

61st annual Three Rivers Water Festival Parade Regulations

This event is held rain or shine (listen to WLKM/WRCI radio after 3pm for cancellation due to storm potential)

By submitting application for participation in the parade, you agree to hold free from any and all liability the Three Rivers Area Chamber of Commerce, the Three Rivers Water Festival Committee and the City of Three Rivers, and confirm your entry's adherence to the following guidelines:

1. Once you are staged and flow/movement begins, you must stay **bumper-to-bumper** with entry ahead of you. Do not wait for someone to tell you to move. Also be courteous of homes you are staged in front of.
2. At the corner of W. Michigan and Douglas, when the Official Starter instructs your entry to step-off at the corner, speed of travel shall be monitored in order to keep **30 FEET** from the unit ahead at all times until the parade ending at Bennett and Main.
3. Your walkers shall **stay with your unit**- do not move up on or fall back on the units/walkers ahead or behind you.
4. To keep the parade flowing and entertaining, there are to be **NO STOPS** along the parade route. Marching bands or performers must continue in a forward direction at all times. **Very young walkers and strollers must not stop/delay the 30 foot spacing**, therefore we request you **limit the number of small walkers/strollers**.
5. **Size** limitations: Length of entry shall not exceed 40ft; height of entry shall not exceed 14ft.
6. Adequate **safety chains** are recommended on all towed vehicles.
7. All drivers shall carry a valid driver's **license**.
8. No sirens, horns, **noise** makers may be used by any unit other than those pre-approved by the parade chairperson (noted on your application). We strive to keep animal units and noise units away from each other. (You must indicate on your application form that you plan to use such).
9. For Sale **signage** will not be allowed in/on vehicles or equipment in the parade for the sole purpose of advertising.
10. In the case of a **breakdown or emergency** within your unit, please pull to the RIGHT side of the street where possible. Police are along the parade route with two-way radios.
11. To ensure safety of parade participants and spectators, NO objects of any kind (candy, favors, brochures, balloons, etc) are allowed to be tossed or thrown INTO the parade route. Such items **shall be hand distributed** by your entries WALKERS, **not from a moving vehicle/wagon** where the goodies don't make it to the crowd and land in the street. **No exceptions. Please pass out your goodies along the sidewalk.** Media announcements are issued prior to parade day in hopes of also deterring spectators from rushing into the street as well. If you see spectators entering the street, politely ask them not to. Help us ensure parade safety.
12. To ensure safety of parade participants and spectators, no **dangerous** acts are permitted. Water balloons, squirt guns, silly string, firecrackers, etc. are not permitted.
13. Animal units shall be **under control/on leash** at all times. Animal units MUST provide a clean up crew (**pooper-scoopers**) to follow behind. Fines may occur should you not clean up after your animals.
14. Dress, Music and signage shall be displayed in **good taste**. This is a family celebration.
15. Use of **alcohol** by parade participants before or during the parade is prohibited. It is also suggested that participants refrain from **smoking** while participating in the parade (walkers, floats, cars).
16. **Do not wait until 6:45pm to arrive**, avoid the mass crowd and forcing entries to move for you by **arriving within your designated time slot** (as indicated on your June 8th confirmation packet)! **All units MUST BE IN CORRECT LINE UP ORDER BY 6:40pm. Late arrivals will be forced to the end of the parade behind the fire trucks- no exceptions. Do not try to enter the line-up route from the wrong direction. ALL entries must come in from the intersection of W Michigan & Erie Street (or Arnold for high number entries).**
17. Parade officials will monitor the entire parade route for the purpose of safety and adherence to the regulations that you accepted upon submitting application for parade participation.
18. **MAKE SURE EVERYONE IN YOUR ENTRY IS AWARE OF THESE GUIDELINES and REVIEW THEM AGAIN JUST PRIOR TO THE 7pm STEP-OFF.**
19. Be safe, have fun!

NOTE TO ALL ENTRIES: Further guidelines may be added between now and the date of staging assignments (June 1st packet). Staging and line-up route will utilize all feeding side streets off Erie St. onto Douglas. When you get your packet, please review all materials for guidelines and maps.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES FOR FLOAT ENTRIES:

- SAFETY FIRST! Please keep this in mind during construction, transporting, as well as on the parade route. Keep your riders and walkers safe.
- The festival theme is "TR's Looks to the Future!".
- Float lengths MUST NOT go over the 30ft length (float and hauler) due to tight corners. The 14ft height is the max due to power lines above. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Please do not leave any materials behind (at the staging area or the ending area).

REMEMBER: the parade is on THURSDAY, JUNE 15th, with a storm date of FRIDAY, JUNE 16th.