

Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce

Parade Guidelines & Policy

All parade participants are expected to complete a parade entry form located at the Chamber's website: www.getintogrinnell.com. There is no fee to participate in a parade organized by the Chamber of Commerce. Applications are available until 5pm the day prior to the parade unless otherwise noted on the parade entry form.

The following guidelines will be expected and enforced for all chamber-organized parades:

1. No candy, toys or other objects may be thrown from floats or moving vehicles; **items must be distributed by walkers and not thrown directly from a vehicle.**
 - a. ALL items intended for distribution must be noted on the entry's application and approved by chamber coordinator.
2. Per current CDC Guidelines, masks for unvaccinated individuals are encouraged if individuals are unable to maintain 6' of social distance on floats.
3. All floats should be properly decorated (no pickup trucks with a sign in the back).
 - a. Please note that commercial entries, other than floats, with the sole purpose of using the entry for advertising a specific business or event are permitted.
4. Horses or horse-drawn vehicles must receive permission in advance of the event from the Chamber. Call or email the chamber before completing your parade entry.
5. A support vehicle is required for all walkers for safety reasons. Participants shall provide their own vehicle for pulling their own riders.
6. If music is to be played from the float, parade officials must be notified in the application in advance of the parade so they may place the entry accordingly, and keep it further away from any marching bands and/or musical ensembles.
7. Application submission does not guarantee acceptance; parade coordinator may review and approve all entries.

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

ROUTE OF PARADES – Parade Routes are subject to change due to construction projects year to year. Please check the organization's website, www.getintogrinnell.com or call 641-236-6555 for the parade route.

APPROVAL – All parade entries are subject to Chamber approval. You will be notified if your entry is **not** approved.

STARTING TIME – All parades will start promptly at the time designated, except in the event of bad weather, when officials may delay the start as much as one hour or cancel, without rescheduling.

PARTICIPATION – Parade officials reserve the right to reject, or evict, any entry that is not in the best interest of the Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce and this policy. The decision of the Chamber Coordinator is final.

RESPONSIBILITY – Neither the Grinnell Area Chamber of Commerce nor its officials shall be liable or held responsible for any personal injury or for damage or loss to parade entries or observers. However, officials will take precautions to avoid such injury, loss, or damage. Parade participants shall assume responsibility for injury or damage to personnel, property or observers resulting from negligence of their entry.

ASSEMBLY – Space is limited in all parade assembly areas. All vehicles must observe parking lanes and heed parade officials. Parked vehicles in this area must be attended, or ignition keys made available. Entries shall be present at least 30 minutes prior to parade start time.

MOVEMENT – To avoid breakdown of a parade, all units shall maintain a maximum distance of 30 feet from the unit ahead. No band or marching unit shall perform in a manner as to impede the forward progress of the parade.

SAFETY (Limited Entries) – In the interest of safety to observers along parade routes horses, motorcycles, hot rods, or other entries of a questionable nature will be included or excluded in the judgement of the parade coordinator. **Participants are prohibited from throwing or distributing anything from the float or vehicle itself before, during or after parade.**

DIGNITARIES – Select dignitaries may be invited to participate in Chamber Parades. Dignitaries holding the office of State Governor and/or Lieutenant Governor and above will be considered for the list of invited Dignitaries.

1. The list of invited Dignitaries will be determined by Parade Coordinator.
2. Candidates for Public office are not considered Dignitaries; only incumbents may be invited to participate in the parades as dignitaries.
3. All candidates running for office are required to pre-register for parades utilizing the organization's website at getintogrinnell.com.

ADVERTISING – Business advertising approved for parade entries.

DISMISSAL – Failure to follow the aforementioned established rules, or verbal directions by parade officials, can result in the eviction, and/or rejection for future participation.