



The San Augustine County Chamber of Commerce

The Rae Estes BBQ Cook-off

at the 36th Annual Sassafras Festival

in Historic Downtown San Augustine

Food & Craft Vendors | Car Show | Live Entertainment | Family Fun

Saturday, October 24th

Cooks Meeting on Friday, October 23rd

Entry Fee: \$150 includes all Meat Categories
\$10 for Bean Entry

Grand Champion Overall: FREE Entry for 2027.
Trophy for Grand & Reserve Champion

1st-, 2nd-, and 3rd-place winners will be awarded cash prizes in each Meat Category: Chicken, Brisket, and Spareribs. \$500 for 1st place, \$300 for 2nd place and \$100 for 3rd place.
Beans \$50 plus the Jackpot.

Sanctioned by: Outlaw BBQ Association. Will follow the rules of OUTLAW BBQ. You do not have to be a member to enter.
San Augustine County Chamber of Commerce
936-275-3610 | sacc611@gmail.com

San Augustine Sassafras Festival 2026 Rae Estes BBQ Cook-Off Schedule

FRIDAY

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Check in and set up (Downtown San Augustine Broadway Street)

7:00 p.m. Head Cook Meeting

SATURDAY

11:00 a.m. Bean Turn-in Time

12:00 a.m. Chicken Turn-in Time

1:30 p.m. Rib Turn-in Time

3:00 p.m. Brisket Turn-in Time

The Rae Estes BBQ Cook-off will follow the rules of the Outlaw BBQ Association.

You do not have to be a member to enter.

- Cookers may begin setup on Friday, October 23rd, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Minimal security will be provided. The San Augustine County Chamber of Commerce and San Augustine County will not be responsible for losses resulting from theft, damage, or accidents.
- Each cooking team is responsible for the clean-up of their area. Hot coals or ashes must not be put in the trash cans or left on the ground. Each cook team must provide its container for hot coals and ashes.
- The head cook is responsible for his/her team and guests.
- The team will be permitted to sell BBQ to guests of the festival.

However, competition meat cannot be sold until after judging.

The Texas Department of Health Services may be at our Festival checking for Retail Food Establishment permits and will, unfortunately, immediately shut down vendors who do not have a copy of the permit with them. Also, please be aware that food may not be prepared in a home kitchen and then brought to the festival for serving by must be prepared in a commercial-type kitchen at a church or school, or prepared entirely on-site at the festival itself. Temporary permits cost \$52 and should be requested as soon as possible to allow time to process your application. Please ensure that you have your Retail Permit with you on the day of the festival – no refunds for missing permits.

For more information regarding the permit, please see the DSHS site at:

<http://dshs.texas.gov/foodestablishments/permitting.aspx#temp>

For more information about the Cottage Food Law, can be found at:

<https://dshs.texas.gov/foestablishments/cottagefood/default.aspx>

For questions or concerns, please contact DSHS at (512) 834-6753 or by email at foodestablishments@dshs.state.tx.us

The Chamber is supplying this information as a courtesy to our vendors. It reminds all business owners that they are ultimately responsible for understanding the laws that affect their business. We thank you for complying with Texas law and look forward to seeing you at the festival!

San Augustine Sassafras Festival

2025 Rae Estes BBQ Cook-Off Entry Form

Meat Entry Fee: \$150 | () Brisket () Chicken () Pork Spareribs

Bean Entry Fee: \$10

Team Name: _____

Head Cook: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Telephone: _____ **Email:** _____

Mail Registration and Payment to:

**San Augustine County Chamber of Commerce
611 West Columbia St.,
San Augustine, Texas 75972**

(936) 275-3610

saccc611@gmail.com

Entry deadline: Tuesday, October 20, 2026

Release: The participant does hereby release the County of San Augustine, City of San Augustine, San Augustine County Chamber of Commerce, and individuals connected with the Sassafras Festival from all liabilities and agree to hold such parties forever harmless.

I have read the attached general rules and regulations and agree to comply with them.

Signature of Head Cook: _____