



ANNUAL FESTIVALS AND EVENTS - LONGVIEW

East Texas Boat, RV, and Camping Expo

Mid January

Join Longview Partnership Chamber of Commerce for their annual East Texas RV and Boat Show. This is the Largest Expo of its kind in East Texas; with Boat Dealers, RV's, and Campers, and vendors from all over East Texas. The bass tank provides fishing demonstrations. Outdoor enthusiasts flock to this exciting 60,000 square foot show featuring 40 plus exhibitors.

East Texas Home Show

Early February

A great opportunity to see all the latest in home design elements and technology.

Freeze Your Fanny Bike Tour

First Saturday of February

Very popular annual Bike Ride across East Texas. Riders can choose varying lengths of distance.

Zonta Antiques Show & Sale

First Weekend in March

Annual antique show and sale includes a tearoom, pie bar, and more.

Longview Model Train Show

First Weekend in March

Trains and Tracks everywhere! Annual show for displaying, buying, selling, and trading model trains.

Women in Longview Day

March

Women celebrate women's history month with a festival including brunch, seminars, exhibits, and lunch with keynote speaker. The event is organized by women volunteers from throughout the city. It is gala gathering of women from all walks of life who spend a half day networking, conversing and learning.

Rec. Day in the Park

March

Parks and Recreation event designed to showcase programs and opportunities available via Longview's extensive parks system. The event includes food, games, and registration for park activities.

Longview PRCA Rodeo

April

The Longview Greggton Rotary Club hosts a non-profit rodeo featuring top stock, cowboys and cow girls riding, roping, and racing. A real crowd pleasing fun-filled evening for young and old. Event includes a child stick horse race and mutton bustin' (sheep riding). All proceeds benefit local charities. Held at the Longview Fairgrounds Rodeo Arena..

Harvest Festival Crawfish Boil

April

An all you can eat and drink dinner of crawfish, catfish, and all the trimmings. A live band provides entertainment. Proceeds support the Harvest Festival Scholarship Program.

Taste of Longview

April

The Longview Pilot Club and East Texas Restaurant Association host the event with 30 local restaurants and beverage vendors. Ticket for entry includes free samples from all restaurants.

Cinco De Mayo Celebration

May

A celebration of Latin culture featuring food, dancing, and other special activities.

Party in the Pines Motorcycle Rally

May

All bikers are welcome for this event benefiting the Longview Child Development Center. Includes a flag raising ceremony, Joker Run, Bike Show, Bike Games, vendors, food, beverages, live music, and patriotic bike parade.

AlleyFest

First Weekend in June

The premier East Texas street festival kicks off the summer with live music from high-energy entertainers, arts, crafts, food, fun runs, and children's activities in downtown Longview. Attracts 20,000—25,000 visitors annually.

Juneteenth Celebration and Dance

June

A parade, dance, and rodeo are among the many fun activities planned each year for this celebration.

Opera East Texas Summer Show

June

This annual event is the centerpiece of the Opera East Texas calendar. The show features professional opera singers from around the nation performing a celebrated opera in Longview. Past shows include H.M.S. Pinafore, Tusca, Pirates of Penzance, Madame Butterfly, Marriage of Figaro, Carmen, Suor Angelica & Gianni Schicchi, The Merry Widow, Rigoletto, Don Pasquale, Barber of Seville, and more.

ANNUAL FESTIVALS AND EVENTS - LONGVIEW

Fireworks Festival and Freedom Celebration

July

A gigantic fireworks show with patriotic music and special activities bring thousands to the Longview Fairgrounds. Held July 3rd each year. This is one of the biggest fireworks shows in ALL of Texas.

Great Texas Balloon Race

Mid July

Longview (official "Balloon Capital of Texas") hosts this three-day world-class balloon competition with 80-plus sport and special-shape balloons. The event also includes concerts, food and exhibits. An annual crowd favorite is the "balloon glow" held at night. Attracts 30,000—35,000 annually.

Charm Night Out

July

Sponsored by the Longview News-Journal in association with their women's magazine "Charm," Charm Night Out is an evening for women to shop, share, have fun, and connect with one another. The event includes seminars, a fashion show, and much more.

Kennel Club Dog Show

July

Purebred dog show attracts enthusiasts from across the U.S. as Longview Kennel Club conduct this American Kennel Club show. Truly a great experience! 2007 marked the 50th year of conducting Conformation Dog Shows in Longview. Event includes Conformation Dog Shows and an All Breed Obedience Trial. There are 150 AKC breeds eligible to compete.

Longview Area Rollers Car and Truck Show

August

Car and Truck show featuring display of old and new cars, trucks, motorcycles, and even bicycles. Trophies are awarded and admission is free to the public.

Senior Citizen's Extravaganza

August

Hosted by the Longview Parks and Recreation Department's Green St. Recreation Center. The event is an annual show for senior citizens, friends, and family. The Extravaganza includes a snack meal and a two-hour variety show featuring local and area entertainment of music, dancing, and comedy.

Show N' Shine Charity Car Show

August

An annual car show, audio competition, and concert benefiting the Narada Loving Scholarship Program. Event includes 40 categories of cars, audio (musical sound) competition, bands playing all day, and plenty of activities for children.

