

2018 MAIN STREET MACON CHRISTMAS PARADE



The Main Street Macon Christmas Parade will be held on **Sunday, December 2, 2018 at 4pm**. We hope you will consider participating in this holiday tradition that attracts thousands of Middle Georgians to downtown Macon annually. The theme of this year's parade is "Merry and Bright" and all parade participants are encouraged to incorporate this theme into the presentation of their unit. Please complete and sign the attached application (final page) and return it with your \$125 entry fee, payable by cash, check, or money order.

Date: Sunday, December 2, 2018

Start Time: 4:00 pm

Check-in: Terminal Station (200 Cherry Street)

Check-in begins: 1:00 pm

Must be in line by: 3:00 pm

Theme: "Merry and Bright"

Entry Fee: \$125

Professional floats are available for rent for the following fees:

For-profit organizations/businesses: \$600

Non-profit organizations: \$450

Deadline for entries is Friday November 16, 2018 by the close of business. The Main Street Macon Christmas Committee will notify you of your line-up number and staging area by Tuesday, November 27, 2018. Parade packets will be available for pick-up at the Terminal Station beginning on Wednesday, November 28, 2018.

We are looking forward to a wonderful and festive Christmas Parade. If you have any questions, please contact Emily Hopkins, Main Street Macon Manager, at 478-803-2436 or ehopkins@maconbibb.us.

Thank you,

Emily Hopkins
Main Street Macon Manager

MAIN STREET MACON CHRISTMAS PARADE GUIDELINES

Please read these guidelines completely and carefully before submitting your parade application and paying the entry fee.

Parade Timeline

- Deadline to submit self-built float design: Monday, November 5, 2018
- Deadline for entries: Friday, November 16, 2018
- Notification of line-up number: Tuesday, November 27, 2018
- Parade packets available for pick-up: Wednesday, November 28, 2018
- Main Street Macon Christmas Parade: Sunday, December 2
 - Check-in Begins: 1:00pm
 - Must be in line by: 3:00pm
 - Parade Starts: 4:00pm

Fees: The fee to participate in the parade is \$125.

Professional Floats: Professional floats may be rented at the following rates:

For-profit organizations/businesses: \$600

Non-profit organizations: \$450

Tow vehicles must be supplied by the parade entrant.

If interested in renting a float, please contact Emily Hopkins at ehopkins@maconbibb.us or 478-803-2436 to select your float design.

Payment: Payments for entry fees and float rentals are accepted in the form of cash, check, or money order made **payable to the Urban Development Authority**. Please **reference Main Street Macon**.

Parade units will not be allowed to participate if their fee has not been paid by the start of the parade.

Payments, along with completed application, should be returned or mailed to:

Macon-Bibb County
C/o Economic and Community Development
200 Cherry Street, Suite 100
Macon, GA 31201

Please allow 2 to 6 weeks for payments to process.

Self-made floats: Participants are allowed to design and build their own float rather than renting a professionally built float. Self-made floats should submit drawings for approval by the Main Street Macon Christmas Committee **no later than Monday, November 5, 2018**.

Parade Unit Presentation: If your unit is different or differs greatly from your application on the day of the parade, your unit may be dismissed from the parade while still in the assembly area. No refund of registration fees will be given to the dismissed unit.

Individuals and organizations participating in the Christmas Parade are expected to perform courteously, in good taste, and with safety in mind at all times during the assembly, execution, and dispersal of the parade.

Please **do not** have anyone dressed as Santa Claus.

Entrant is responsible for providing cars for dignitaries and “royalty”.

Signage should be professionally printed.

Awards: The following three awards are presented to exemplary parade units:

- Commissioner’s Award
 - Awarded to the float that best fits the theme of the parade: merry and bright
- Mayor’s Award
 - Awarded to the most original float or parade unit
- Best Band
 - Awarded to the exemplary band that pleases the crowd. Bands should be able to stay in neat lines, perform dynamic music, and get the crowd cheering.

Hand-outs: No candy, samples, political materials, or other materials of any kind can be thrown or tossed from a float or specialty unit while the parade is in route. Main Street Macon staff and volunteers reserve the right to remove units from the parade at any point if parade participants do not abide by this rule.

Vehicles: Drivers of all vehicles in the parade and those entering the parade line-up area must have a valid driver’s license, have proper proof of insurance as required by state law, and be at least 18 years old.

Tow vehicles should be decorated to accent and compliment the unit.

Each unit will be provided a parade unit number that must be taped to the driver’s window once the vehicle is in place in the line-up.

Alcohol: The consumption of any alcoholic beverage by any participant is strictly prohibited. The police will strictly enforce all City, County, and State statutes concerning the consumption of alcoholic beverages before, during, and after the parade. If this policy is broken, the unit will be pulled and towed from the parade, the operator is subject to arrest, and the unit will not be asked

back by the Main Street Macon Christmas Committee. Main Street Macon will not issue any refunds if your unit is removed from the parade route due to any issues concerning intoxication and/or the possession of alcohol.

Inclement Weather: Main Street Macon will proceed with the parade, rain or shine. We request that you make provisions for foul weather and we will not refund registration fees because of parade delay or cancellation due to inclement weather.

Line-up: The Main Street Macon Christmas Committee will determine order of appearance to establish variety and best use of participants.

Parade units must be in their assigned place by 3:00pm. **Units that are not in place by 3:00pm will not be allowed to participate and will not receive a refund.**

Marching Band Units: Marching Bands will be allowed 30 seconds to stop and perform in front of the judges at the intersection of Third Street and Cherry Street. If your unit is not a marching band, continue moving forward through the entire route.

Car/Motorcycle Clubs: All vehicle entrants are required to be decorated for Christmas and play Christmas music when appropriate, including while in the staging area. **There is a strict 15 vehicle limit per club. if more than 15 vehicles are present per club, they will be removed from the parade and no refund will be issued.**

Horse/Equine Units: *Coggins Requirement* – Georgia law requires that all horses that come together for public display (i.e. parade) must have a current negative Coggins Test. (GA Administrative Code: 40-13-3-.06)

Proof of Negative Coggins Testing must be provided before parade day.

A test is not required for suckling foals accompanying a negative dam. All horses must either have diapers on or someone to follow them to clean up. You are responsible for cleaning up any hay or bedding in the staging area.

Canine Units: *Rabies Vaccination Requirement* – State law requires that any and all canines must have a current certification of rabies vaccination.

Proof of rabies vaccination must be provided on request.

Macon-Bibb County Ordinance – All dogs in a public place must be effectively restrained by chain or leash not exceeding eight (8) feet in length and any person having the custody or control of any dog shall have the responsibility for cleaning up any feces of the animal and disposing of such feces in a sanitary manner.

