

## Entry Rules:

- This year's theme is **"Light Up the Season."**
- **Due to the nature of this year's event, all entries must be on a float.**
- This will be a drive-thru parade only. Individuals not associated with the parade floats will not be allowed to enter the parade area.
- Absolutely **NO** items may be handed out or tossed from floats! This includes but is not limited to: candy, flowers, beads, toys and pamphlets.
- **There will be a virtual parade meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 6:30 pm. Login details will be emailed prior to the meeting. It is strongly recommended that all entries have at least one representative participate in this meeting. Parade officials will review all procedures, requirements and parade line up at this time, and this meeting is the best way to make sure you have the correct information.**

## Float Requirements:

- **Maximum Float Dimensions – Height 12', Width 10', Length 40'** (not to exceed 40'). Each float will be spaced 10' apart from one another.
- **Due to the nature of this year's event, all entries must be on a float.**
- Entries must be decorated and reflect the theme. Please refrain from being predominately commercial in nature.
- Entries are encouraged to display the name of the organization and/or business.
- Only one entry per organization/business.
- Any single-unit truck (no trailer) should not exceed 40ft in length. Any combination vehicle (power unit plus trailer) which is connected using a pintle-hook or ball hitch system should not exceed 40 ft in length as measured from the forward most vehicle component to the rearmost component of the trailer.
- Any combination vehicle which is connected using a fifth-wheel assembly should not exceed 40 ft in length as measured from the forward most vehicle component to the rearmost component of the trailer.
- Low boy equipment trailers and flatbeds are permitted only if used as part of a float and decorated. No protruding outrigger wheels or other appendages that might snare and scrape passing vehicles.
- Vehicle entries are required to carry a five pound/3A40BC fire extinguisher. Available for purchase at any hardware store.
- Vehicles will drive by the driver's side of the float. You will want to focus your decorations to be seen on this side.
- The use of sirens or horns is **prohibited**.
- No vans, utility vehicles, etc. are permitted without tasteful Christmas decoration, or an attached float in accordance with the theme.
- No wreckers or dump trucks will be allowed as a parade entry.
- No propane trucks.
- **NO** dressing in Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus costumes permitted. (The parade committee selects "official" Santa for the final float). Santa hats are permitted.

- Symbols that can be construed as offensive may not be permitted in the Parade. This includes, but is not limited to, the Confederate Flag and the Swastika.
- The Fredericksburg Christmas Parade is a family-friendly event for all ages, and every entry in the parade is expected to respect this. All costumes, outfits, behavior, attitude, language, and dance moves must be appropriate for a young audience and will be held to a high standard. Failure to comply may result in being asked to leave the parade immediately with no warning and may jeopardize a group's approval to participate in following years. All decisions are at the discretion of Parade officials and are final.
- **No Changes to your Entry:** Your parade entry must arrive at the parade location as it is described on your entry form. No changes are permitted to your entry after the entry deadline.

## **Animal / Equestrian Entries:**

- Due to the reverse parade format, equestrian entries will not be allowed in the parade this year.
- All animals must be able to stay on the float.

## **Parade Line Up:**

- Non-parade vehicles are not permitted into the staging area. Groups should establish a meeting place outside of the parade area to meet and then walk to their float.
- Parents dropping off members of your float should pre-arrange a meeting/drop off location outside of the parade route and then walk to the float.
- **Line up begins at 3:30 PM.** Please be patient as we get all floats in their designated location.
- Entries **not** in position by 5:00pm will not be allowed to participate and will forfeit their participation. Due to high volume traffic, we strongly recommend planning extra time for arrival.

## **Parking:**

- There will be no parking along the parade route beginning at 2:00 p.m. on the day of the parade.
- Designated drop off and parking areas for parade entries only will be identified prior to the participant meeting.



## NO DRONE ZONE



Only authorized drones are prohibited at the Fredericksburg Christmas Parade. All other drones are prohibited.

## Weather:

- In the event of inclement weather, the parade will continue as scheduled unless City Police and Fire deem the weather to be extreme and raise safety concerns. Your attendance in the event during inclement weather is at your discretion. However, if you choose NOT to attend, please **email** the Parade Committee by 2pm the day of the event so we can adjust.
- There will be no postponement or rescheduling of the parade.
- Your entry fee is **non-refundable** even in the event of a cancellation.
- It is also strongly recommended that you register for [Fredericksburg Alert fredericksburgalert.com](http://FredericksburgAlert.fredericksburgalert.com) so that you receive weather related alerts and updates regarding the parade. We will not be notifying individual groups, we will be sending weather-related parade notices through Fredericksburg Alert.

## Judging

- All entries must be in place and ready to be judged at 5:00 pm.
- Judges will be driven past each float and will judge each entry based on Best Use of Lights, Most Creative, Most Enthusiastic Participants (Spirit Award), Most Humorous (LOL Award), Best Youth Float and Best Use of the Theme, "Light Up the Season".
- We will tally up the judge's points and announce the winners prior to the start of the parade. We will also post the winners on the website no later than Monday following the parade.

## Lost and Found:

- All items that are turned into a Fredericksburg Parks, Recreation and Events staff member during this event will be taken to the Dorothy Hart Community Center for the owner to pick up beginning Monday, December 7 at 9:00 AM.

## Other important notes:

- This will be a drive-thru parade only. Individuals not associated with the parade floats will not be allowed to enter the parade area.

- Masks will be required to be worn when physical distancing is unable to be obtained.
- Please be prepared to perform, wave to the attendees, etc. from 5:30 pm till 8:30 pm. Floats will not be allowed to leave prior to 8:30 pm.
- There will be portable restrooms at various locations around the parade route for parade marshals, volunteers and parade entries only. Refer to the [parade map](#) for details.
- Use of alcoholic beverages by any and all parade participants is **absolutely prohibited**. Disregarding this rule will result in immediate removal from the parade. Violators will not be allowed to participate in any future City of Fredericksburg parade events.
- At the City of Fredericksburg's discretion, an officer will be inspecting the floats checking volunteers, participants, and staff for alcohol and you will be removed immediately from the parade, without a refund, at the officer's discretion.
- All drivers must stay with their float from the time they arrive to the time the reverse parade ends.
- Please report problems to a Parade Marshal. Parade Marshals will be wearing safety vests, and will be able to direct participants to lost and found, first aid and information stations.
- For safety reasons and for social distancing, the City has prohibited vendors within the parade footprint during the Fredericksburg Christmas Parade. No one is permitted to set up on the sidewalks nor on the streets anywhere in the parade footprint on parade day between the hours of 2:00pm – 9:00pm.
- Contact the Parade Committee at [fredchristmasparade@gmail.com](mailto:fredchristmasparade@gmail.com) with any questions.