



# Winter Wonderland of Lights

Presents

America's 250 Anniversary / 4th of July Parade  
Ashland, Kentucky / 1:00 PM



## Participant Guidelines, Rules, and Regulations.

Thank you for helping the Winter Wonderland of Lights (WWOL) celebrate Independence Day and our nation's 250th birthday with a safe, family-friendly, patriotic parade in downtown Ashland, Kentucky. Our goal is a fun, relaxed event that everyone can enjoy, and these guidelines help us keep things running smoothly and safely.

## Theme

Patriotic – all entries must display a clear patriotic theme (e.g., red/white/blue decorations, U.S. flags, historical American themes, military/veteran recognition, community service).

## General Information

- Parade Route: Line up on Central/right on 14<sup>th</sup>/right on Carter/travel down Carter to 22<sup>nd</sup>/disperse between 22<sup>nd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> Streets.
- Staging Area/Time: Line up on Central Avenue – enter at 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and move forward to the front of line up which will start at the corner of 17<sup>th</sup> & Central / Line up begins at 11AM – please be in place by 12:30PM
- Participant Placement: Line up as you arrive – first come first in line
- Parade Start Time: 1PM

All entries must follow these rules and the directions of parade officials. Violations may result in removal from the parade. We appreciate your cooperation.

## Permitted Content

1. This is not a political parade, however, local office holders and/or candidates for office may participate in the parade with the following guidelines. The participant's vehicle may have a name poster on each side but must be fully decorated in the patriotic/historical theme. There cannot be any sound systems, campaign workers, campaign signs/slogans, or campaigning for or against any person, political party, or political issue. No political/campaign literature may be distributed. Each office holder or candidate must complete and sign their own parade application.
2. Family friendly standards – no nudity, profanity, lewd, obscene, violent, hateful, racist, or otherwise offensive images or language will be permitted; no references to illegal drugs or controlled substances, and no alcohol, vaping or tobacco use or imagery on entries.

## Lineup and Staging

1. Parade volunteers will be stationed along Central Avenue to welcome you and assist with line-up as you arrive.
2. Line-up begins at 11:00 AM. Please enter from 22<sup>nd</sup> street on to Central Avenue and proceed to the end of the line as directed by volunteers. There will be no assigned divisions or numbers; entries will line up in order of arrival.
3. Please complete most of your decorating before arrival. Any final touches in the staging area must be done quickly without blocking traffic. Only parade vehicles are allowed in the staging area; if you bring extra decorations, participants must carry them in by hand.
4. Groups with multiple vehicles that need to stay together must arrive together. If vehicles arrive separately, we cannot guarantee they will be placed next to each other.
5. Drivers must remain with or near their vehicles once parked in the staging area.
6. Animals: All animals must be under the full control of their handler. Handlers must bring appropriate clean-up supplies (e.g., shovel, bucket, bags, diapers, etc.). If clean-up items are not available at line-up, the animal unit may not be allowed to participate. Thank you for helping us keep the route clean.

## Vehicle, Floats, Drivers, and Safety

1. Vehicles – All floats must be pulled by a car, pick-up-truck, or farm tractor. Absolutely **NO** semi-trucks or vehicles of similar size.
2. No heavy equipment vehicles. Fire trucks and emergency vehicles will be the only exception. If you have a heavy vehicle – please contact Marion Russell at 606-923-1767 or email marionrussell@windstream.net.

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3. Driver requirements: All drivers must hold a valid driver's license as required under Kentucky law and be legally authorized to operate the specific class of vehicle they are driving – drivers must carry current registration and proof of insurance for the vehicle and show them to parade volunteers and/or law enforcement, if requested.
4. Maximum speed along the route is parade pace (typically walking speed, not to exceed 5 mpg); no rapid acceleration, weaving, or sudden stops except for safety; no squealing tires, burning rubber, visible exhaust stunts, or “showing off” engines or sound systems.
5. Floats must be less than 13 feet in height.
6. A four-vehicle limit will be imposed on ALL car clubs and business organizations
7. Riders on vehicles – all riders must have secure footing or seating – this is the responsibility of the group sponsor. WWOL and the City of Ashland will not be held liable for any accidents or injuries received during the parade.
8. Any equestrian or animal unit must have experienced handlers and maintain control at all times. Handlers must provide cleanup as they walk the parade and maintain a safe distance from other entries and spectators.

## Candy, Handouts, and Pace of Parade

1. For safety, **do not throw candy** or items from vehicles or floats. Walkers may hand out candy and other items along the curb line so children do not run into the streets.
2. Entries must maintain a steady forward motion and keep up with the parade group ahead of them. Stopping to perform routines is not allowed unless pre-approved (e.g. a band performance at the review stand or designated area). If a parade volunteer asks you to “close the gap” please do so safely and promptly.

## Youth Participants and Supervision

Entries with participants under the age of 18 must have a responsible adult sponsor. At least one (1) responsible adult per ten (10) youth is required. Adult sponsors must be present for the duration of staging, the parade, and disbanding.

## Prohibited Items and Behaviors

1. Throwing or launching any objects, including candy, toys, beads, water balloons, confetti, or sprays.
2. Firearms, real or replica weapons, fireworks, pyrotechnics, or explosive devices (except ceremonial color guard equipment with prior approval).
3. Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, marijuana or controlled substances, or open containers.
4. Open flames or uncontrolled smoke devices on floats unless specifically permitted by the Fire Department.
5. Lewd, obscene, violent, or hateful signs, displays, or music; excessively loud music or sound systems that violate city noise standards or interfere with other entries.
6. Stunt driving, burnouts, revving engines, or maneuvers that endanger spectators or participants.
7. Drones over the route or staging area without prior written approval of the City and full compliance with FAA rules.

## End of Route and Disbanding

1. Entries must complete the full parade route and may disband only in the designated disbanding area once they pass 22<sup>nd</sup> Street, as directed by parade officials.
2. Participants may not exit vehicles or floats along the route except in an emergency.
3. After disbanding, vehicles should clear the area promptly so streets can be reopened.