



2022 INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

Monday, July 4th, 2022

Parade Start Time: 5pm

Parade Participants

Thank you for agreeing to be a participant in the 75th Wakefield July 4th Parade. Thousands are very excited to see you this year and I hope you have a great time. Please make sure to share this document with all of your group members to reduce confusion. Line up this year is at 4:00pm, the parade will begin at 5:00pm, and it will end by 7:00pm. It will take approximately 1 hour to finish once you are on the street.

How to Get Here

If you are being dropped off at the staging area by car or arriving by bus:

Use 607 North Avenue Wakefield, MA 01880 for GPS directions. As you approach the staging area you will see signs and receive instructions for drop-off at the Lakeside Office Park. Please turn down Willard Rd. and take the 3rd left in the lot and head towards the tent. All non-float groups **MUST** be in the staging area by 4:00pm for line up as the streets along the parade route and I-95/128 exit 39 will be blocked off starting at 4:00pm. Groups arriving after 4:00pm may find their line up position changed or not be allowed to participate

If you are driving your own vehicle and need parking:

Groups arriving in multiple vehicles are asked to meet at Wakefield Memorial High School at 60 Farm St. to consolidate cards before heading to the main parking lots at the end of the route at the Galvin Middle School or MG Fitness. You will receive instructions on where to park as you approach the Galvin, 525 Main St Wakefield, MA 01880. Parking locations will be determined by the End of Route volunteers and you may be directed to park at the school or gym. Two shuttle busses will depart from the front doors of the school and gym making loops between the end and beginning of the parade starting at 12:30pm and the last shuttle will leave for the staging area at 3:45pm. If you plan to use the shuttle, please arrive early and meet the bus at the front of the school or the gym.

If you are taking the shuttle, please try to drop off as much equipment as possible with the check in volunteers in the staging area before taking the busses, with over 3,000 participants, we need as much room on the shuttle busses as possible.

Please carpool as much as possible to reduce the number of vehicles in the parking lots. Once spots are taken, we have limited parking options available.

Horses:

Horses and their equipment participating in the parade should go directly to the Knights of Columbus at 570 North Ave Wakefield, MA 01880. After unloading, please head to the front of the Galvin Middle School at 525 Main St for parking instructions. Parking locations will be determined by the End of Route volunteers and you may be directed to park at the Middle School or MG Fitness depending on your vehicle type and available space.

Floats:

All floats and float participants should go directly to Quannapowitt Parkway no later than 3:00pm for judging at 3:30pm. All persons, decorations and equipment that are a part of the float must be on the float and ready for judging at this time. Float drivers must be in the truck cab or the towing vehicle 30 minutes before the parade starts. Because of the overall parade schedule, floats must be on time. Please review the float rules for more information.

If your vehicle is participating in the parade:

You will check in at the Lakeside Office Park and be given a piece of paper with a number for display and be directed to your space for line up. All vehicles participating in the parade are subject to a search by the Wakefield Police Department and parade volunteers for prohibited items including drugs, alcohol, candy, handouts, etc. Vehicles that enter the route without a number will be directed into the Knights of Columbus parking lot to await the end of the parade when roads reopen.

Staging Area Information

- Upon arrival at the staging area, a volunteer will assist you in finding your designated location. We are no longer shuttling people to their staging location in golf carts. You are expected to walk to your designated location. Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis.
- All vehicles not participating in the parade are limited to 30 minutes in the staging area for drop-off. After 30 minutes they will be sent towards the Galvin Middle School/MG Fitness parking areas to wait for their group. You will be trapped until after the parade if you do not leave before the roads close.
- If you are taking the shuttle from the end to the staging area, please arrive in the middle school or gym parking area BEFORE 3:30pm in order to be in the staging area for 4:00pm. The last shuttles will leave the parking areas at 3:45pm. Once the roads start to close it will be very difficult to get to the staging area or the end of route parking area.
- Bathroom facilities will be available in the staging and parking areas
- No alcohol is to be consumed in the staging area or during the parade. Violators will be ejected from the parade and not be invited back for future events. There are no exceptions to this rule.

Parade Information

- The parade is 1.9 miles long and ends at the Galvin Middle School. The route is mostly flat and takes approximately 1 hour to the finish line once you are on the street.
- The parade is held rain or shine. In the event of severe weather, you will be contacted.

- The parade starts at 5:00pm and is expected to conclude by 7:00pm. The Line of March is made the week of the parade. Please do not request to be placed at a certain point in the Line of March.
- There is absolutely no stopping along the parade route and please stay with your group. We must complete the entire parade within 2 hours with minimal gaps. This rule applies to all groups.
- Unless other arrangements were made in advance, payments will be made after you pass the reviewing stand. A volunteer will give out checks directly after the reviewing stand. Any unclaimed checks will be mailed after the parade.
- Throwing candy, water balloons, using squirt guns, or passing out literature of any kind is strictly prohibited. You can interact with the crowd but cannot hand anything out. Violators will be ejected from the parade and not be invited back for future events. There will be no exceptions to this rule.
- In year's past we have struggled to provide convertibles for participants to ride in and will not be able to guarantee a convertible. If you are unable to walk the route and can longer participate, please contact Brian Fox.
- A parade day phone number is required for all group coordinators and individuals participating in the parade. This phone number **MUST** be reliable for the entirety of July 4th.
- If you are receiving payment, please let Brian Fox know who the check is to be made out to and who is to accept it at the end of the route.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** The entire parade is planned and staffed by volunteers. It is a labor of love and most of the planning started August 2019 (yes, thanks to Covid!) for today's parade. Please treat parade volunteers with respect. If they do not know the answer to a question, they will do their best to obtain it for you in a timely manner.

If you have any further questions, please call, text, or email Brian Fox (he will try his best to respond on 7/4 but it gets very busy at check in after 1pm):

Brian Fox: WIDC Chairman
 339-927-1946
foxbrian1017@yahoo.com

Application

Group Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number/Website: _____

Approximate Number of Participants: _____

Contact Person: _____

Contact Address: _____

Contact Telephone Number/E-mail (To be used for parade day):

Tax ID if Non-Profit: _____

Musical Unit: _____

Number/Type of Vehicles/Trucks: _____

Requested Fee: _____

Does your organization have a sign? _____

By submitting this form, you acknowledge that your acceptance to this parade is subject to the approval of the Wakefield Independence Day Committee. All groups are expected to have a sign displaying their name in the parade.

I have read and agree to the rules stated above. I understand that if anyone in my group does not adhere to the parade rules, they will be removed from the parade at the WIDC's discretion.

Signed: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Please return this signed application **no later than June 15th** to:
WIDC, PO Box 1746, Wakefield, MA 01880 or email to info@julyparade.org

FOR WIDC ONLY

Date Received _____