



CECIL COUNTY CHRISTMAS PARADE HIGH SCHOOL BAND 2024 APPLICATION PACKAGE

P.O. Box 528 / 106 South Main Street - North East, Maryland 21901-0528
Telephone: 410-287-5801 ext. 7102
www.northeastmd.org

October 2024

Greetings,

On behalf of the parade committee, I am happy to invite you to be a part of the 2024 Cecil County Christmas Parade to be held at noon on Saturday, December 7, 2024. You are receiving an application because you are a past participant, you have contacted us and have requested an application, or we believe you would be a great addition to the parade.

Each year we listen to those that have participated in the parade and those that volunteer in order to make changes that will improve the experience of those participating or viewing the parade. Therefore, please review the entire package carefully. We ask that you please pay special attention to the regulations on pages 3, 4 and 5. We have highlighted a few areas that we want to bring to your attention. These items are additions, reminders or areas that we have had compliance problems. Do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions regarding the regulations.

Please note "inclement weather date" of December 14, 2024 at Noon! If postponement is necessary, the decision will be made by NOON on December 6, 2024. Please call 410-287-5801 or visit our website at www.northeastmd.org

If you should have any questions, please contact Stephanie Dean at: 410-287-5801, ext. 7102 or via email at sdean@northeastmd.org.

Applications may also be obtained by visiting our web site at www.northeastmd.org.

Thank you for your willingness to participate. Without you we would not have the opportunity to have a successful fun family event!

*Sincerely,
Melissa B. Cook-MacKenzie
Parade Chair*

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE FOR YOUR USE

- 🌿 Regulations to Participate Pages 3 & 4
- 🌿 Directions and Map to Parade Staging Area Page 5
- 🌿 High School Band Application to Participate Page 6

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE

BY 4:00 PM - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2024

NO EXCEPTIONS

Thank you for participating in the parade and we hope
that you have a great day!

REGULATIONS TO PARTICIPATE

ARRIVE BY: 11:00 a.m. BUT NOT before 10:00 a.m. Please DO NOT ARRIVE LATE!!!!

PARADE PARTICIPANTS: ALL FLOATS AND PARADE PARTICIPANTS (EXCLUDING FIRE EQUIPMENT, SHRINERS AND EQUESTRIAN ENTRIES) SHALL enter the parade lineup from RED TOAD ROAD (see page 5). **ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS!**

FIRE EQUIPMENT: Please enter the Town of North East from MD RT 272. You will be staged on North Main Street.

EQUESTRIAN ENTRIES: Please enter the Town of North East from MD MD RT 272. You will be directed to line up along Race Street by a police officer/volunteer.

SHRINERS: The Shriners will be contacted by the Parade Committee for staging information prior to parade day.

MARCHING ENTRIES: Due to limited space, please arrange to car pool to drop off participants. Carpooling cars will be allowed to only stop long enough to drop off participants and must leave staging area immediately. Please have your child dressed in their parade attire and ready to go. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

SIZE OF FLOATS: All floats including the tow vehicles may not be higher than 11 feet, wider than 12 feet and must be able to make a 90-degree corner within two traffic lanes. Length of float including the tow vehicle may not exceed 60 feet without prior approval. All floats must use fire retardant materials and carry a fire extinguisher. All floats must have handholds or barriers to secure riders in case of sudden stops or non-smooth movement. Vehicle and float drivers must be able to have a clear view from the front of the vehicle at all times.

SAFETY: **THIS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED.** Please help us keep our children safe! To assure a safe environment and to eliminate the possibility of having children run out into the street/parade route PLEASE NO THROWING OR DISTRIBUTING of any items (including, but not limited to candy, gum, giveaway items, printed material, promotional material) is permitted by a parade entry. This includes anyone walking, riding or participating in the parade! Anyone observed throwing items, distributing anything along the parade route will be prohibited from participating in future parades. *Thank you in advance for your cooperation!*

PARADE ROUTE: West Cecil Avenue to South Main Street to Walnut Street. Vehicles will be directed to exit parade route by the police officer via Mauldin Avenue. Marching units will be directed down Walnut Street into the North East Community Park so they may be picked up. Vehicles will exit the Park via Cherry Street.

LINEUP: Your predetermined placement in the parade will be assigned to a Committee member on parade day upon arrival. Please do not contact the Town Hall prior to the parade to try to obtain this information. Due to parade participants that need to withdrawal, last minute final adjustments are made the morning of the parade. For safety reasons, spectators from the crowd cannot join the parade once the parade has started processing. *Thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding.*

DELAYS: ANY ONE WHO DELAYS THE PARADE BY STOPPING IN FRONT OF THE REVIEWING STAND LONGER THAN 90 SECONDS WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY DISQUALIFIED AND WILL NOT BE INVITED BACK! WHEN THE WHISTLE SOUNDS, PLEASE MOVE ON! THE JUDGES DECISION WILL BE FINAL.

REVIEW STAND: Judges Review Stand is at 106 South Main Street (North East Town Hall).

AWARDS/PRIZES: Winners will be listed on www.northeastmd.org by December 30, 2024. Prizes will be mailed to each winner by the end of December.

GENERAL:

1. The Committee has arranged for Santa Claus who will appear at the end of the parade. No one may have a Santa in their entry – please do not confuse the children with another Santa! Thank you in advance for your cooperation.
2. To aid the judges, please have some way of identifying your entry or car – a sign, banner, etc. Do not forget to identify yourself from both sides of Main Street. Historic/Street Rod vehicles please have the model and year of your vehicle on both side windows. Parade entries can compete in only one category. Each entry will be judged on its overall presentation.
3. All cars, trucks, and other motorized vehicles must be driven by licensed, insured drivers. We are aware that many organizations rely on volunteers to assist with parade entries. Please make every effort to utilize drivers that are proficient in being able to back-up vehicles, trailers, floats, etc.
4. Horses, dogs, cows, reptiles and any other wild or domestic animals shall not be in the parade without being identified on the Parade application.
5. No soliciting or advertising for membership of organizations is permitted on floats, signs, vehicles, etc.
6. Because the Cecil County Christmas Parade is a non-political family event and because many of our current elected officials serve as judges for the parade, and therefore cannot participate, please observe the following policy:

No political floats, vehicles or groups containing signs, banners, t-shirts or any other type of political advertising promoting specific candidates or ballot questions will be permitted. ONLY seated elected officials may be part of the parade but their entries must have a Christmas theme and must be decorated Christmas appropriate. These entries may contain the name of the elected official but will have no reference to any upcoming election. Any entry that does not follow these guidelines (at the sole discretion of the parade officials) will not be allowed to participate and asked to leave the parade lineup.
7. All applicants must return the application with a signature.
8. All entries must stay a safe distance behind the entry in front of you. Please do not bunch-up or allow a large gap to form in front of you.
9. Staging Area directions (page 5) must be followed. Anyone attempting to stage other than by the directions will be denied and re-routed. You may not park in the staging area unless your vehicle is to be driven in the parade. Entries with participants walking in the parade shall have participants staged together. **Entries cannot have members of the group along the line up just waiting to join their group.**
10. The Parade Committee will be wearing reflective vests or shirts – please follow their directions!
11. Entries depicting and/or promoting violence, illegal drugs, illicit or illegal activities and otherwise inappropriate for a family audience, will be disqualified and not be allowed in the parade.
12. Parade participants' cars, buses, and vehicles may park at the North East Community Park after dropping off participants at their assigned locations.
13. If you are completing this application on behalf of an organization or group, **please make sure all members of the organization or group receive a copy of the Regulations and Directions.**
14. Cancellation: If inclement weather prevents the parade, notice will be given on the answering machine at 410-287-5801 and at www.northeastmd.org.
15. The Parade Committee reserves the right to refuse entry into the Parade of any entry that violates the Regulations aforementioned in the Application Package.

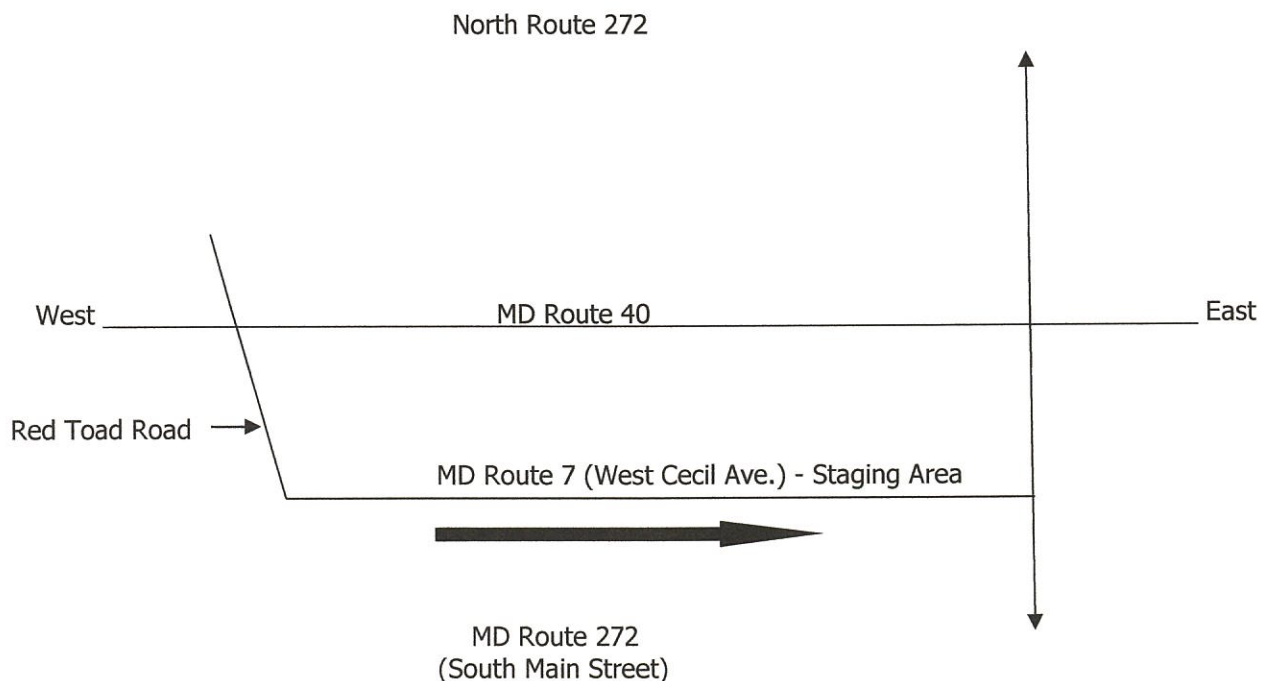
DIRECTIONS AND MAP TO PARADE STAGING AREA

