



The Great Mill Duck Drop

F.A.Q.

What is The Great Mill Duck Drop?

The Great Mill Duck Drop is a fun, community fundraiser where thousands of rubber ducks race out of the Mill and down the Rideau River during Dickinson Days weekend. Proceeds support the preservation and programming of Watson's Mill and Dickinson Square.

When is the Duck Drop?

Sunday, June 7 at 1:00pm

The Duck Drop is the finale of Dickinson Days weekend, when the village is already buzzing with activity.

Where does it take place?

At Watson's Mill & Dickinson Square in Manotick, with the ducks racing down the Rideau River.

How do I participate?

Since the Duck Drop is a licensed raffle lottery, individuals must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a duck ticket. Each ticket corresponds to a duck in the race. When the ducks are released, the first ducks to cross the finish line win!

How much does it cost to buy a duck?

Duck tickets are **\$5 each**.

Where can I buy a duck?

Ducks are available for purchase at the WMMI Admin Office, located on the second floor of the Carriage Shed (5524 Dickinson Street) and inside Watson's Mill. Please refer to our *Info & Hours* page for the most accurate hours of operation. Payment can be made with cash, credit or debit.

Can I buy more than one duck?

Yes! You can purchase as many duck tickets as you'd like.

The more ducks you have in the race, the more chances you have to win.

What are the prizes?

Cash prizes will be awarded to the top finishers:

- **First Prize: \$1,050**
- **Second Prize: \$550**
- **Third Prize: \$250**
- **Last Place (Dozy Duck): \$150**

Additional prizes for on-site activities, generously donated by local businesses, will be announced as they're confirmed.

How many ducks do you have?

We have 2000 ducks!

What happens to the ducks after the race?

The retrieval will be done by the Ottawa Fire Services, in order to keep both the Rideau River and our staff and volunteers safe during the day! Working with Parks

Canada, we've identified a designated downstream zone and containment system for retrieving the ducks. Since the Duck Drop is a raffle, each duck is numbered and registered to a corresponding ticket. This means that we know exactly how many ducks are being released and will need to be collected.

Do I need to be present to win?

No. Winners will be contacted using the information provided at the time of ticket purchase.

Is this event family-friendly?

Absolutely! The Duck Drop is designed for all ages, with activities and fun happening around Dickinson Square throughout the day.

What happens if the weather is bad?

The Duck Drop is a rain-or-shine fundraising event. If weather conditions require a short delay, we'll adjust the timing accordingly to ensure everyone's safety and enjoyment.

If river conditions prevent the ducks from being released safely, winners will be determined by a supervised random draw. Prizes will still be awarded as announced.

Are duck tickets refundable?

The Great Mill Duck Drop is a licensed raffle fundraiser. All ticket sales are final and non-refundable, except where required by law.

If the event format needs to be modified due to weather or safety conditions, the raffle will still proceed and prizes will still be awarded.

Can local businesses get involved?

Yes! We welcome:

- Event sponsorships
- On-site pop-ups or activities

- In-kind donations and prizes

Businesses can participate at many levels - from title sponsor to creative community partner.

What kinds of business activities are allowed?

We love creative ideas that fit the spirit of the event, such as:

- Coffee or food pop-ups
- Kids' activities or crafts
- Games, giveaways or themed treats

All on-site activities must be approved in advance to ensure safety and space coordination.

How does this fundraiser help Watson's Mill?

Funds raised support:

- Ongoing care of our historic buildings
- Community programming
- Long-term preservation of Dickinson Square

How do I learn more or get involved?

Email: fundraising@watsonsmill.com

Follow: Watson's Mill on social media

Facebook: Watson's Mill Manotick

Instagram: [@watsonsmillmanotick](https://www.instagram.com/watsonsmillmanotick)