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Fairs, Festivals and Access for All

Concord, NH—“Because New Hampshire’s fairs and festivals continue to draw crowds it makes sense that ‘fair season’ is always a timely occasion to share some reminders that will make the experience a smooth one for all,” said Chuck Saia.

As Executive Director of the Governor’s Commission on Disability (GCD), Saia focuses on access for all, from service dogs to accessible parking and more.

Service Animals and the Fair

“Can I take my service dog to the fair?” That’s a question that comes up frequently from Stratham to Sandwich.

The GCD has available an informative brochure, *The Law and Service Animals*, posted on its website [www.nh.gov/disability](http://www.nh.gov/disability) and which may be downloaded. In it, there is a section which describes where service dogs are allowed. Under the ADA, service animals are permitted in all areas of a facility that are open to the public. In addition, the brochure covers information about the differences between emotional support animals and service animals.

Accessible Parking

It is understandable that fair season, with the crowds, also brings up questions about accessible parking.

“The GCD takes the subject of accessible parking seriously, and as such, has made an effort to educate the community through its website, materials and social media,” said Saia. “Most recently, we added a posting to our website of a brochure that focuses on Accessible Parking Etiquette and Van Accessible Parking. Education about accessible parking is ongoing and we are always looking for fresh ways to get the word out successfully and help the community understand the Law.”

For additional resources on Service Animals and Accessible Parking, go to [www.nh.gov/disability](http://www.nh.gov/disability).