

Town of Boone

St. Patrick's Day Parade

2019 Participation Rules

Saturday, March 16, 2019
Parade Line-Up Begins: 12:30 PM
Parade Begins: 2:00 PM
Application Deadline: March 12, 2019
Theme: Lucky to be in Boone

Violation of any of these rules will result in the removal of your group and restriction from entering any future Town of Boone parades and/or events. Parade officials reserve the right to refuse entry or remove any participant or group.

Important Information

- All parade paperwork (entry form and signed liability waiver) must be submitted by March 12 in order to participate in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Late entries will not be considered.
- Only 50 entries will be accepted in this year's parade. Please submit your paperwork as early as possible to confirm your spot.
- The parade staging area will be at the Watauga County Human Services Complex at 132 Popular Grove Connector.
- Parade line-up begins at 12:30 PM on Saturday, March 16, and closes at 1:30 PM. Please do not be late or arrive earlier than 12:30 PM.
- There is no entry fee.

Prior to the Parade

1. All parade paperwork must be submitted by the application deadline (March 12). No exceptions.
2. Please fully decorate your float/entry PRIOR to arriving at the parade staging area. Entries should be fully decorated.
3. All floats must be approved by parade officials before entering the line-of-march. Parade Officials maintain the right to reject floats that do not reflect the theme of the parade or violate any parade rules.

Planning Your Entry

1. The parade staging area will open at 12:30 P.M. The address for the staging area is 132 Popular Grove Connector. Please do not arrive before 12:30 P.M.
2. No vehicles may enter the parade line-up after 1:30 P.M.
3. Absolutely no entries may participate in the parade if they have not previously completed a parade registration form or submitted a signed rules and liability waiver by the March 12 deadline.

4. Only floats and vehicles driven in the parade may park in the parade staging area. Carpooling is strongly recommended.
5. Parade officials maintain the right to remove any float from the line-of-march at any time due to safety reasons, indecorous behavior, or structural instability.
6. **Absolutely no candy or other items may be thrown by parade participants to spectators along the parade route.** Throwing candy creates a dangerous environment as children might run into the parade route and be struck by a vehicle or parade float.
7. Participants may not climb off or on any parade floats during the parade at any time.
8. Dignitaries must provide their own vehicles.
9. Music played by parade entries and participants must be seasonal and may not contain derogatory language of any kind.
10. No parade participant shall carry firearms or other weapons, including but not limited to: bricks, bats, sticks, rocks, bottles, or any other item that could be used as a weapon.
11. Parade participants may not use squirt guns, silly string, confetti guns, or any other projectile that might lead to crowd control issues and create litter.
12. No parade participant may drink alcoholic beverages or be under the influence of any intoxicating beverages or drugs during the parade.
13. Reckless and dangerous driving during the parade and in the parade staging area will not be tolerated.
14. Materials used in the construction of floats in the parade must be made of fire-retardant materials and shall be subject to review by the fire chief and/or fire marshal. A fire extinguisher must be on board.
15. All parade float drivers must maintain a speed of 3 – 5 MPH during the parade and maintain a safe following distance to prevent any gaps.
16. Once begun, the parade must maintain a forward motion at all times. Please keep up the pace.
17. Once the parade has begun, no additional vehicles, individuals, groups, or participants will be allowed to join the parade.
18. All animal entries must dispose of waste immediately – entrant must provide their own pail and shovel. Animals must be secured at all times and are the sole responsibility of the entrant.
19. At no point shall a float enter the line-of-march until instructed to do so by a Parade Official in the staging area.

20. If your entry has multiple vehicles, they **MUST** all enter the lineup at the same time. Vehicles arriving after a group is placed in the lineup will not be allowed to join their group in the parade lineup.
21. Parents/guardians are solely responsible for the safe arrival and departure of their parade participants. Each parade entry must discuss transportation arrangements **PRIOR** to the parade. Groups are strongly encouraged to carpool due to lack of parking and traffic congestion.

Judging Rules & Guidelines

1. Judges will evaluate the entry's interpretation of the parade theme and will take into consideration detail, difficulty of construction, and originality.
2. In order to be considered for the judging portion of the parade, parade entries must complete the additional paperwork for this portion. No exceptions.
3. Parade entries that have indicated their willingness to be judged will be given a judging number at the sign-in table in the parade staging area. Please place this number in a visible location on your vehicle, float, or group sign for the judge's convenience.
4. All parade entries that have entered into the judging contest will be judged during the parade at a fixed location on King Street in front of the Jones House. The judges will be on a stage to view the parade.
5. Parade entries will have the opportunity to pause at the judges' stage for approximately one (1) minute. This opportunity is primarily intended for any performance groups who wish to be judged. Please do not go over this time limit or you may be disqualified.
6. Winners will be announced immediately following the parade at a ceremony on the Jones House lawn at 604 W. King Street. Winning entries will also be contacted via phone and be announced on the Jones House Facebook page and website.
7. Parade entries will not be considered for more than one category. No entry may win more than one prize.
8. In order to be considered for the non-profit category, parade entries must be a registered non-profit organization and must be able to produce paperwork or evidence of this affiliation if asked by a parade official. Failure to do so will result in disqualification from the judging portion.
9. In order to be considered for the college/university category, parade entries must be affiliated with a college or university and must be able to produce paperwork or evidence of this affiliation if asked by a parade official. Failure to do so will result in disqualification from the judging portion.
10. No Town of Boone employee or immediate family member of a Town of Boone employee will be eligible for parade prizes.

Town of Boone

St. Patrick's Day Parade Route

Start: Watauga County Human Services Complex – 132 Poplar Grove Connector
Finish: Appalachian State University – Legends – 190 Hardin Street

