

Murphys Irish Day Parade 2012
St. Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17, 11:00 a.m.
Co-chairs - JoAnna Reagan & Bob Reagan
Phone: 728-9012 – Fax: 728-9138 – reagans@mlode.com

Instructions & Regulations

The reason the Murphys Irish Day Parade has been so successful, in addition to the creativity of its participants, is the Instructions & Regulations that have been developed over a decade. It is important that everyone taking part abides by them. **You must make sure everyone in your entry understands the rules.** They are designed to insure safety and provide an enjoyable experience for all parade participants, the audience, and our hard working volunteers.

Even if you have been in the parade before, carefully read these instructions. Some procedures may have changed. If you have any questions please contact us as soon as possible.

The information submitted on your entry form is what we use to organize the parade. Please do not add more people or vehicles than you entered.

Some general restrictions: Only horses that have had parade experience and are ridden or driven by skilled equestrians will be considered for inclusion. Due to the limited size of the formation area, classic car clubs will be limited to five vehicles. There will be no partisan political entries.

What follows are general instructions covering most entries. Special groups such as equestrians, pre-schools, and a few others will be given specific instructions as parade details are finalized. A parade like this takes careful organization and we appreciate your cooperation. It's going to be a great day for all!

1. Participants will gather at the Black Bart Theater parking lot on Algiers St. across from the Library and Community Park. Have one of your people sign in at the registration table near the entrance and receive an entry number. The lot will be open at 8:30 a.m. (to allow for float decorating etc.) and we ask that you arrive no later than 9:30 a.m. This will give us time to do the necessary preparations to make sure the parade starts promptly at 11:00 a.m.
2. **The parking lot will be for parade vehicles and human and animal participants only.** Parade participants, who are not using their vehicles in the parade, and anyone dropping off a parade participant, will not be able to park in the lot because space is very limited. They will have to find parking elsewhere. Please plan your time accordingly. It is strongly recommended that when dropping off participants you should car pool. Better yet, walk to the assembly area if at all possible.
3. Parade participants must approach the Black Bart Theater parking lot from Highway 4 to Jones Street (in front of the fire station) to Scott Street and then turning into Algiers Street. You cannot enter from the center of town. There will be a control at the barricade at Scott and Algiers.
4. Having signs on vehicles, placards or banners in front of marching units, or other forms of participant identification add to the spirit and color of the parade. We urge you to be creative in letting the crowd know who you are. The announcers will also describe the participants from a prepared script.
5. Non-equestrian animal units are expected to clean up after their animals in the assembly area and on the parade route. Members of the Sanitation Society will follow the horse units during the parade but owners are responsible for cleaning up in the assembly area.
6. Remember, this is an Irish Day Parade, being held on St. Patrick's Day, so entrants are strongly encouraged to incorporate this theme.

7. The parade route will start on Algiers St., make a right turn on Main St., and proceed through the center of town to Scott Street. We have had problems in the past with gaps forming as the parade progresses. It is important that everyone recognize the need for the parade to follow a steady pace. Do not race ahead or lag behind. Do not make any unnecessary stops.
8. Another problem in the past has been participants stopping at the end of the parade route to get out of vehicles and/or to pose for pictures. Your entry must clear the Main and Scott intersection (in front of Alchemy).
9. At the end of the parade route, motorized entries and horse units must return to their assembly areas. People riding on floats or other vehicles must stay on board until the vehicle returns to the assembly area.
10. The California Highway Patrol has mandated that walking units will not be allowed to return to the assembly area using Scott Street while the parade is in progress. They may gather in the parking lot behind The Arbors or join the parade watchers on Main Street.
11. **Do not throw or hand out candy, or anything else, into the crowd.** In the past, young children trying to retrieve goodies have moved into the parade route in front of horses or vehicles. We don't want anyone hurt. We have learned that handing out things tends to delay the line of march.
12. The parade will move out promptly at 11 a.m. If for any reason your entry is not ready to go in your appointed place in the parade line-up, you will be placed farther down in the order which will make it difficult for the announcers to describe your entry.
13. The parade will go on rain or shine. In the past we have had a wide range of weather conditions. We know that rain or snow may limit your participation and we certainly understand.
14. Our goal is to make this a fun experience for those in the parade and the people watching from the sidelines. If for any reason it is necessary for you to withdraw your entry or change its description we ask you to call us at 728-9012 as soon as possible. And please contact us if you have any questions.

Bob & JoAnna Reagan
Parade Co-chairs