

## Kalispell Fourth of July Parade Rules & Regulations

**REGISTRATION:** The Flathead Marines, Inc. and the City of Kalispell reserve the right to approve or reject applications. To offset costs of the Parade there is a \$50 registration fee for all participants except Veteran’s Groups and Emergency Responders Entries. See entry definitions below.

Please send your completed application with the entry fee (Check or Money Order) to:

**Flathead Marines, Inc.**

PO Box 2624, Kalispell, MT 59903

Phone: 406-249-2448, Email: [Info@FlatheadMarines.com](mailto:Info@FlatheadMarines.com)

- a. If there is a problem with your entry registration you will be contacted, otherwise follow the the guidelines below for participation. The Flathead Marines, Inc. reserves the right to approve or reject any entry applications.
- b. Any cancellations for refunds must be received and confirmed by July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- c. Insufficient funds charge (\$50) will be charged to the individual or group submitting the parade registration.
- d. Registrations must be postmarked by June 28<sup>th</sup> for entry. No registrations will be accepted the day of the parade.

**LINEUP RULES:**

1. The parade will begin at 10:00 am on July 4th. The parade will occur rain or shine. There is no rain date for this parade so please come prepared.
2. Please refer to the attached list for your entry category and its respective start check in at the registration desk time. There will be a lot of congestion during the lineup time period, please practice patience and tolerance. If you need assistance look for individuals with a yellow safety vest on. If they can’t immediately help they will contact someone who can. Be advised you may be asked to shift your position in line.

Start Line-Up	Category Number	Category Name	Participant Description examples
730	100	Veterans Organizations	VFW, American Legion, Veterans Groups
745	200	School & Civic Groups	Schools, Bands, Choral Groups, Rotary, Scouts, Civil Air Patrol
800	300	Entertainment & Recreation	Bicycles, Aerialists, Gymnastics, Worship Groups
815	400	Business	Businesses
830	500	Agricultural	FFA, 4 H, other Animal Groups
845	600	Political	Political Groups, Individuals seeking Office
900	700	Automotive	Motorcycles, Cars, Trucks, Auto Clubs
915	800	Emergency Responders	Sheriff, Police, Fire Departments, Ambulance, Search & Rescue
1000	Parade Starts		

- a. Line up for the Fourth of July Parade begins at 7:30 am on the south side of the Kalispell Center Mall Parking lot. However to facilitate a smooth line up please attempt to come at your categories start time. Please stage behind the cone & sign with your category number, then come and check in at the registration desk.

- b. You will be given a registration number at the check in for you to display, please place it on the passenger/left side of your entry so that the Parade Master of Ceremony can properly identify and announce you.
- c. The registration check in will be at the corner of 1st Avenue West and Center Street --- the easternmost entrance of the Kalispell Center Mall on Center Street. Please come and check in at the registration desk upon your arrival. You receive your entry number and further instructions then.
- d. To ensure excellence in presentation and efficiency in coordination, all placements within the parade lineup are at the discretion of the parade organizing committee. The individual lineup order will be finalized the day of the parade by the parade committee; you will be guided to your line up position. Any conflicts will result in your immediate ejection from the parade and forfeiture of entry fee. You don't want to mess with us, we are U.S. Marines.

**3. SAFETY FIRST!** The lineup and staging areas will become congested with vehicles, pedestrians, and animals. Please yield to pedestrians; pedestrians please be aware of vehicles. In order to ensure safety for all participants please keep your speed limited to <10 mph in the lineup and staging area and **be alert**.

#### **GENERAL RULES:**

1. **Entry Definitions:** Each entry has a \$50 entry fee. If you exceed the number per entry a 2<sup>nd</sup> entry fee will be charged.
  - a. Walkers and Pedal Bicycle amounts are limited to <30 with per/for any entry.
  - b. Animal Groups: in your application please indicate the number of animals ridden, walked, or pulling wagon/carriages; entries are limited to <10 animals and <2 pulled wagons/carriages.
  - c. Motor Vehicles: groups are limited to 4 vehicles per entry.
  - d. Motorcycles: groups are limited to 6 vehicles per entry.
  - e. Businesses: are limited to 2 vehicles per entry.
  - f. Political & Religious: are limited to 1 vehicle per entry.
  - g. Emergency Responders: no vehicle number limits
  
2. **Motor Vehicle Participation:**
  - a. All drivers of a motor vehicle must have a valid driver's license and proper insurance coverage.
  - b. All motor vehicles must be operated in a safe manner at all times!
  - c. Speeds are limited to <5 MPH and should flow with the speed of the entry in front of you.
  - d. No "Burn-Outs, Wheelies, Drifts, Stoppies" or other unsafe driving acts are permitted. Several observers will be children. Practice **SAFETY FIRST!** If your entry is not interesting enough visually than perhaps it should not be in the parade. Failure to follow this rule will result in immediate removal from the parade and appropriate action by law enforcement.
  - e. All motor vehicles and towed trailers should have visible operating brake lights, turn signals, and properly functioning brakes if applicable.
  - f. Vehicles towing trailers must utilize safety chains as required for legal towing.
  - g. All vehicles in the parade must be able to navigate the entire parade route and make all turns and clearances without difficulty. It is the responsibility of each driver/entrant to see to it that their float clears all obstacles (tree limbs, traffic lights, overhanging utility wires, etc.).
  - h. Each driver is responsible for actions of persons on vehicle and float/towed trailers.
  - i. People are not allowed to get in/on or out/off vehicles/floats/towed trailers during the parade procession.

