

We are looking forward to your participation in our 59th Annual Ozark Christmas Parade taking place Saturday November 23rd!

PARADE ROUTE

• Parade will begin at Ozark Innovation Center and follow Jackson St. to the Historic Square.

ARRIVAL & STAGING

 Parade Staging will begin at 3:00 p.m. at Ozark Innovation Center, ending at 5:00pm for road closures. Parade will begin at 5:30pm once everyone is checked in and ready to go.

All entries must be lined up in the staging area no later than 5 PM. Traffic will be heavy, please plan accordingly.

PARKING

• Parade Participant parking available at Ozark Innovation Center at 1600 W Jackson St.

PARADE RULES & REGULATIONS

SAFETY

- You are responsible for establishing a designated meeting area for your walkers/marchers & float riders who will need to meet parents after the parade or those helping to dismantle the float. This spot must be past or beyond the end of the parade route (South of Walnut and preferably west of 3rd Street), The 3rd Street frontage road and Adams Funeral Home are recommended. For the safety of all persons involved, float riders & participants must stay on their parade entry until after the end of the parade route.
- DO NOT STOP EXCEPT FOR EMERGENCIES. After exiting the square, all entries must proceed South on 3rd Street. Entries must keep moving until your designated meeting area is reached to avoid disrupting/stalling the parade flow.

Visibility

- The parade takes place after dark. **ENTRIES MUST BE LIT** for spectators to see your entry and signage. The parade route is lit only by streetlights.
- All entries must have minimum one (1) sign identifying the organization or individual entered.
- For the safety of Parade participants, students/participants under the age of 10 should not participate as "walkers" in the Parade. All children under the age of 10 must ride on a vehicle or float.
- Float/Decorations Oversight
- Floats must have a designated safety observer over the age of 18 to guide the driver and ensure that riders are adhering to rules and not disembarking prior to the end of the parade.
- Anyone operating a motorized vehicle must have a valid Missouri Drivers License.
- The Ozark Chamber of Commerce reserves the right to refuse or remove any entry deemed as creating a safety concern or not adhering to the parade rules.
- For the enjoyment of participants and spectators, NO political slander, stickers, inappropriate signage will be allowed. Decorations must be festive and in good taste (no obscenity, drug or alcohol references, etc.)

PARADE RULES & REGULATIONS

Float/Decorations Oversight Continued....

- Entries must be lit for spectators to see your entry and signage. Your entry must have some type of lighting/decor/music added to it for entry as the parade is for entertainment purposes.
- All entries must have 1 sign identifying the organization or individual entered.
- Decorations must not cause safety hazards (tripping, sparks, dragging, low visibility for driver, etc.)

No Live Santas

• In order not to spoil Santa for the children of Ozark, no floats may have a live Santa or Mrs. Claus. The Chamber of Commerce will provide a live Santa at the end of the parade. This will be the only live Santa allowed in the parade.

Candy Handouts

• Please help us keep our children safe: DO NOT THROW treats of any kind from floats! You may hand out candy or treats only when walking next to the crowd

Safety:

 Come prepared: Late autumn in the Ozarks can mean sun, wind, rain, snow, ice or mixture of any and all. Hats, sunglasses, heavy coats, gloves, umbrellas, and galoshes/winter boots may all be needed. Also, while complimentary cocoa may be available, there are no public water fountains on the Downtown Square or in the staging area for the parade, so plan to bring water for your representatives.

Inclement Weather:

 The Christmas Parade is an all-weather event, with the exception of extremely dangerous weather (tornadoes, flooding, etc). In the unlikely circumstance that we have to cancel, the Ozark Chamber staff will make every attempt to contact your organization's listed Primary Contact before 3:00pm 11/23. We will also post updates on our Facebook Page.

PARADE RULES & REGULATIONS

Judging and Winners:

- We will have four (4) different categories in this years parade and award 1st, 2nd and 3rd place trophy's.
 - Business Class
 - Non/Profit (civic and community organizations, volunteer groups, etc)
 - Churches or Church Groups
 - Best Clubs (auto, scouts, school groups, etc)
- Judging will be based on Theme of Parade (Winter Wonderland), Orginality/Creativity, Visual Effects and Presentation/Spirit.
- Winners will be announced later that evening on Ozark Chamber Facebook Page and winners can pick up trophy's the following week at the Chamber office at 1503 S. 3rd Street, Ozark, (please call for availability (417) 581-6139.

Social Media Help

• Please take as many pictures as you can and when you upload to Facebook or Instagram and please consider tagging the Ozark Chamber of Commerce pages. We also encourage the use of #ozarkmoparade #shopozarkmo. We will try and reshare as many as possible and may use some pics on future marketing.

PARADE MAP

