

Rules, Regulations and General Information
For the Mechanicsville Rotary / Ruritan Christmas Parade 2018
December 2, 2018 - Starting promptly at 2:00 PM

Safety 1st

Safety is our primary concern. Please watch out for each other to make this parade a safe and fun event.

Medical Forms

A medical release form is required for each person under 18 years of age. The form is so treatment can be administered without delay and also, the form is for your protection as well. A member of your group must carry the forms with them so they can be readily available in case of an emergency.

Candy or Handouts

For safety reasons, **NOTHING IS TO BE THROWN**. However, candy or handouts may be **passed** out along the parade route. **Violations of this rule will result in the removal of the unit from the parade and the violating group will not be allowed in next year's parade**

Unit Number Placements

The first vehicle or person for your group or organization **MUST** display unit numbers, in order to be seen easily by **judges**. The placement should be in the vehicle windshield or someone in your group on the left side walking.

Staging

Staging times have been adjusted to the following schedule. Please be prompt. Arrive at your assigned time.

Divisions **1, 2 3, 4** and **5** be at your assigned staging area between 12:00 to 12:45 PM

Divisions **7, and 8** be at your assigned staging area between 1:00 to 1:45 PM

Division **6** can arrive at 1:00 PM at the Mechanicsville Elementary School (YOU MUST BE READY TO BE ESCORTED TO HANOVER VILLIAGE GREEN DRIVE AT 1:40 PM).

There will be signs at each staging area, marking where each Division will stage. Please know which division you are assigned to and proceed to your designated staging area. A Parade Marshall will greet you and help you get situated. Also at this time and location, the Parade Marshall (Division Leader) will mark you present and provide you with your **UNIT NUMBER**.

The staging area is only for parade participants. Please drop off the participants as quickly as possible and move your vehicle to the disbanding area. You will not be allowed to park on Hanover Green Drive.

The Parade will step off promptly at 2:00 PM on Sunday, December 2 , 2018

Disbanding

The parade is officially over at Elm Drive. You are encouraged to use the Mechanicsville Recreation Center to disband. Also if you use anywhere along Elm Drive, you must park off the street as not restrict vehicle or pedestrian flow.

Parade Safety Marshals and Staff

Safety marshals and staff will be wearing yellow jackets. Hanover County Deputies will be in uniform.

Names of Participants riding in vehicles

All vehicles carrying Beauty Queens or Officials must have signs displaying the persons' **name and title**.. **All signs are the responsibility of the unit.**

Parade Theme (New this Year)

This year's theme is **"There's no place like home for Christmas"** All units are requested to be decorated to reflect the Parade Theme or a Christmas Theme.

Alcoholic Beverages

NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES before, during and after the parade. Anyone disobeying this rule will be removed from the Parade. Further, the entire unit could be removed at the discretion of parade officials.

Santa

No unit other than the float designated by the Parade Committee as the "Official Santa Float," may have any individuals dressed as **Santa, Mrs. Santa or Santa-Like figures or representations thereof.** You will be asked to leave the parade area.

Float Riders

Float riders under the age of 12, must be accompanied by an adult. Each unit is responsible for the safety of all its riders. Provisions must be made to ensure their safety.

Walkers & Marchers

Walkers are to be dressed appropriately reflecting the Christmas Season, The Parade Theme or costumed to comply with the theme of the float or group. Walkers must be attentive when walking in front, behind and beside the floats or vehicles.

Drivers

All drivers must remain with their vehicles or units. It is the **DRIVER'S responsibility** to keep up with the unit in front of you. The parade should have no GAPS in order for the parade to move along smoothly and quickly.

Horses, Animals

Any unit having horses and/or other animals **MUST make arrangements to have droppings "scooped" IMMEDIATELY.** Please, no autos or trucks should be used for picking up droppings. Droppings may not be dumped at the disband area.

All Units

Please keep the parade moving at all times. Remember that unless directed by Parade Officials or a Police Officer, there is to be **NO STOPPING** or waiting for hand shaking or passing out candy.

Shuttle Busses

There will be shuttle busses from the Mechanicsville Recreation Center to the Staging area on Hanover Green Drive before the parade.

Fire/Rescue

Fire and Rescue units will be playing music only. When they sound their sirens, they will be responding to an active call. At that time, please move your unit to the right to enable the emergency fire/rescue unit out of the parade.

Political Advertisement

There is to be no political advertisement within the parade, either walking or on vehicles.

Music

All music played during the parade is to be **"Traditional"** Christmas music.

Soft Drinks/Water/Food

There will be mobile concessions along the parade route. Feel free to bring your own refreshments.

Trash Receptacles

For your convenience, trash receptacles will be placed along the entire route. Please do not litter.

Restroom Facilities

Check your parade route map for approximate locations of relief stations.

Awards

Awards **WILL NOT** be presented at the parade. **Each winning unit will be contacted by phone to the person submitting the application for that unit.** All winners will be listed in the Mechanicsville Local the following week.

THE PARADE WILL BE HELD RAIN OR SHINE. THERE IS NO RAIN DATE. If parade is to be cancelled due to Safety reasons such as lightning, snow or ice, the person signing application will be notified by 11:00 AM on parade day. That person will be responsible to notify all parties in their group or organization.

These rules and regulations are subject to change without notice