



2024 PARADE

Application Deadline: **June 15, 2024**

The **Kiwanis Club of LaPorte** invites you to submit an application to participate in the 78th annual LaPorte 4th of July Parade.

Parade Mission: **To amaze, amuse, and entertain our community in celebration of our Nation's birth.**

Parade Theme: **Hoosiers – Calling You Home!**

Parade Start Time: **10:00 a.m. CST, Thursday, July 4th, 2024**
(Parade runs approximately 2-3 hours)

Parade Route: 2 miles, east to west along Lincolnway (Hwy 2)

Entry Fee: **\$ 50** for Non-Commercial Entry
\$ 250 for Commercial Entry
No charge for Parade Sponsors or High School Bands
High School bands receive a stipend for their performance.
ALL ENTRIES REQUIRED TO COMPLETE APPLICATION

You may apply to enter under the following categories:

- Float
- Marching Unit
- Vintage Car/Unique Vehicle
- Novelty (includes everything else)

All applications are subject to review by the 4th of July Parade Committee which reserves the right to accept/reject entry requests in accordance with the 2024 Parade Rules & Regulations.

All application agreements must be read, signed, and accompanied by the appropriate application fee, payable to the Kiwanis Club of LaPorte, PO Box 175, LaPorte, IN 46352

All applications and fees must be received by June 15, 2024.

For questions, contact Joy Zigler at 219.608.5719 or zigler426@gmail.com

1. All entries in the LaPorte 4th of July Parade must support the **Parade’s Mission to: “Amaze, Amuse & Entertain the masses in Celebration of our Nation’s birth.”**
2. **Application Fee: \$50 for all non-commercial entries/ \$250 for commercial entries.**
All application and sponsorship fees, in excess of current parade expenses, will be used by the Kiwanis Club of La Porte to support future La Porte 4th of July Parades, and a portion of such funds may be directed by the Kiwanis Club to benefit children in and around the City of La Porte. **Any individual, group, or company which is a Parade Sponsor receives a Complimentary Parade Entry – no application fee required.** (See Sponsorship Application for more details.)
Application fee must be paid prior to June 15th else parade entry is forfeited.
3. Parade Starting Time is planned for **10:00 AM CENTRAL DAYLIGHT TIME.**
4. The entry application form must be completed and signed acknowledging the understanding of the general policies and guidelines.
 - Incomplete forms will not be accepted.
 - Entry forms that are improperly completed will attempt to be contacted for clarification.
 - Due to space limitations and guidelines, all entries submitted may not be accepted.
 - The parade organizers reserve the right to reject any entry at any time, and all decisions are final.
 - The general policies and guidelines listed are for the safety and quality of the parade. Failure to abide by these policies and guidelines (and those presented with the parade information packages) may result in the unit’s removal from the parade and jeopardize future invitations.
5. Acceptable parade units include floats, bands, marching units, or novelty units with historic or entertainment value.
 - Entries need not adhere to the parade theme but must be appropriately designed as an **acceptable** unit.
 - **All commercial vehicles must have appropriate 4th of July decorations.** Please see requirements on the following page under “Vehicles” and “Commercial Business Entries”. The committee may reject entries if necessary.
 - **No entry shall espouse social commentary.** No entry shall have a political theme of any kind, except for Political Parties, which are allotted one (1) entry per Party, which must be approved by the 4th of July Parade Committee.
 - Fire Departments are limited to 1 (one) fire truck. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

IN ADDITION, please take note for your particular parade entry type:

- **Marching Musical Units:** Marching musical units are requested to perform the 2-mile parade route.
 - All routines must be performed in a forward motion.
 - Stopping to perform is not permitted.
 - Bands are expected to perform their song/selections as much as possible while on the 2-mile parade route.
 - Band members should be dressed in traditional band uniform or band approved summer uniform.