3. **Parade Decorum:** Failure to abide by any of the following will result in immediate removal from the parade.
- a. There is no specific theme for the parade other than American Patriotism, do not disrespect this.
  - b. **No physical or verbal displays of aggression with other parade participants, parade officials, or spectators will be permitted.** You don't want to mess with us, we are U.S. Marines.
  - c. **Parade participants ARE NOT permitted to throw items of any kind from floats or otherwise to observers.**
    - i. Candy or other promotional items **must be hand distributed by WALKERS ONLY** – as close to the street curb as possible to prevent children from coming into the street and close to the moving vehicles. **SAFETY FIRST!**
    - ii. This entry application is your **ONLY** warning. If you are found to be in violation of this you will be escorted out of the parade route immediately! You don't want to mess with us, we are U.S. Marines.
  - d. Each registered organization, group, or person(s) are permitted to carry banner(s) advertising their registered organization or group.
  - e. No profanity, nudity, lewdness, violence, obscenity, hate, racism, signs or other materials insulting any ethnic, religious, political, or other identifiable group or individuals, or any material that is sexual explicit in nature is prohibited. This is a family friendly and all American melting pot event, express tolerance, and friendship.
  - f. Consumption of alcoholic beverages or illegal substances is prohibited.
  - g. Discharge of firearms (blanks included) or fireworks is prohibited.
  - h. No fire eaters, flaming hoops, flaming jugglers, or anything fire is allowed as part of an entry. Sorry.
  - i. It is requested that no extremely loud noises/music be played, there will be children and animals present which may get startled by this. (Emergency Responders Entries get a pass on this.)
  - j. Participants should keep pace with the entry ahead of them. Please keep at least one vehicle length between yourself and the entry in front of you but not more than three. Please do not stop your entry.
    - i. The pace of the Parade will be set by our 4 U.S. Marine Color Guard, if you can't keep pace with them, than perhaps you should not be in the parade.

4. **Animals:**

- a. **Entrants are not permitted to allow spectators to have any contact with any animals.** Sorry.
- b. You are expected to maintain control of your animal(s) at all times; riders not exhibiting control will be removed from the parade for their own and spectator safety.
- c. Animals must have updated vaccinations and be in good medical health and be able to cope with crowds and other animals.
- d. Animals of any size or breed must be kept on a leash or other restraint.
- e. Animal Entrants are required to provide and utilize their own pooper scooping support. Failure to clean up after your animal either in the staging area or on the parade route will result in a lack of future participation, and *perhaps a present of the aforementioned poop may be presented to you at a later date and time.* We will have parade road guards on every block and we will see you. You don't want to mess with us, we are U.S. Marines.

5. **Emergencies and other information:**

- a. It is our goal to have parade road guard assistance on every block. Look for individuals with a yellow safety vest on. If they can't immediately help they will contact someone who can.
- b. Participants should be aware that it is possible that an emergency vehicle may need to leave the parade suddenly in the event of an emergency. Please yield to such activity.

- c. This is a controlled, forward-motion parade. If your entry experiences problems during the parade, please exit the parade route safe manner; ask a parade road guard for assistance. Please do not block or delay the procession.
- d. There will be 2 Porta Johns for use in the lineup and staging area at the south Kalispell Center Mall parking lot.

***Please keep the above pages for your reference.***

**Please return this completed page with your entry fee.**

**General Release and Acceptance of Rules:** I/We the applicants have read the conditions of the event and agree to abide by the conditions. I/We agree to assume full responsibility for my/our property. In addition, I/We do expressly release the Flathead Marines, Inc., the City of Kalispell, and the Kalispell Center Mall from any and all liability for any damage, injury, or loss of any person, business or property which may arise from my/our participation in the parade and agree to hold the Flathead Marines, Inc., the City of Kalispell, and the Kalispell Center Mall harmless of any damage, injury or loss by reason thereof. I/We give permission to use my/our name, business name, photo descriptions, photos, or images taken of me or my items for any and all purposes.

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Organization /Group Name                      Entry Category and brief Description

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Point of Contact                      POC Signature                      POC Phone #                      POC email                      Date  
 Name Printed