



Parade Instructions



All parade entries must be decorated in a St. Patrick's Day theme. Examples:

Green streamers, balloons (no releasing into the air), banners

Walkers in costume or themed dress, Shamrocks, Leprechaun, etc

All Entries please avoid:

Plain vehicles/trucks/trailers with no decoration

Walkers with no theme, props, or dress

Advertising, flyers, handouts

CANDY, FLYERS, HANDOUTS

Candy, flyers, advertising, or any kind of handout is prohibited to be passed/handed/tossed from the Parade route. Failure to comply will result in forfeiting participation in future parades.

Under Billings Municipal Code Sec. 24-505, "... it is unlawful for any persons in a parade to throw, cast, or drop candy, trinkets, or any other articles. A violation of this provision shall result in a one hundred dollar fine for each occurrence."

PARADE STAGING

Please follow these instructions very carefully as they've been designed to prevent vehicle congestion in the staging area.

- Identify your line-up number(s) on the provided line up list.
- Refer to the provided map of the Staging Area to see your line-up location.
 - o It is permitted to turn the wrong-way down one-ways within mapped streets.
- Refer to the map's key to identify your specific assigned arrival time and entry location.
- Park your parade entry against the curb in the street parking zones.
- Please keep left and park in street parking zones
- Bring a banner or some form of group identification for your entry. This should be done in addition to your parade Line-up number mentioned below.

REQUIRED FOR ENTRY: Please post your **LINE-UP NUMBER** in the front of your parade vehicle.

- Example: Get a piece of typing paper 8.5x11" & either print your number in an EXTRA LARGE font size or, write your number on the paper with bold marker as large as will fit

- o Vehicle entries: Tape the paper with your Line-up number in your dash
- o Walking groups: Tape the paper with your Line-up number to your banner

ALL ENTRIES: Drivers & Walking Group Leaders:

Do not allow a large gap to form between you and the entry ahead of you.

Your entry must stay in pace with the entire parade procession. The Parade is like a train, the cars move together at the same pace. As the parade moves, you must keep close with the group ahead of you; approximately 5 feet between entries. NO STOPPING is permitted during the parade procession

**stopping during the parade will result in forfeiting participation in future parades*

MOTORCYCLE GROUPS

Burn-outs and stopping during the parade procession are strictly prohibited. Motorcycles must help pace the procession. **Burn-outs during the parade can frighten animals participating in the parade and spectators and will result in forfeiting participation in future parades.*

ANIMAL GROUPS

ALL groups with live animals (domestic or livestock), must have a designated clean-up crew to sweep up any messes in the staging area as well as following behind during the parade to keep the streets clean. This is a “No Trace” parade and it is your responsibility to clean up after your animals. Failure to clean-up your animal’s messes will result in forfeiting participation in future parades.

NON-PARADE VEHICLES

Only parade entries are permitted to park in the parade line-up/staging area. Please gather in a designated place outside of the staging area and arrive together to your line-up location on foot. **If it’s exceptionally cold: study the parade staging zone ahead of time and find a place to park (ex. in an empty lot) near your space until it’s time for your group to line-up outside.* Non-parade vehicles: please do not park in the street in the parade line-up.

BLOCK CAPTAINS

DBA Staff and volunteers will serve as Block Captains at each intersection of the staging area and will be available to help each float find their place. They can help direct any questions to the appropriate persons. Please be kind and courteous as they are volunteering their time to help.

EXIT INFORMATION

The parade ends at 3rd Ave N & 32nd Street. **After crossing 32nd St. DO NOT SLOW DOWN OR STOP.** The parade is still going on behind you and slowing or stopping on 2nd will cause a pile-up of floats and ruin the parade pace. Keep going past 2nd Ave to allow the floats and entries behind you to complete their route at a good pace. **Do not cut back through the parade route or barricaded streets.**

FLOAT JUDGING

Float Judging will take place during the Parade at 2nd Ave N. & Broadway. Make sure you print and place your line-up number clearly in the front of your entry. **Judging categories include:** Best Entry Over-all, Best Costumes, Best Performers, and Best Themed Entry. The winners will be posted on the DBA Facebook Page, listed on the DBA website.

At 10:30am the entire parade route will be closed to through traffic and ‘No Parking’ will be enforced on the route after this.



Please review and re-read the instructions carefully. If you have additional questions not answered above: email LRichardson@downtownbillings.com or call 406-294-5060.