

## 2016 Washington Town & Country Fair Parade Rules & Helpful Tips for Parade Day

Please follow these rules & regulations to make your participation in the parade safer and less hectic.

- ♦ A tram will be available beginning at 2:30 pm to drop participants off at their line-up area. Participants will board the tram at the Volunteer Parking Lot at Grand Ave. & Veterans Drive. The tram will pickup at 2:30, 2:45, 3:00 and the last pick-up time for the tram will be at 3:15 pm **SHARP**. **TIP:** Encourage your members to arrive early to ride the tram. We will have a volunteer on the tram to assist riders in getting to their appropriate spots. Please know the name of your group and lineup number.
- ♦ Participants can also be dropped off on High Street. A temporary stop sign will be placed on High Street at Second for both directions of traffic.
- ♦ High Street will **CLOSE** to all traffic at 3:30 pm - please encourage your group to be in the staging area by this time.
- ♦ Participant parking is available on Grand Ave in the Volunteer Lot where tram picks up and behind the swimming pool in the ball field parking lot. Additional parking is available across from Blue Duck Cafe on Main Street but you will have to walk to the staging area from there.
- ♦ Entries with more than 15 walking participants will have a separate area for their walkers to gather in the grass area at Second & High Streets. **It is your responsibility to have an adult leader at that area.** Walkers will merge into the parade as their vehicle entry passes. This cuts down the distance the walkers must walk.
- ♦ The recommended maximum height of a parade entry is 12 feet with a maximum allowable height of 13 feet.
- ♦ All participants are required to have decoration on their entries. We encourage you to decorate your float in the fair theme with a focus on Carnival Rides. Judging will be based on this theme.
- ♦ There will be **NO ALCOHOL** in any of the parade areas or vehicles. Drivers will need to be especially alert for starts/stops during the parade and for children that may dart out into the parade path.
- ♦ If animals are a part of your parade entry, please clean up after them before, during and after the parade.
- ♦ Drivers must have driver's license and proof of insurance – **this includes tractors!**
- ♦ No political endorsements of any kind. Participants displaying political propaganda will be asked to remove it or leave the parade.

### STAGING AREA:

- ♦ We ask that you plan to begin lining up Large Trailers/Flat Beds by **2:00 p.m.** and other entries by **2:30 p.m.** No motor vehicles shall be permitted in any parade when, due to the size, they are unable to operate safely upon the streets and while turning corners. (See maps to determine your position for line-up and parade route.)
- ♦ Parade officials will be in the staging area by 1:30 in case you have any questions or problems. Please obey officials! Any participants/groups causing problems with officials will not be allowed in parade next year.
- ♦ Obey the One-Way flow of traffic in staging area.
- ♦ For the safety of parade participants **only parade entry vehicles will be allowed access to staging areas.** **TIP:** Please make arrangements to have all equipment/items needed for parade on entry before entering staging area. Please note highlighted staging areas.
- ♦ Please make note of participant parking availability (Grand Ave Volunteer Lot & behind Swimming Pool) and inform your parade participants of these locations and where you are going to be located in the staging area. Remind the participants that only vehicles entered in the parade are allowed in staging areas.
- ♦ All floats must have group plainly posted.

- ♦ If your entry is being judged, there will be an official assigned to your group that will walk in front of your entry designating your organization name and that your entry is being judged.
- ♦ Entrants must provide trash bags & clean up their staging area before the parade begins.

#### PARADE ROUTE:

- ♦ Remain seated on the float. No jumping on or off the float unless it is stopped.
- ♦ Water guns, water balloons and silly string are prohibited.
- ♦ Trailers with floats being pulled should try to provide a minimum of four wheel walkers and additional walkers for each axle. No sitting with legs off of the trailer or over the fender wheels. Wheel walkers must be at least 13 years old.
- ♦ Doors on all vehicles must remain closed.
- ♦ There must be some type of communication between driver and riders on float.
- ♦ Drivers - please keep gaps from forming along the route. **TIP:** Talk with your group before beginning to have them all stick together and encourage them to keep up. Be sure and have a place for people to ride if they need to do so. *Do not stop along route and drive slow.*
- ♦ Appropriate clothes must be worn at all times during parade route (includes shirt, pants, and shoes).
- ♦ If you are handing out candy or other items, please have someone on your float to refill these items for the walkers so the float can keep moving and will not need to stop for refills.
- ♦ Persons participating in a parade may not distribute gifts, merchandise, literature, hand-outs, candy or other materials from moving vehicles or parade floats during the parade. No material may be thrown along the parade route. Participants may assign walkers to hand items to spectators along the parade route. Walkers shall only distribute gifts, merchandise, literature, hand-outs, candy or other materials as far off the road as possible to prevent children and other spectators from running into the streets and so long as such activity does not draw spectators into the streets. Please review these rules and regulations with all the parade participants in your group. Also review the enclosed ordinance establishing regulations for parades in the City of Washington, Missouri. Police will give tickets to those disobeying this rule.

#### END OF PARADE:

- ♦ A "Drop-off Zone" will be created at the end of the Parade. Entries needing to drop off equipment or participants will turn left onto Olive, right onto Second, and right onto Pine before merging back into the line of participants returning to the Fairgrounds. Vehicles must take Pine to Front, back to the Fairgrounds. Please note participants will not be allowed on High Street or Tiemann Drive if parade is still in progress. **TIP:** Pull over to side of street to allow walkers to get on the float or in vehicles to ride back to fairgrounds. Do not just stop in the middle of the street. This causes problems even for just a minute.
- ♦ Please do not block the streets so other floats can continue through.

If any of your participants plan to walk in the parade, they should wear sensible shoes for the 1.5 mile distance. You may want to have water on hand for their refreshment. We will have water in the staging area. In the event of extremely hot weather a cooling station will be set up along the route during the parade. Portable restrooms will also be available throughout the parade route.

If you can have a meeting with your group prior to the parade it will help with some of the questions about how people can get to their floats, where to park, their staging location, etc. A little preparation on your end ahead of time can make the day go much smoother for everyone!

Please call if you are unable to attend. Please plan to be flexible to change your line-up or parade position in the event of on-site changes that day.

There will be an After Parade Party again this year on the corner of Elm and Main Streets. **Awards for the floats being judged will be given out at 6:30 pm.** Please have someone near the stage for the announcement.