



PARADE OF LIGHTS

Downtown Lights - Illuminated Nights • December 2 • 5:30 p.m.

Parade Rules

The Parade of Lights Committee has established a set of rules that will be strictly enforced. Our primary concern is the safety and well-being of all participants and spectators of the Parade of Lights. The committee reserves the right to remove any entrant or person who does not comply with the following rules:

1. All participants in the parade must be lighted in some way. The use of strobe lights is prohibited. Please turn off your headlights on parade entry vehicles, using only your parking lights for the duration of the parade. After the parade ends, resume using your headlights for night driving.
2. Throwing and/or distributing any items along the parade route from a float or other moving vehicle is strictly prohibited. However, we encourage parade participants to distribute candy or premiums to spectators. Theme-dressed personnel walking along between float/vehicle and spectators may do this.
3. The theme of this year's parade is "Downtown Lights – Illuminated Nights." All entries must depict this theme in some way.
4. Children under the age of 12 are not allowed to walk or rollerblade along the parade route. The only exception is if a decorated vehicle large enough to accommodate all such children is part of the entry. In such case, the children must remain with the entry at all times.
5. Entries with children must have one adult for every ten children.
6. All vehicles and floats must be decorated for the holiday. The maximum height of a unit is not to exceed thirteen (13) feet without duly written permission from the Parade Committee prior to the day of the event.
7. All floats and entries must be constructed of fire-retardant materials and be equipped with at least one (1) type C fire extinguisher. A formal fire-extinguisher check will be conducted prior to the start of the parade. No open flames are permitted on parade entries.
8. All vehicles should be checked thoroughly for gas, water, oil, etc. prior to the start of the parade.
9. Vehicles must only be driven by properly licensed adults over 21 years old.
10. Consumption of alcohol by participants during the staging, parade march or de-staging is strictly prohibited.
11. Entries listed as "Antique/Classic Car" or "Antique Tractor" must be manufactured prior to 1981 model year.
12. Commercial entries are limited to TWO (2) vehicles. Not-for-profit organizations are limited to THREE (3) units. In an effort to be considerate and fair to all entrants, there will be no exceptions to this rule.
13. To reduce gaps, vehicles should limit their speed to the pace of a slow walk (approx. 2 mph) and stay within two car lengths of the preceding entry. Please take into consideration that marching units may move at a slower pace due to weather conditions.
14. Marching units should conform to a uniform dress code and must play through the majority of the route with no more than two two-minute breaks. Marching units must be lighted in some way (i.e. school band banner lighted, light ropes, multi-colored flashlights).
15. Due to limited staging area, only parade vehicles, floats and animals will be allowed in the staging area. Please have someone drop off walkers and persons riding on entries. Bands will stage along Fremont Street.
16. Only Holiday music is to be played or sung. Music should not interfere with music of other floats.
17. All entrants must not have a live Santa on their float. The parade committee already has the "Official Santa" who will be in the parade and will also be available afterwards for the children.
18. The Parade of Lights Committee, the City of Champaign, Champaign Park District, The News-Gazette nor any of its officers, volunteers, assistants, sponsors, or employees assumes no responsibility or liability in the event of injury or accident.
19. Parade Marshals have the authority to remove any entrant from the parade for failure to comply with these rules, inclusive under the direction of the Parade Coordinator.

The aforementioned rules are in place to provide a safe and enjoyable parade experience for everyone. Please do your part in complying with these rules and safety provisions. If you have any questions regarding the parade, please contact Cara L. Day at (217) 351-5642.