



September 2009

Dear Parade Participant:

The Annual 2009 Hudsonville Holiday Parade is quickly approaching.

Parades are great fun for the family with colorful floats, musical entries, costumed characters and other displays that usher in the season in grand old style. We want our 2009 parade to be no exception!

This year's event is scheduled for Saturday, November 21, at 10 a.m. Enclosed in your Parade Packet is a tip sheet for designing and building a float, an application form, and parade policies and guideline information.

When you complete your application, please include a description of your entry. This description will be used as a script for the announcer to read over cable TV.

The parade line up will be at The Pinnacle Center, 3330 Highland Drive, Hudsonville, MI 49426. Please enter at the Allied Mechanical driveway (west of The Pinnacle Center).

The deadline for applying for the 2009 parade is November 13. We are looking forward to an exciting kick-off for Hudsonville's Holiday Season!

Sincerely,
Hudsonville Holiday Parade Committee

PS. We're pleased to announce that we will have a "Judge's Favorite" float contest in 2009. Our committee of judges will decide who gets the traveling trophy (to be passed on to the winner in 2010). So be creative, original and inventive with your float, and good luck to all!



2009 HUDSONVILLE HOLIDAY PARADE GUIDELINES

- Parade units must be in place an hour before the parade commences.
- To ensure safety...absolutely NO CANDY, FLOWERS, BALLOONS, SAMPLES, LITERATURE or OTHER ITEMS ARE TO BE THROWN from parade units or by walkers. If you wish to distribute items of this type, please pass them out at the curb.
- NO SMOKING will be allowed on or near floats. We recommend that each float be equipped with a fire extinguisher.
- No alcoholic beverages may be displayed or consumed during the parade.
- Floats carrying participants under age 16 must have adult supervision at all times.
- If music or sound equipment will be a part of your display, please indicate this on your application.
- All units must maintain a safe distance between them and the preceding unit.
- Applications will be accepted from commercial and non-profit groups.

Entries who advertise a product, companies or businesses will be charged an entry fee of \$40. All entry fees will be used to cover costs relating to planning, promoting or improving the Holiday Parade. ENTRY FEES MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR APPLICATION FORM.

Non-profit groups are exempt from paying an entry fee.

- Maximum float height is 13 feet.
- We regret that we cannot accept semi-trucks due to safety reasons and space constraints.
- If you have a photo or sketch of your float, please submit it with your application.
- The Parade Committee reserves the right to refuse the application of any entry that is not in good taste or in the best interest of this event.
- Line up will be at The Pinnacle Center, 3330 Highland Dr., Hudsonville, MI 49426. Parade participants must enter at the Allied Mechanical driveway, west of The Pinnacle Center.
- We will have a "Judge's Favorite" float contest in 2009. Our committee of judges will decide who gets the traveling trophy (to be passed on to the winner in 2010). So be creative, original and inventive with your float, and good luck to all!
- A good resource for float supplies is Victory Corps. Their phone number is 616-328-6120. Their website is www.victorycorps.com

EQUESTRIAN UNIT RULES

- Entries will be responsible for clean up.
- Parade dress is required for all riders.

VEHICLE UNIT RULES

- Drivers of motorized vehicles must be at least 18 years old and be licensed.
- Vehicles pulling floats must be clean, neat in appearance and in good working order.

SPECIAL UNIT RULES

- Any activities that entice spectators to move into the parade route to shake hands are not permitted.
- Walkers must maintain a speed that coincides with the natural movement of the procession. Due to the length of the parade route, strollers are not permitted, and small children must be able to keep up with the procession.
- All participants should wear holiday-colored or Christmas-themed clothing (no Santa outfits allowed).

MARCHING UNIT RULES

- All units are required to maintain a forward movement.
- All band directors are responsible for medical releases and treatment of their participants.

MILITARY UNIT RULES

- All units may include a color guard.
- Recordings may be used for accompaniment.

NO SANTA COSTUMES

- No participant is allowed to dress in a Santa costume or hat. This is exclusively reserved for the Santa Float. It's confusing for the children when they see more than one Santa in the parade. Thank you for your cooperation. Elves or Santa's Helper's costumes are permitted.

NO SEMI TRUCKS

- We regret that we cannot accept semi-trucks due to safety reasons and space constraints.

FLOAT DESIGNING & BUILDING TIPS

- You can decorate anything that moves and call it a float.
- Floats can be pulled or self-propelled.
- Smaller floats can be built over a jeep, golf cart or bicycle.
- For larger floats, a flatbed is easy to use and lends itself to a variety of designs.
- Be sure and use materials that will withstand any type of weather -- wind, rain or snow.
- Materials for covering a frame of steel, aluminum, wood, chicken wire, netting or sprayed plastic can include paper mache' covered with a layer of fiberglass, foil, artificial or real flowers, fringe, festoons, petal paper, artificial grass or fabric (for soft sculptures).
- Fabric skirts cover the vehicle wheels and give the illusion of floating.
- A very important first step is to draw a sketch and construct a small scale mode.

Remember:

- The framework should be high enough to clear any surface or obstacle along the parade route.
- Safety railings, supports or handholds need to be provided for riders.

2009 Hudsonville Holiday Parade Application

Deadline: November 13, 2009

Organization Name _____
Contact Person _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Telephone _____
Email _____
Fax _____

(Please include email or fax so that we can send last minute parade information)

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ (Non-Profit exempt from entry fee) Others are \$40.00
(Checks can be made out to Hudsonville Area Chamber of Commerce)

Please check all that apply to your parade entry:

Color Guard Veteran Unit Fire Truck
 Classic Car Horse Unit Religious
 Political Children's Unit Marching Unit
 Musical Non-commercial Commercial

Length of entry: _____ (Include length of entry plus length of vehicle)

Height of entry: _____

Please include a description for Cable TV announcers:

Upon acceptance of our application for the Annual Hudsonville Holiday Parade, we hereby release the parade planners or sponsors from any liability or responsibility for any injuries or damages that result from our participation in this event.

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE _____ DATE _____
(Print)

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Mail to: Hudsonville Area Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 216
Hudsonville, MI 49426
Phone: 662-0900 Fax: 662-4557
Email hcc@netpenny.net
www.hudsonvillechamber.com