

TAILGATING tips

Whether you're new to tailgating or returning to your favorite lot, here are a few tips to help game day go right.

1. Start Early

Prepare ahead of time to avoid stress and the game day rush. "We get there as soon as the lot opens," said seasoned tailgater Denise Loethan. "Even if it's a night game, the lot opens at 8 a.m."

2. Checklists

Utilize lists to stay organized throughout the day. "[Make] sure you're checking everything off that you need, even down to a trashbag," tailgater Kelly Betz said.

3. Parking

If you are attending a tailgate, ask the hosts about the best places to park. Anticipate the game day traffic and plan parking ahead of time.

4. Be Flexible

Every tailgate is different every game with varied traditions. "It's really a social event. You get to see people, and some of these people, we only see them at football season," Loethan said.

