



2024 Parade of Lights Guidelines for Participants

- This is the Holiday Parade of Lights—all entries should be lit in some manner!!
- **NO PERSON MAY BE DRESSED AS SANTA CLAUS.** There is only one Santa Claus and he is already accounted for.
- **ONLY PARADE VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE CENTENNIAL BEACH PARKING LOT.** Parade Participants can be dropped off at the Centennial Beach parking lot on Jackson St. Participant and volunteer parking will be available in the Riverwalk lots that extend to the South and West near the Grand Pavilion. To access these lots, please proceed west on Jackson St. to the VFW, then south to the Riverwalk, then East to the parking area. Street parking on Jackson St. is reserved for large parade vehicles (fire trucks, etc.).
- All participants should check-in with the parade organizers at the pop-up tent located on the south side of the Beach parking lot. Participants will then proceed to their predetermined line-up location in the lot. A line-up map will be provided in advance.
- Only one vehicle (van, truck, trolley, etc) per entry unless granted an exception by The Rotary Club of Naperville ahead of arrival. Vehicles used by non-profit entrants must not be of a commercial nature; commercial firms should register for the parade separately. Maximum height of exhibits is 14 feet.
- Each parade unit will be released to Jackson Street by the designated gatekeeper. Please keep 4 car lengths between units. All units should travel slowly—this is not a race! Drivers of vehicles must have a valid driver's license and proof of insurance.
- You must stay in order. The TV broadcast script requires your unit to be in the correct order,
- **Please obey the Stop/Go Parade Officials** located at the west end of the Library, the Main Stage, and the top of the hill on Webster Street.
- **NOTHING MAY BE THROWN FROM ANY ENTRY!!** The entry agrees to pass trinkets, candy or flyers from hand to hand only. This is for the safety of all parade spectators and to prevent children from running into the street during the parade. If your unit is caught throwing anything, your organization will be subject to a fine. Further, your group risks not being invited to participate in future Rotary Club of Naperville Parades.
- The parade will end at Naper Elementary on Eagle Street. Follow directions of parade staff at the end of the parade regarding traffic. **PARADE STREET VEHICLES MUST TURN LEFT (SOUTH) ON EAGLE and return to Centennial Beach Parking Lot via Jefferson St. to West St.;** note that Jefferson and West Streets are open to the public and travel is at your own risk. Other units, such as walking groups, may turn right and depart for their final destination. All units must obey traditional traffic rules once they've exited the parade route. Please clear the area quickly as more of the parade is coming behind you.

- All non-profit organization entrants have the opportunity to compete for the annual “Most Spirited Award” trophy to be selected under the direction of the Parade Committee. The winner gets to hold the trophy for one year.
- All participants agree to properly dispose of any litter they may accumulate around their unit prior to or during the parade. Trash cans will be provided in the staging parking. A fee of \$75 will be imposed if this guideline is not adhered to.
- **INCLEMENT WEATHER:** Event organizers will work with local Police/Fire/Public Works to determine if cancellation is necessary due to inclement weather. Participants will be notified via phone, email, and/or social media of cancellation in as timely a manner as possible.

The following rules apply to participants who are riding floats provided by the Parade Committee:

- No Alcohol/Drug Use or intoxicated participants
- Each float is capable of supporting riders up to 2500 lbs. total. This is about 10 – 12 average adults, but could be more if there are children
- The style of float may limit the number of riders regardless of total weight.
- Children must be supervised by an adult
- The tow driver is the ultimate authority for what is the safe number of riders. The rider count may be adjusted up to the actual start of the parade, so prepare your planned riders just in case it is determined there is not enough room for all to safely ride.
- For safety, there should not be any persons who approach the float during the parade. No handout items (candy etc.) may be stored on the floats or with the tow vehicle.
- If you have any accompanying marchers, they should position themselves behind the float. Bring a separate wagon for any handouts.
- The floats cannot be towed on open-access streets with any riders. At the end of the parade route (Naper School on Eagle St.), you will be required to disembark from your float. You will need to either walk back to the Beach staging area (about 4 blocks) or arrange different transportation from Naper School.
- A \$75.00 Fee will be billed if trash is left on the float after the parade