Senior Expo

September

Sponsored by the Longview News-Journal, this senior citizen event features 90 booths offering information on senior related services and products. Activities include seminars, breakfast, and lunch. Admission is free, and meals are a very reasonable price (2007 prices: \$2 Breakfast, \$4 Lunch)

Neal McCoy and Friends Concert

September

Annual benefit concert of the East Texas Angel Network includes Longview-resident country music star Neal McCoy and several celebrity friends. The concert raises money to help families of children with serious illnesses. Past guests have included Charley Pride, Martina McBride, Troy Aikman, Nolan Ryan, Karl Malone, Byron Russell, Joe Diffie, Bo Derek, Wayne Newton, Bob Kingsley, Jack Hanna, General Tommy Franks, Daryle Singletary, Tracy Lawrence, Tracy Byrd, Bryan White, and many more.

Gregg County Fair

Mid September

The Longview Jaycees present a week-long, old-fashioned country fair with carnival rides, games, exhibits, and plenty of food!

REACH Seminar

October

A regional educational conference event focusing on aging, caregiving, and health care. The two-day conference offers plenary sessions, workshops, breaks, and lunch. Sponsored by the East Texas Council of Governments and the Area Agency on Aging.

ANNUAL FESTIVALS AND EVENTS - LONGVIEW

CBR Bull Bash

October

World Championship bull riders compete against some of the “ranked” bulls in the United States. The event is part of the Championship Bull Riders tour and is a true crowd pleaser. Held at the Longview Fairgrounds Rodeo Arena.

Harvest Fest and Livestock Show

Late October

The largest show of its kind in East Texas, the event is a five county 4-H and F.F.A. Livestock, Home Economics, and Ag Mechanics Show and Premium Sale. The event is organized by the Gregg County Extension Office, and there is no admission charge.

Prelude Christmas Corner

November

A unique holiday boutique shopping event with 120 vendors, food, and entertainment. The event benefits the Longview Symphony Orchestra.

Christmas at the Courthouse

Thanksgiving through December

Longview ushers in the holiday season with musical entertainment on the lighted courthouse lawn, a visit from Santa and Mrs. Clause, wagon rides, and refreshments. Free admission.

Downtown Christmas Parade

December

With over 125 entries, the area’s biggest holiday parade features floats decorated to reflect the year’s special theme. Free admission.

Living History Christmas

December

Actors dress in period clothing and take their places among the Gregg County Historical Museum’s exhibits.

Antique Model Train Display

December

Popular showcase during the holidays, the model-train display is held at the Gregg County Historical museum. The beautiful creation reminds event-goers of Christmas past.

Breakfast with Santa

December

Hosted by the Longview Museum of Fine Arts, join Santa, Mrs. Claus, and lots of elves for breakfast. Decorate your frame for a photo with Santa, then design a cookie and listen while an elf reads holiday stories.

Holiday Gala Dinner and Dancing

December

Hosted by the Longview Museum of Fine Arts, this event provides an elegant evening of holiday fun. Put your best foot forward at this black tie affair! Enjoy cocktails, hors d’oeuvres, dancing, dinner, and very special presentations.

Friends Guild Holiday Tea Room

December

Hosted by the Longview Museum of Fine Arts, the event offers great food, music and atmosphere.

Holiday at the Longview Mall

December

The Longview Mall sponsors a variety of holiday events throughout December, including Santa Clause, music, and special guests.

Movies on the Plaza

Throughout the Year

Held at various times throughout the year, the Longview Downtown Development committee sponsors the outdoor showing of movies in downtown’s Heritage Plaza. Free admission.

ANNUAL FESTIVALS AND EVENTS - REGIONAL

Several notable festivals and events take place throughout the region very near Longview.

Mardi Gras Upriver "Classic Tales"

February

Held in downtown Jefferson, this is one of the premiere Mardi Gras festivals held in Texas. The event features three parades, live music, arts and crafts, carnival, purple, green, and gold fun. Admission is free. Approximately 35 minutes from Longview.

Texas Shakespeare Festival

June and July

Held in Kilgore, this is one of the nation's most respected Shakespeare festivals is brought to East Texas each summer by Kilgore College and area sponsors. Described in the Austin Statesmen as "indisputably the best Shakespeare festival in Texas." The event features professional actors performing a variety of plays over the course of June and July. The 2007 schedule included Much Ado About Nothing, Othello, The Triumph of Love, and Man of La Mancha. 15 minutes from Longview.

Gladewater Round-up Rodeo

June

Held in Gladewater, this nationally sanctioned PRCA Rodeo featuring a lavish Parade, chuck wagon cook off, and cowboy prayer breakfast. The even is four days of Old West Style Bronco-Busting Rodeo. 15 minutes from Longview.

Gladewater Arts and Crafts Show

September

Largest outdoor arts and crafts event in East Texas. Artwork in all media, woodcraft items, hand carved items, ceramics, dolls, needlework and jewelry. Free admission. 15 minutes from Longview.

Heritage Syrup Festival

November

Held in Henderson, this event features mule powered ole time syrup making with folk artist, food, bands, and antique tractors at Dept Museum. Also, hay ride shuttles to downtown Henderson where visitors find arts and crafts, food, antique and classic cars, bands, cloggers, square dancers, and a children's section. Approximately 35 minutes from Longview.



East Texas Boat & RV Expo in Longview