

Be Safe at a Summer Event

Heading for a local summer concert? A track meet? Golf championship? Fight night? Whatever your taste in big events, it's worth reviewing what professionals recommend for keeping you and your family safer in these large-scale settings.

Weather

Of course, you may have planned it for weeks. But what about today: are there storms on the way? Possibility of rain? Power outage? Bring what you need to be comfortable.

History

If this event has been held before, has it been associated with any particular incidents that might happen again – like a protest, or a fight between fans, excessive drug or alcohol use?

Venue

Will attendees be monitored? Will size of crowd be limited? Are you familiar with the location – for example, where best to park, location of food, restrooms? Areas where visitors aren't allowed? Note all the exits from the venue. Take a look at a floor plan and/or map to identify exits and surrounding streets as possible alternates to the way you came in.

Security

Will you need an official ID? Will your carry-in bags be inspected? What about security? Uniformed? Where located? Who is in charge? Is there a medical or first aid center for the venue? A few judicious questions will give you a much better idea of what's going on behind the scenes. Don't hesitate to ask.

Food, beverages, and alcohol

What about safe food handling procedures? What about an alcohol policy? Plans for managing people who have had too much?

Your own family

If you have young children, do they know what to do if they get separated from parents? Are there accommodations for family members with disabilities? In an emergency, what's your family plan for getting out and getting reunified? Do you all know where your car is parked???