

General Parade Guidelines

Entries must observe all applicable rules and regulations and follow all instructions from police and parade officials. The parade committee reserves the right to remove any entrant from the parade either prior to assembly, at assembly or at any time during the parade if the entrant fails to meet parade rules or does not follow standards of reasonable public taste. **Due to limited time and space, parade officials have elected not to permit individual vehicles in the parade with the exception of invited local, state and national dignitaries. Pageant winners are encouraged to participate in the parade, but must be on a float. Individual passenger vehicles do not qualify as floats.**

The Parade Committee will have final authority over positioning of entries in the parade and the pace and movement of the parade in progress. Only forward movement by motorized vehicles is permitted. Parade officials assume no liability for any damage to floats, vehicles or for any injuries or damage due to negligence of parade entrants. A spacing of 15 feet between units will be enforced. All units are required to close the gap between units when ordered by the parade officials.

Parents or other responsible adults (18 or older) must be at the end of the parade route to pick up their children. The ratio of adult chaperones to children will be no less than 1:10 for ages 6-12 or 2:5 for ages 5 and under. These chaperones are included in the 75 person maximum limit per unit.

No candy, literature or other materials may be handed out or thrown out along the line of march.

Santa Claus is our featured guest each year. No participant may use a live Santa or any representation of Santa. Children tend to be confused by anything other than the "real Santa." (Santa hats are allowed)

All units must be illuminated in some way and incorporate holiday music. In your description, please describe the type of illumination you will be using. Candles or other open flames are prohibited.

All entrants must provide proper signs for their unit. Banners and signs should be neat and easily recognized. Six to eight inch lettering is recommended. Basic, simple signs show best.

If your entry is accepted, your organization will receive a letter outlining how your entry will be judged in the parade.

Float Rules and Regulations

Float support vehicles may include flat bed trucks and tractors. **Commercial service trucks, busses, passenger vans or 18 wheel trucks will not be accepted.** Floats must be of sturdy construction with decorated wheels. Floats with any commercial sign, banner or logo (including trucks pulling non-profit floats) will be considered a commercial entry.

Maximum width of float entries is 8 feet. The maximum height is 14 feet. Floats without side rails that transport riders must be no higher than 24 inches from the ground. Floats judged unsuitable because of size, safety hazards or structural weakness will be subject to removal.

Marching/Walking Rules and Regulations

All marching/walking units must be contained within an 18 to 20 foot width limit. There is a 75 person maximum, and all must advance in formation.

Organized walking units should be in uniform or costume and maintain a banner or other identification. Flags, banners and other displays are encouraged. Unit numbers must be displayed on the banner. All units should have holiday decorations, costumes and music where appropriate. All units must be illuminated. All ROTC units must march with their high school band.

Application and Selection

Applications Deadline: November 1, 2009

The parade will be limited to 100 units. Applications are accepted based on creativity, proposed use of theme and type of unit.

A complete description of the proposed entry must accompany all forms. There must be a visual description included. These will be reviewed by the parade committee, with a limited number accepted into the parade. Selection for all units invited will be completed by November 14 and all entrants will be notified of acceptance by mail or phone. The parade committee's decision regarding all entrants is final.

In keeping with the spirit of the holidays, we discourage any entries that strive to make a controversial or political statement.

Entries not accepted will have their application fee returned. No refunds will be issued for cancellations after November 21. No refunds will be issued for no-shows.

Parade Application

Applications Deadline: November 1, 2009

Name of Unit _____
Sponsoring Organization _____
Contact Person _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone: Daytime () _____
E-mail: _____

1) Category of Entry (please check one):
____ Float - \$100
____ Non-profit or charitable organization float - \$50
____ Marching/walking unit - \$200
____ Non-profit or charitable marching/walking - \$75

2) Number of participants _____ Age range _____
(max. 75 persons per entry)

3) Length of entry (in feet) _____

4) List music, song titles and music source (PA system, live, etc.)

The undersigned person, corporation or other entity understands that this application is not an invitation to participate in the 2009 Greenville Poinsettia Christmas Parade. The undersigned acknowledges that the City of Greenville and the sponsors do not seek to make a profit from any of the activities of the annual parade, but use any revenues for parade expenses.

In consideration of the parade committee allowing the undersigned to take part in the Greenville Poinsettia Christmas Parade, the undersigned agrees to save, defend and hold harmless the City of Greenville, the sponsors, and their agents and employees from any and all claims for damages for injury (including death) and property damage arising out of involvement with the parade. All participants operating motorized vehicles must provide certificate of liability insurance, a copy of pocket card, or written verification from participant's insurance carrier. All drivers must have a valid driver's license.

The undersigned further agrees to have received, read, understood, and will fully comply with all the Greenville Poinsettia Christmas Parade rules and regulations.

Signature _____
Date _____

Mail check payable to:
The Greenville Poinsettia Christmas Parade
PO Box 2207
Greenville, SC 29602