

2023 Onancock Christmas Parade

Annual Christmas Parade
DECEMBER 10, 2023 at 5:00 P.M.

PARADE GUIDELINES

General:

- **The parade route is on Market Street.** Participants will line up along College Avenue then take a left on to Market Street to begin the parade. The parade will end in front of the Onancock Town Gazebo Park on Market Street. **Make sure to stop and/or perform in front of the main viewing stand which is located at the junction of Market Street and Queen Street (PERFORMANCES SHOULD NOT EXCEED 3 MINUTES IN DURATION).**
- PLEASE DO NOT HAVE ANYONE DRESSED AS SANTA CLAUS ON YOUR FLOAT. The Town will provide the only Santa Claus for the parade.
- The Town Manager is the final authority on the Christmas Parade.
- **Participants with live animals are to provide their own clean-up crews.**
- The Town will NOT provide candy for participants to distribute. Parade participants should bring candy if they wish to pass it out along the parade route.
- **Candy SHOULD NOT be thrown from above. It is a safety issue for your audience.**
- While preparing for the start of the parade please make sure that you are NOT blocking any driveways. That would be a violation of VDOT's right-of-way.

Specifically for Fire Companies:

- When lining up for the parade, please make sure your order matches your fire company description. Otherwise, your vehicles will be announced in the wrong order.

Safety:

- There shall be a responsible person for each float or entry. Any entry with children under the age of 18 must have adult supervision at all times.
- Please instruct float riders to find a safe, stable position and to remain there for the duration of the parade.
- To protect the safety of parade spectators, please be careful when distributing candy or gifts. Candy may only be handed to the parade spectators by walking participants.
- Any vehicles entered in the parade must keep all wheels on the ground at all times. Wheelies and/or reckless operation of vehicles will result in immediate removal from the parade. Only licensed drivers may man motorized vehicles; this includes zero turn tractors. **NO ATVs ALLOWED.**

Line-Up and Location:

- Lineup will begin at 4:00 p.m. on COLLEGE AVENUE. The parade will commence at 5:00pm sharp. Please plan accordingly and arrive on time or you will not be allowed to participate.
- YOU CAN ONLY ENTER COLLEGE AVENUE FROM LIBERTY STREET – College Avenue will be CLOSED at Market Street. To access your lineup position: come in to Town on Market Street, turn left on to Hill Street, turn right on to Liberty Street, and turn right on to College Avenue. Units will line up on the left side of College Avenue. There will be numbers marking your parade lineup position.
- Anyone with trailers to unload (golf carts, antique cars, etc.) will be able unload at the old carnival grounds.
- Horse trailers will unload in the 2nd parking lot at the Old Onancock School (the lot closest to Market Street). Horse units will line up in that parking lot and will enter the parade when their position comes up. The Wharf parking lot is designated as a 'pick up' area for horses only. After the initial unload, take trailers to the wharf parking lot for easy loading at the end of the parade.
- Please make sure to locate your numbered sign so that you are in your designated spot. This will ensure that the MC announces the appropriately listed group in his script. Also note, the parade this year is an exhibition only. There will be no judging of parade participants.
- Parade coordinators will be located along the lineup route.
- You may NOT park on College Avenue or in the Old Onancock School parking lot unless otherwise specified.
- All entries should remain in their line-up location until the parade begins.
- The start of the parade will be initiated when the fire signal is sounded.
- Be advised that Market Street from College Avenue to the Town Gazebo Park will be closed to vehicular traffic from 4:30 to the finish of the parade. Please plan accordingly.
- Parking will be at a premium on parade day--**please carpool!**
- If you have any questions on the day of the parade, please call one of the following:

Questions:

Mariellen Mearsheimer (Onancock Town Office) 757-709-3363

Debbie Caton (Onancock Town Office) 757-787-3363 or **757-710-2529 on Day of Event**

Jeff Vernimb (Onancock Business and Civic Association/OBCA) **908-420-9492**

Weather: As always, Pray for Good Weather! In the case that the parade has to be cancelled, we will post that by 11:00 am on the Town of Onancock home page and the Onancock.com website.

Parade Line-Up:

