



PARADE OF LIGHTS
Saturday, December 3, 2022
Participant Application

For the safety and enjoyment of all participants and spectators, compliance with the following rules and regulations is mandatory. Any disregard or neglect of the rules will result in disqualification of participation.

NOTE: The term “float” refers to any trailer or entry in the actual parade unless referring specifically to “walkers” or “groups.”

1. The parade will start at 5:30 p.m.
2. The parade theme is PARADE OF LIGHTS. All floats and vehicles must have lighted decorations.
3. All floats must be present at the float staging area no later than 4:45 p.m.
4. All entries must be driven by a licensed and insured driver.
5. All entries must be completed when they arrive at the staging area. Last minute touches and fix-ups are allowed, but there will be no complete decorating allowed in the staging area.
6. All entries must clearly display their registration number on the windshield or on the front of the pulling vehicle so that it can be seen by organizers as entries enter the staging area. Do not permanently affix this registration card as it will be taken up prior to the parade start. **ANY ENTRY OR VEHICLE WITHOUT A REGISTRATION NUMBER WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN THE STAGING AREA.**
7. Entries will be lined up in the order they arrive. Due to the layout of the staging area, there will be no reserving of spots. If a group of vehicles would like to drive together in the parade, then they **MUST** arrive together at the parade staging area. It is suggested that you meet at another location and then come together to the staging area.
8. Judging process:
 - a. Floats will be judged based on their use of lights, creativity, originality and special effects.
 - b. Judging will occur during the parade route from Main Street.
 - c. Please make sure your business/church/organization name is clearly visible from both sides of your float so that judges will know who you are!
 - d. The winners will be announced after the parade at a trophy ceremony on the Experience Columbia stage. Please provide a number that can receive a text for winner notification immediately following the parade so that representatives of your group can be notified with instructions of when and where to meet for the presentation. Winners will also be announced on the MCDP and Experience Columbia Facebook pages.
 - e. The parade is after dark so the use of lights is advised and expected.
9. **ALL PARADE STAGING, LINEUP & ROUTE INFORMATION** will be publicized at a later time but will be explicitly explained at the mandatory meeting on November 22. All procedures are currently under review & revision, due to new safety considerations & planning.

10. For added safety, floats must have a minimum of 2 walkers per side, at least 4 total. Float participants are responsible for arranging a pick up spot for riders/walkers at the end of the route. Additional safety instructions may be shared at the mandatory meeting.
11. Due to traffic concerns and parking, please encourage float riders to carpool or have someone drop them off.
12. Bands will be lined up in the order assigned to them at the mandatory meeting, with no exceptions
13. Santa Claus will end the parade riding on the Columbia Fire Department Truck. NO other Santas will be allowed in the parade. If you have a Santa on your float it will be disqualified from judging.
14. Fire trucks and any law enforcement vehicles may not use their sirens during the parade.
15. This is a family oriented event. No vulgar music or comments will be tolerated. A holiday music playlist is encouraged.
16. Entries will not be allowed to stop and perform during the parade so that it may proceed in a timely manner.
17. Dance teams are allowed to participate, but may not stop and perform. All dance teams must dress and act appropriately. No vulgar or suggestive attire, movements, or music will be tolerated.
18. Pre-registration is required. A mandatory meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 22, at 5:00 p.m. in the meeting room at the Marion County Development Partnership. ALL floats and participants MUST have a representative at this meeting. Registration cards will be given at the meeting. Rules and safety procedures will be discussed. The registration card issued MUST be presented at the parade route-

- a. All floats - \$100
- b. Walking groups - \$100
- c. All vehicles, motorcycles or side by sides must be part of a group- \$50 per vehicle/motorcycle
- d. There is no fee for fire trucks or law enforcement vehicles with official markings.
- e. There is no fee for school bands.

Entry fees paid by participants will go toward continued parade improvements, specifically safety plan development and implementation.



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DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT – November 22, 12:00 p.m.

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There is no fee for school bands.

If your group has more than one float (ex: 2 trailers for a pee wee football team & cheerleaders), you must register each float separately. Each float must have a unique registration number.

Organization Name: _____

Contact Person: _____ **Phone number:** _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Text Phone number if different from above: _____

Type of Entry with Fee: (Check the box for the entry type.)

- A. Float (\$100)** **B. Car/Truck (\$100)** **C. Vehicle Group (\$50 per vehicle)**
(Car club, jeep club, motorcycle group)
- D. Walking group \$100** **E. Other:** _____

Description of Entry (if type C, please include the number of vehicles in the group):

Approximate number of persons with entry: _____ **(drivers, riders, walkers)**

Amount paid: _____ **Received by:** _____

Type of Payment: _____ **Check** _____ **Cash** _____ **Card**

Make check payable to the Marion County Development Partnership (MCDP).

If submitting on line, payment must be received by Tuesday, November 22 by the Marion County Development Partnership. Pay by cash, check or call 601-736-6385 for payment by card. No entry will be permitted without payment.

Will your group be arriving via bus and need parking arrangements? _____

I, _____, attest that I have read and understand all of the rules for participation in the MCDP/Experience Columbia Parade of Lights, and will abide by the rules set forth. I understand that my failure to comply may result in a ban from participation in this and/or future parades. I further agree that my entry will have a representative at the mandatory meeting on Tuesday, November 22 at 5:00 at the Marion County Development Partnership.

Signature

Date