- Band leadership and chaperones to be dressed in a manner consistent with band members. *All band members, leadership, and chaperones to actively display pride in their school.*
- If possible, please forward a photograph of your band suitable for printing in the Parade Sponsor Brochure. A photo may be forwarded to info@kiwanis4thofJulyParade.org
- **Equestrian/Animal Units:** The participants must always have control of their animals. Any animal deemed unsafe in the parade will be removed. **All animal units must provide their own “clean-up”** – “pooper scooper” crew and equipment to follow their unit in the parade. If unit does not arrive to line up with a clean-up crew, it will be pulled from the parade line up.
- **Floats:** Floats must be a fully decorated trailer that is self-propelled or pulled by a tow vehicle. It is strongly encouraged that the tow vehicle also be covered, decorated, and incorporated into the float theme. Size dimensions of the float must also be included on the application form. Float applicants must follow the “Parade Float Guidelines.”
- **Specialty Units/Novelties/Marching Units:** Drill, Dance, or Baton teams units will be considered on their entertainment value. Entries requiring vehicles to carry sound systems must notify parade organizers on the application. The type of vehicle must be listed for approval by parade organizers. Decorated carts or vehicles are required. *Stopping to perform is PROHIBITED.*
- **Vehicles: Vehicles considered for entry must be antique or unique.** Vehicles permitted in the parade will be restricted in numbers. Vehicle drivers are encouraged to dress in a manner consistent with the vehicles vintage or unique quality. **NO commercial or private vehicles are allowed in the parade without prior written approval by the parade committee.**
- **Commercial Business Entries:** Commercial entries must be a sponsor of the parade. A commercial business entry **cannot be used as a “major” advertisement** for the sponsoring business.

****AT NO TIME WILL ANY UNIT OF ANY KIND BE ALLOWED TO STOP AND PERFORM****

6. **No THROWAWAYS are allowed** from any unit or vehicle on the parade route. Units wishing to distribute ANYTHING **must receive permission** from the 4th of July Parade Committee (via disclosure on entry application and subject to receiving written approval). Units must provide their own people to distribute to spectators on the curb so as not to interfere with the flow of the parade.

Only Parade “walkers” will be allowed to distribute candy or other approved items. **NO THROWING items from the vehicles or encouraging children to approach units enroute – THIS ENDANGERS THE CHILDREN.** *Violators will be removed from the parade.*

7. Each unit will provide its own motor power. We suggest that you set up the idle speed of your car to prevent stalling. **Our desire is to present a parade which flows smoothly at approximately 2 MPH and is free of gaps.** The parade starter will instruct you before leaving the starting line on the proper distance to maintain between you and the unit ahead. This distance must be maintained throughout the parade unless you are instructed to do otherwise. There will be Parade Starters along the parade route who may ask you to alter the space between you and the unit ahead. **Please do not let your unit be the cause of a parade gap. It’s important for your parade walkers to be able to keep up with your unit.**

8. Final position and order of all entries in the parade will be determined by the La Porte 4th of July Parade Committee. Special requests will be accepted for consideration but are not guaranteed.
9. **All Units must be in their line-up position, according to their parade number, by 9:00 AM. The parade begins promptly at 10:00 AM. Please check in with the PARADE STARTERS in your area!!!!**

Units MUST approach their positions from the EAST end of town to avoid blocked roads and ensure proper line-up. Please contact the Parade Chair before parade day if directions are needed.

10. **Each POLITICAL party will be allowed ONE vehicle w/float.** Candidates running for office or special guests participating in the Parade **must remain with their float and shall not encroach upon the curb-to-curb area and width allocated to other parade units by falling behind or moving ahead of their vehicle.** All Political Party entries must contact the Parade Chair prior to submitting their application.
11. **Current political officer holders** may join the parade, separately, as Dignitaries, but **are not allowed to use campaign materials in their unit to benefit their party.** *Ex: Joe Smith, for Mayor (Not Allowed); Mayor of La Porte, Joe Smith (Allowed)* All political party entries must contact the Parade Chair prior to submitting their application.

While campaigning is prohibited for all entries, campaigns may be included in the official Parade Sponsor Brochure. Such sponsorship messaging may affirm the candidate or candidate's position, but it may contain no messaging nor inferences directed at an opposing candidate or party.

12. The Parade Committee no longer has access to convertible vehicles historically provided for transporting Dignitaries or elected officials along the parade route. Such individuals/units will need to obtain such vehicles of their own accord and complete a Novelty Unit application.
13. **NO** alcoholic beverages will be allowed on the route.
14. These policies are established to ensure a safe and enjoyable parade for all. **Any parade entry which does not comply with these established policies will be asked to leave the parade route at the discretion of the Parade Chairperson. They will also be subject to possible suspension from future parades!**
15. The La Porte 4th of July Parade confirmation packet containing your instruction letter, line-up number and map will be emailed to all entries approximately one week prior to the Parade date.

Deadline for all applications and payment of Entry Fees: June 15, 2024

For applications and updated information visit:

www.Kiwanis4thofJulyParade.org



Entry Application

Application Deadline: **June 15, 2024**

Mark your choice of Entry and complete all related information prior to signing and submitting. Incomplete applications are subject to denial.

FLOAT:

A float shall consist of a flat bed or tandem trailer, which is self-propelled or pulled by a tow vehicle. All floats must be appropriately decorated.

