



Participating in the Sparks Hometowne Christmas Parade

Getting there. Checking in.

- The parade line-up will take place from 10:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. with the parade starting promptly at 1:00 p.m.
- An email was sent containing a link to your staging area number. Please find your name on that list and remember your staging area number. Find your staging area on the staging map and share it with your participants. Or you can find the list at cityofsparks.us/christmasparade
- Parade participants should conduct themselves in a manner as to not infringe on the rights of residents living along the staging areas and parade route. Please respect the privacy of property owners. Do not enter their yards or leave trash in the staging areas. We ask that you stay in your assigned location on the street.
- Make sure your group members know the specific entry name for your group in order to avoid confusion on the day of the event.
- A card with your parade number will be issued at the parade check-in location. Display this card at the front of your group on the right side or the top front passenger side of your windshield so that it can be seen by parade announcers and judges.
- SCOUT LEADERS – Make sure your scouts know what group they are marching with!
- MARCHING BANDS – Make sure your students know the name if the band they are performing with!
- Participants can only ride on top of their parade float/truck while in the staging area and during the actual parade. You cannot ride on top of your float on the way to the staging area on city streets, this is illegal.

Handouts and Candy

- You may hand out pre-packaged candies (nothing handmade or homemade). Please hand out rather than throw items. This is for the protection of children along the parade route. For the safety of spectators, no candy may be distributed until after crossing over Pyramid Way.
- Sales flyers are not parade-friendly, sales pieces will end up as litter.

About your Entry

- Max size of entry is 12 feet tall and nothing over 1 city block or 250 feet long.
- Santa Claus has been contracted for this event. No other live Santa Claus will be allowed in the parade or Victorian Square activities.
- Animals must be kept on a leash or other restraint. Entrants are not permitted to allow animals any contact with parade spectators.
- This is a forward-motion parade. No entry is allowed to stop during the parade for any entertainment purpose, such as a dance routine, skits, band maneuvering, etc. Entries that stop in front of the judges' stand or anywhere else along the parade route to perform, etc., may be disqualified for any award.



Theme and Judging

- We encourage all entries to be in the theme of the parade. Theme: “Merry and Bright!”
- Each parade entrant is judged for theme, originality, personality and presentation. The judging categories are: Best Over-All, Business Group, Community Group, Animal Group, and Performing Group.

Parking

Please allow yourself extra time to find a spot, check in and get to the staging area. There is a shuttle bus (see below) please use it to help you get to where you need to be. Please do not park in the staging area.

Unloading

The parade route will turn left on 14th Street and you will be directed by volunteers in orange safety vests on where to unload and how to leave. Please go slow, be patient and be alert. Floats, Animals, and Walkers will go to the Nugget West Parking lot, all others will go forward towards Nugget Ave. and exit towards McCarran Blvd.

Kid Pick Up

If you have kids that need to be picked up after the parade, they can be picked up at the Nugget West Parking Lot, or they can take a mini shuttle to City Hall at 4th Street and Prater Way from the Nugget West Parking Lot after the parade. (See below) Parents must enter the Nugget West Parking Lot from the roundabout on Nugget Ave.

Shuttle Service for Parade Participants

We will have a shuttle service using a mini-bus that will be taking people from City Hall through the staging area during staging hours 10am-12:15pm. The mini bus will be stopping at City Hall and the Nugget west parking lot during and after the parade.

Horse Entries

Horses and large animal trailer parking is in the back of the Nugget West Parking Lot. Please arrive early to give ample time to get settled before staging. **Horses must stay in staging area, parade route and unloading area. Any entry with horses or animals of any kind is responsible for cleaning up feces. If you arrive at check in without a designated person to pick up feces, you will not be allowed to participate in the parade. No exceptions.**

After the parade.

- Winners will be announced on the City of Sparks Facebook Page on by December 5.

Revised 11/2022