at 10 PM on Sunday, October 25th.
- **Nov. 7:** Please leave your decorations up through Nov. 7.
- **Nov. 15:** Hay Bales will be picked up from participating locations beginning Nov. 15.

Hay, Look at Us! is a great way to connect with friends and neighbors. For a chance to earn the Team Spirit Award, share photos, videos & stories about your hay bale project and how you worked together to bring it to life by tagging @townofpikeroad & #mypikeroad on social media or emailing info@pikeroad.us. Let us know when your team will be decorating, too, so we can arrange to stop by and capture photos or video for extra points!

Find the Town of Pike Road online: Just search @townofpikeroad on Facebook, Instagram & YouTube!

Questions? Contact the Community Development Department at info@pikeroad.us
Town of Pike Road // www.pikeroad.us // 334.272.9883 // 9575 Vaughn Rd

Hay, Look at Us!

2026 Contest Rules



Please carefully review the rules below. Failure to comply with contest rules may disqualify your entry.

Hay, Look at Us! competition is open to all neighborhoods, businesses and organizations within the Town of Pike Road. Each neighborhood, business or organization may submit ONE entry.

To receive a hay bale, submit completed applications by 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11. Applications may be submitted in one of two ways:

• **Drop Off:** Submit your completed application at Town Hall (9575 Vaughn Rd), pick up a marker flag and sign the confirmation sheet.

Printed applications are available at Town Hall.

• **Email:** Send a photo or scan of your completed application to info@pikeroad.us. Email applicants must still visit Town Hall to pick up a marker flag and sign the confirmation sheet by 12 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11.

A confirmation email will be sent once your application is received.

HAY BALES:

The Town of Pike Road will provide one hay bale per registered entry at no cost. Participants may use additional hay bales at their own expense but must contact the Town if more than one bale will be used. The Town can coordinate the purchase of additional bales; simply indicate the number needed on the registration form.

THEMES:

Let your creativity flow! Entries are encouraged to follow the following themes: the Pike Road Story, Pike Road Patriots Pride, Halloween Traditions, Fall Favorites, Happy Birthday Pike Road, and America 250.

DECORATIONS:

- Decorations should be community -friendly, weather- and wind-proof and should NOT be placed on the right of way.
- Paint may be applied to hay bale or surrounding grass. NO PAINT should be applied to concrete or asphalt if applicable.
- Commercial or political party signs of any kind are NOT permitted.
- Decorations must remain on hay bales through November 7. Hay bales may not be kept following the competition. Please remove any decorations you wish to keep between November 8–14, before bale pickup begins November 15.

Judging Criteria

- **Creativity & Originality** – Uniqueness of the concept and overall approach.
- **Creative Use of Materials** – Thoughtful and inventive use of materials throughout the display.
- **Overall Visual Appeal** – How well the elements of the completed display work together to create a cohesive presentation and curb appeal.

Awards

Neighborhood Division:

1st Place • 2nd Place • 3rd Place • Honorable Mention

Business/Organization Division:

1st Place • 2nd Place • 3rd Place • Honorable Mention

Team Spirit Award:

Share stories and photos of teamwork during your collaborative decorating adventure by tagging @townofpikeroad & #mypikeroad on social media or emailing info@pikeroad.us.

Earn extra points: (A) Let us know when your team will be decorating, so we can stop by and capture the moment. (B) Have your display ready by Oct. 7 so artists have the chance to capture your display on canvas during the Pike Road Plein Air Paint Out!

Rookie of the Year Award:

All first-time participants are automatically eligible! The award will go to the first-time entry receiving the highest overall score based on the contest judging criteria.

People's Choice Award:

All 2026 entries will be posted on the Town of Pike Road Facebook page Oct. 19 for community voting through 10 p.m. Oct. 25. Vote by "liking" an entry's photo. Community members can add TWO extra votes by commenting with a photo of themselves visiting that hay bale. The winner will be announced Oct. 25.

Questions? Contact the Community Development Department at info@pikeroad.us!

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2026 Registration Form



This registration form must be completed and returned by drop off at Town Hall (9575 Vaughn Rd), or by email to info@pikeroad.us by 5 p.m. on Friday, September 11 in order to receive a hay bale.

Neighborhood/Business/Organization _____

Theme _____

Contact Person _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Hay Bale Position: ☐ facing the front  ☐ lying on its side  ☐ standing on end 

Hay Bale Location Description (Example: left of neighborhood entrance, right of front of business):

Plein Air Ready: Will your display be completed by Oct. 7 for the Pike Road Plein Air Paint Out and the opportunity to earn additional Team Spirit points? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Hay bales will be picked up beginning November 15, 2026

Please note: Neighborhoods or organizations that receive a hay bale as part of the 2026 Hay, Look at Us! hay bale decorating contest but do not decorate their hay bale during the contest time-frame may be prohibited from participating in the 2026 Hay, Look at Us! hay bale decorating contest.

Please provide a sketch of your entry below.

Just do the best you can! Feel free to add notes describing your design.