Music or sound effects? Please describe: _____

How many walkers will accompany float? _____

Length of float entry? _____ (include both float and pull vehicles for line-up purposes)

MARCHING UNIT

- Number in the Playing unit: _____
- Number of Chaperones _____
- Number of Flag Corps members: _____
- Number of Color Guard members _____
- Mascot? Y / N Mascot Name: _____
- Music or sound effects? Please describe: _____

VINTAGE CAR/UNIQUE VEHICLE:

A vehicle which is 25 years old or older, a classic/antique automobile, or restored farm tractor. Other unique vehicles categorized here are emergency vehicles such as police, fire, etc.

Year _____ Make _____ Model _____ Color _____

Recommended: *please attach photo of your vehicle*

NOVELTY ENTRY:

Any unit which is not a Float, Marching Band or Vintage Car/Unique Vehicle

Mark to describe: __ Clowns __ Costume Characters __ Animals __ Horse Drawn Wagons
__ Precision Drill Teams __ Equestrian Teams __ Dignitaries __ Pageant Queens __ Other

Music or sound effects? Please describe: _____

Number of individuals in the unit: _____

Provide all additional details below. Incomplete applications are subject to denial.

*Name of Entry (as to be printed in all media): _____

*Contact Representative: _____

*Contact Email: _____

(All confirmations and communications from the Parade Committee will be emailed.)

*Contact Phone Numbers - Cell: _____ Home: _____ Office: _____

*Mailing Address: _____

*Entry Sponsored by: _____

*For accurate line up placement and media information, please complete the following.

A detailed description of your unit is required. Include any previous awards or recognition that you may have received. The information will be used for media releases, on-air TV, streaming or radio coverage during the parade, and general information for Parade Committee.

Are you a Parade Sponsor and entitled to a complimentary parade entry? _____

Special Requests? _____

If your entry has additional 4th of July commitments, please indicate when and where:

*HANDOUTS – Are you requesting permission to hand out something (candy, business cards, etc.) along the parade route? Y / N

List the specific object/item you would like to hand out: _____

**Initial here: _____ confirming that you have read and acknowledge that nothing is allowed to be thrown, tossed, squirted, or ejected along the parade route, and you will communicate that to all your entry participants. Walkers may hand out material along the edges of the parade route.*

Items marked with an (*) must be completed by all applicants, regardless of entry type.

Agreements and Acknowledgements of Applicant

I hereby acknowledge and state that I am a duly authorized representative of the group/organization submitting this parade application. I have read and understand the 2024 Parade Policies and Regulations as provided, and I have discussed the same with all the members of my group/organization who will be participating in the 2024 parade. As the group/organization, we agree to abide by all policies and understand that the unit may be pulled from participation and/or our group/organization's participation in future LaPorte 4th of July parades may be affected for violation of said policies.

Our unit releases, in full and in total, the Kiwanis Club of LaPorte, the LaPorte 4th of July Parade Committee, and all Parade Sponsors from any and all responsibilities and liabilities regarding accidents and injuries while participating in the 4th of July Parade. We further agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Kiwanis Club of LaPorte, the LaPorte 4th of July Parade Committee, and all Parade Sponsors from any and all claims or actions arising from our participation in the parade. We further acknowledge that our unit shall have sufficient liability and property damage insurance in case of accident, injury, or property damage.

I/We understand that for the safety of parade participants and observers, NOTHING (candy, favors, coupons, advertisements, business cards, silly string, water guns, etc.) can be thrown, tossed, squirted, or ejected along the parade route. Approved items (via entry disclosure on this application and receiving approval via email) may only be handed out along the edges of the parade route and shall not be distributed in a manner which may intentionally or unintentionally encourage parade observers to venture from designated observation areas, such as sidewalks and curbs, onto the parade route.

We hereby attest that any/all drivers of any parade entry vehicle are at least 18 years of age, maintain a valid driver's license, and said vehicle will display a current license plate.

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|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Representative's Printed Name | Representative's Signature | Date |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|

By virtue of submitting this application, you accept and subscribe to email communication regarding this and future parades until such time that you unsubscribe.

Please mail your check for \$50 or \$250, as indicated within these pages, along with this fully completed 3-page application post marked (or emailed) by June 15, 2024, to:

[Kiwanis Club of LaPorte, PO Box 175, LaPorte, IN 46352](mailto:info@kiwanis4thofJulyParade.org)

You can also scan your application and email it to:
info@kiwanis4thofJulyParade.org

Visit our website regularly for the most current information at:
www.Kiwanis4thofJulyParade.org

Parade organizers reserve the right to reject any entry at any time, with all decisions final.