Eastbound MD RT 40 - make right hand turn onto Red Toad Road (at red light), proceed through two stop signs, make left onto MD RT 7, follow to parade staging area (3/4 mile).

Westbound MD RT 40 - make left hand turn onto Red Toad Road (at red light), proceed through two stop signs, make left onto MD RT 7, and follow to parade staging area (3/4 mile).

Northbound I-95 - to Exit 100, MD RT 272 North East, Maryland. Proceed south on MD RT 272 to the intersection of MD RT 272 and MD RT 40 (Wal-Mart will be on your right). Turn right at the MD RT 272/40 traffic light. Proceed westbound and turn left onto Red Toad Road (at red light). Proceed through two stop signs, make left onto MD RT 7, and follow to parade staging area (3/4 mile).

Southbound I-95 - to Exit 100, MD RT 272 North East, Maryland. Proceed south on MD RT 272 to the intersection of MD RT 272 and MD RT 40 (Wal-Mart will be on your right). Turn right at the MD RT 272/40 traffic light. Proceed westbound and turn left onto Red Toad Road (at red light). Proceed through two stop signs, make left onto MD RT 7, and follow to parade staging area (3/4 mile).



NOTE: ALL FLOATS AND PARADE PARTICIPANTS (EXCEPT FIRE EQUIPMENT, SHRINERS, EQUESTRIAN ENTRIES AND ANY ENTRIES DETERMINED BY THE STAGGING PERSONNEL) MUST USE THE STAGING DIRECTIONS AS STATED ABOVE. NO ENTRIES WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE PARADE VIA RACE STREET. ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS!



CECIL COUNTY CHRISTMAS PARADE
MAIN STREET – NORTH EAST, MARYLAND

DECEMBER 7, 2024 / NOON

HIGH SCHOOL BAND APPLICATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

DAYTIME PHONE: _____

CELL PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____
(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: _____

ENTRY TYPE (PLEASE CIRCLE): High School Band

ENTRY LENGTH: _____ # OF FEET THE BAND IS ONCE LINED UP

+ _____ # OF FEET THE VEHICLE IN FRONT OF BAND (IF APPLICABLE)

+ _____ # OF FEET THE VEHICLE/TRAILER FOLLOWING BAND (IF APPLICABLE)

TOTAL _____ FEET

MY SIGNATURE ON THIS FORM HEREBY CERTIFIES THAT I/WE HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND AND HEREBY AGREE TO COMPLY WITH ALL THE PARADE "REGULATIONS TO PARTICIPATE AND DIRECTIONS TO STAGING AREA" AND THE DECISION(S) OF THE PARADE COMMITTEE AND JUDGES ("RULES AND REGULATIONS"). FURTHER, MY SIGNATURE ON THIS ENTRY FORM INDICATES THAT I/WE AGREE I/WE WILL NOT HOLD THE TOWN OF NORTH EAST OFFICIALS, TOWN EMPLOYEES, CECIL COUNTY CHRISTMAS PARADE COMMITTEE, AND VOLUNTEERS LIABLE FOR ANY PERSONAL OR PROPERTY DAMAGE CAUSED TO PERSONS OR OBJECTS PARTICIPATING IN OR VIEWING THE PARADE AS A RESULT OF OUR PARADE PARTICIPATION. I FURTHER AGREE SHOULD I/WE VIOLATE ANY OF THE PARADE RULES AND REGULATIONS LISTED IN THE APPLICATION THAT I/WE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE CECIL COUNTY CHRISTMAS PARADES.

Signature

Title

Date

PLEASE RESPOND BY NOVEMBER 22nd TO: CECIL COUNTY CHRISTMAS PARADE
P.O. BOX 528 NORTH EAST, MD 21901-0528

QUESTIONS: Please call Stephanie Dean at 410-287-5801, ext. 7102 or email sdean@northeastmd.org