

2021 Christmas Parade Regulations

This year's parade theme is **“CHRISTMAS PAST & PRESENT”**.
Entries should feature your favorite Christmas celebration throughout U.S. history.

Parade Route

The parade route begins at 4th Street and North Cleveland Avenue, follows 4th Street west to Parrish Avenue. At Parrish Avenue we move one block south to 5th Street. The parade continues two blocks west on 5th Street until South Burwell Avenue. There the parade turns north on South Burwell Avenue moves one block north and turns east onto 4th Street. It continues one block east and turns north on to Hutchinson Avenue or Highway 41. The parade will end at the corner of Highway 41 and 1st Street.

General

1. All entries, participants included, must incorporate the parade theme in their costumes, decorations, float design and music.
2. Parade entries **should not** include a Santa Claus. There is only one Santa Claus in the parade and he will be the last entry.
3. No paper materials may be thrown from the vehicles or floats. If you would like to hand out information you may have volunteers accompany your entry.
4. All entries must have the name of the organization clearly displayed.

Animal Groups

1. Animal entries must incorporate the parade theme.
2. Animal entries shall exercise appropriate measures to keep spectators safe.
3. Horses may be either bagged or accompanied by “scoopers” during the parade and while in the staging area.

Floats and Vehicles

1. All floats and vehicles **MUST** incorporate the parade theme.
2. Music is strongly encouraged. Please play music that is appropriate for the Christmas Holiday and reflects the parade's theme. **If you are planning to use music on your float please let us know in advance and we will place you away from the band and other loud units.**
3. For safety reasons, please try and throw all candy well into the crowd. We would not want people, and especially children, risking their safety by running into the street to pick up candy.
4. All drivers must be in possession of appropriate and valid driver's license and insurance.
5. Participants must remain on the floats for the duration of the parade and an adult must properly supervise children while on or in any parade vehicle.
6. Floats or vehicles that are considered controversial will not be accepted. If, on the day of the parade, the Committee feels that your unit depicts ideas that do not follow in accordance with the Christmas Season, we reserve the right to ask you to correct it before you participate or eliminate your entry from the parade.

Judging

1. The judges will NOT make a pass through the parade entries the start of the parade this year.
2. The judges will be seated at the intersection of 4th St and Hutchinson Avenue at the Chamber/SOWEGA building to view the units "in action."
3. For those who have selected YES to being judged, we ask that you stop your float at the judge's table to allow time for them to view your entry.
4. Award winning categories:
 - Best Use of Theme
 - Best Costumes
 - Best Construction and Craftsmanship
 - Originality of Design
 - Overall Best Entry

***PLEASE** Make Note of the Following:

In order for your entry to be judged as a **FLOAT**:

1. The tires of the mobile platform used to carry the decorations MUST be hidden from view (as much as possible) with skirting made from any suitable and safe material.

In order for your entry to be judged as a **NON-FLOAT**:

1. You must check the "Non-Float" box on the entry form.

If you wish for your entry not to be judged, please check the box that states, "I wish not to be judged."

4. Judging Criteria:

- Relation of float to theme of parade
 - Costuming of characters on and around the float
 - Construction and craftsmanship
 - Originality of the design
 - Creative use of materials
 - Use of color
 - Overall visual impact
- (Each section is rated on a scale of 1-5; 1-poor and 5-outstanding.)

Parade Dispersal

1. The parade will end at the corner of Highway 41 and 1st Street. (Old Goody's parking lot)
2. Those picking up children or participants are strongly encouraged to pre-designate a location away from the dispersal area. You will not be allowed to stop on 2nd Street.

Staging Directions

1. Participants will be advised the day of the parade of their entry number and location. Signs will be placed along the parade route.
2. A single representative from each entry shall check in at the registration table located at the corner of 4th Street and Cleveland Avenue. Volunteers will also be driving golfcarts along Cleveland Ave to help with lineup.
3. Parade entries must be in place by **5:30 P.M.**
4. The parade starts promptly at 6:00 P.M. from the intersection of 4th Street and North Cleveland Avenue. All entries line up on South Cleveland Avenue with vehicles pointing toward 4th Street.

For questions contact:

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