



**Norwich Events Committee
Parade Regulations
2025**

1. The parade staging area and parade route is exclusively reserved for the NEO/Parade Committee. Any event that disrupts the staging of the parade is not permitted.
2. Parking for non-parade vehicles will be in the Viaduct parking lot at 28 Viaduct Street, Norwich, CT. Marchers can connect to the parade staging area by walking across the trestle bridge.
3. The following vehicles are permitted in the parade:
 - Parade Committee Honoree vehicles.
 - Vehicles used to pull floats.
 - Classic / antique automobiles made prior to 1964.
 - Fire, Police, EMS, and other emergency / safety vehicles as approved by the Committee.(Fire Vehicles must be antique.) Limit: One fire truck per department unless prior approval is granted by Committee.
 - Military vehicles as approved by the Committee.
 - No more than two persons may occupy any vehicle towing a float or novelty; no more than four may occupy an antique auto, or other novelty vehicle.
 - Support vehicles and equipment trailers (not used as floats) are not permitted in the parade.
 - Vehicles should be decorated with appropriate theme (except as noted below.) **For Night Parades units and marchers MUST be lit.**

The Committee reserves the right to grant special permission for novelty vehicles not meeting one of the above criteria to participate in the Parade. All vehicles must have proof of insurance in compliance with CT laws. All vehicles must be in good working order.
4. Every group needs a banner which precedes the unit in the parade. The banner needs to be forward facing and visible to spectators and judges.
5. Every float must conform to the description submitted with the application, and shall be completely decorated. Floats shall comply with the Parade theme to be eligible for an award. Pull vehicles are permitted to be undecorated or may be decorated to match the float theme.
6. Music must be (1) live, un-amplified music; (2) live, amplified music appropriate for parade

- theme; or (3) prerecorded amplified music appropriate for parade theme. Use of amplified music must be noted on the parade application, and approved by the Committee prior to the Parade.
7. All units, including those executing drills, must continue moving forward at all times once the Parade starts. If a unit does not comply with this they will not be allowed to participate in future events.
 8. Public officials are invited to march in the Public Officials Unit in the Lead Division of the Parade.
 9. Animal units must provide a means for animal waste pickup and disposal.
 10. All units must conform to one of the following classifications, and provide a detailed description of the unit with the Parade application:
 - a. Non-School Band - Organized musicians under the direction of a band leader not affiliated with a grade school, high school, or college/university.
 - b. School Band - Organized musicians that are affiliated with a grade school, high school, or college/university and are under the direction of a band leader.
 - c. Bagpipe Band - Organized musicians under the direction of a band leader or Pipe Major, regardless of affiliation.
 - d. Parade Theme Float - A float portraying the theme of the current Parade. Pull vehicles are permitted to be undecorated or may be decorated to match the float theme.
 - e. Precision Drill Team. o Color Guard / Honor Guard.
 - f. Marching Unit - A unit consisting of a minimum of four (4) people representing an organization, school, military unit, or other recognized entity.
 - g. Children's Unit - A unit consisting solely of children 14 years of age and younger. Chaperones are not considered part of the unit.
 - h. Dance Troupe – a group of dancers and associated personnel who perform a dance number.
 - i. Novelty - Units including, but not limited to: antique / classic automobiles; horse units; other novelty vehicles with prior written approval from the Committee; bicycle units; theatrical groups; floats with prior written approval from the Committee not conforming with the Parade theme.

11. THROWING CANDY OR OTHER ITEMS TO CROWDS IS NOT ALLOWED. CANDY MUST BE HANDED TO PEOPLE ALONG SIDELINES OF PARADE ROUTE. Please ensure that all parade participants are aware of this.

12. Businesses can advertise their name as part of their display; however, please refrain from handing out business cards or other advertisement to parade crowds. **Confetti is strictly prohibited.**

For more information regarding parade regulations contact:

Miria Gray

57 Broadway Norwich, CT 06360

GoNorwichCT@gmail.com

Standard questions may be answered as soon as possible; questions needing approval of the parade committee may take several days.