



Theme: *Christmas Magic*
Parade Entry Information and Rules

The person submitting the application is responsible for the safety of any person who is walking or riding with you on the day of the parade. You are also responsible for your vehicle and for passing the following information along to everyone involved in your entry, including parents, before the parade.

Registration Deadline

Wednesday, November 29, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

Arrival Time

The line-up for the parade entries starts at 9:00 a.m. and goes up to 12:00 p.m. These instructions do not apply to bands, band members, dignitaries and emergency vehicles. They will start at a different location. If you are unable to attend, you do not need to notify Murfreesboro Parks & Recreation.

Arrival Location

MTSU parking lot on Rutherford Blvd directly across from Alumni Drive on campus and across from Fraternity Row. Your parade position depends upon your arrival time. *Never leave a vehicle unattended in Rutherford parking lot or on Alumni Drive.*

Parking

Participants must park in MTSU campus parking lots. Do not park in any apartment parking lot or in Married Student Housing lots located on Alumni Drive. There is additional parking around the campus near Alumni Drive.

Approaching the MTSU Parking Lot on Rutherford Blvd

Arrive at check-in by coming down E. Main Street, then turn left at the traffic light at Rutherford Blvd. Turn right at the next traffic light into the MTSU Parking Lot. After participants are dropped off, you must leave the lot and park elsewhere.

Decorating

All vehicles in the parade must be clean and decorated for Christmas. You may decorate your entry in the MTSU Parking Lot. You must bring your decorations with you when you arrive. When you are completely decorated and "parade ready" you will line up and be sent across the street to Alumni Drive. You must be fully decorated to be admitted onto Alumni Drive. No additional vehicles will enter Alumni Drive, including people being dropped off to find their group. Please clean up after yourselves before you start moving into the parade lineup.

Decorating and the Weather

The Rutherford Boulevard MTSU Parking Lot can be very cold. Alumni Drive has a lot of trees to break the wind. We suggest you be as decorated as possible when you check in. Also, children and other participants will be more comfortable standing and waiting for you on Alumni Drive. There is a bus shelter that would be a good meeting place just off Rutherford Boulevard on Alumni Drive. Volunteers from the Murfreesboro Noon Exchange Club will be there to help you with checking in on both lots.

Literature Distribution

Do NOT distribute any printed literature. While the parade is a great way to get recognition, we encourage you to be creative with your entry by using Christmas decorations, signs, music, etc.

Throwing Candy

DO NOT THROW candy from floats and/or vehicles. Distributing candy is not required. If you wish to distribute candy it must be handed out by walkers.

Santa

There will be only ONE Santa in the parade, and he is the Grand Finale. Do NOT have a person dressed as Santa; they will be asked to leave or change costumes. Posters, dolls, inflatable Santas are permitted in the parade.

Trailers/Floats

If you are pulling any type of trailer, turn left on Walnut Street at the end of the parade. You will find areas to pull off the road and unload people from your trailer/float. DO NOT STOP ANYWHERE ALONG THE PARADE ROUTE TO TAKE PEOPLE/KIDS OFF OF FLOATS. Float entries pulled by a car or truck cannot be more than 45 feet from the front vehicle bumper to the end bumper of float or trailer.

All other entries

All entries that are not trailers/floats will turn right on Walnut Street at the end of the parade.

Judging

If you would like your entry to be considered for an award, please let us know at check-in when you arrive. One prize will be awarded in each of the following categories:

Mayor's Cup (Overall)

Business or Industry

Church or School

Scout, Civic or Social Group

Vehicles

Be sure your car is in good working order and can drive very slowly over the whole parade route (about 1-1/2 miles) without overheating. Maintain control over your vehicle and be aware that children can run out into the street for candy very quickly. Watch the crowd carefully.

Insurance

Make sure your insurance will cover your vehicle and the safety of your participants as well as onlookers who may be harmed by your vehicle.