



**Wakarusa Maple Syrup Festival Queen Contest  
Friday, April 24, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.**

Application Deadline is Monday, March 2, 2026

Welcome to the 2026 Miss Maple Syrup Queen Contest! After the 2025 Festival's awesome turnout, we are excited and looking forward to 2026!

The Queen contest is open to all current NorthWood Middle School 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls. Be sure to turn in your application and required materials as soon as possible to the Main Office in the Middle School. **The application deadline is Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

**Spirit of Wakarusa Essay:** Please include with your application a short essay (5-10 sentences) describing your favorite memory of the Maple Syrup Festival, and what the Festival means to you.

The night of the coronation, each contestant will introduce themselves on stage, model their formal/semi formal dress on stage, and will be required to read their essay on stage. A panel of judges will determine the winners. The judges will be looking for a young lady who possesses poise, personality, intelligence, charm and someone who will be able to represent the Wakarusa Maple Syrup Festival at different events throughout the year.

Please make sure to submit an individual picture, a good quality 3" x 5" **head and shoulder** color photo (non-returnable: include name on the back). **PREFERABLY** a digital image as the picture will be sent to area newspapers for publication and posted on social media.

For contest questions or clarifications, please contact Katie Stapp, Contest Coordinator, at (574)-354-1797

## **RULES & REGULATIONS**

1. This contest is open to all current NorthWood Middle School 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls.
2. Contestant must be of good moral character and should possess poise, personality, intelligence, and charm.
3. Contestant must agree that if selected Miss Wakarusa Maple Syrup Queen, or a member of the Court, they will participate in ALL Miss Wakarusa Maple Syrup Queen activities (listed below). Participation in these events is not meant to be a hardship, rather an opportunity to represent the Wakarusa Maple Syrup Festival.

Required for ALL participants:

- Maple Syrup Festival Queen/Sweetheart Contest (2026)
- All participants in the 2026 contest are required to be in the 2026 Maple Syrup Parade (Saturday morning, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.) and the weekend festivities (schedule will be provided later).

Required for 2026 Queen:

- Nappanee 4th of July Parade (July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026)
- Elkhart County 4-H Fair Parade in Goshen (July 2026)
- Nappanee Apple Festival Parade (September 2026)
- Nappanee Christmas Parade (December 2026)
- The Queen and Sweetheart will be required to help crown the 2026 Miss Apple Blossom Queen and Court at the Nappanee Apple Festival Scholarship Pageant (September 2026)
- Indiana State Festival Queen Contest (November 2026) - This does not have to be mandatory; you can decide if you feel comfortable attending
- Along with various other parades and events throughout the year, TBD

4. Awards will be as follows:

- Maple Syrup Queen – Crown, \$100
- First runner-up – \$75
- Second runner-up – \$50
- People’s Choice - \$50
- Spirit of Wakarusa essay winner – \$25

5. Important dates to remember

- Application deadline: Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Rehearsal: Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> , 5.30pm
- Queen Coronation: Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm, arrival time 6:45 pm
- Festival Parade: Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am, arrival time 10:45 am

**Wakarusa Maple Syrup Queen Application**  
**(This information will be used for the newspaper write-ups and announced during the coronation)**

Student's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Names: (if divorced, list separately) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Siblings: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Text: Yes or No (please circle)

Please circle: 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup>

Email that is **checked regularly**: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date & Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Community Activities: (School, sports, 4-H, Church, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

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Hobbies: \_\_\_\_\_

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What is your ambition in life/Future Career: \_\_\_\_\_

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List 3 words that best describe you: \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to become the next Maple Syrup Queen? \_\_\_\_\_

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I hereby agree to abide by the Rules and Regulations as set forth above. If these requirements and regulations are not met, then it is understood that disqualification and/or forfeiture of any title will take place by the Wakarusa Maple Syrup Committee. I understand that I will be a representation of the Wakarusa Maple Syrup Festival and its Committee and will participate in all required events.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

