



## 2024 Popcorn Parade Terms & Conditions

**Saturday, September 7, 2024**

**Parade & Festival Theme: Popcorn Goes Camping/Camp Popcorn**

Float Judging (if applicable): 7:00-9:00 a.m.

Parade Lineup: 8:00-9:00 a.m.

Parade Begins: 10:00 a.m.

### General Parade Application Information

- Parade spots are limited. Applications will close once all spots are full, so it is recommended to apply early. There will be **absolutely no exceptions** made once spots are full and applications are closed, regardless of how long the applicant has been participating in the parade or their community connections.
- The online application must be completed in its entirety, or it will not be processed.
- Applications will be processed within 2-3 business days, and an approval or denial email will be sent. If approved, the credit card provided with the application will be charged.
- Applicants must be as descriptive as possible on their application. They are to estimate to the best of their ability the type and size of vehicles and number of participants they will have.
- Applicants are strongly encouraged to include their parade script (3-5 sentences about the business/organization and parade entry) in the application. Otherwise, scripts are due no later than August 16, 2024, and may be sent to [info@valparaisoevents.com](mailto:info@valparaisoevents.com). If no script is provided, nothing will be read by the parade announcers along the route as the unit passes by.
- All applications and entries must be approved by Valparaiso Events and the Parade Committee. A sketch or thorough description of parade entries must be included in the application or emailed to [info@valparaisoevents.com](mailto:info@valparaisoevents.com) for approval by Saturday, August 16, 2024. Valparaiso Events and the Parade Committee reserve the right to request design changes and deny parade entry based on sketches/descriptions.
- Float entries wanting to request space at the bus barn, which starts on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, must indicate so on their application. Upon application approval, the Parade Chair will reach out to confirm bus barn use and provide necessary details. Bus barn space is limited, not guaranteed, and only for those entries being judged.

### Parade Spot Requirements

**ALL ENTRIES ARE LIMITED TO A SINGLE PARADE SPOT.** Exceptions will be very limited and made on a case-by-case basis.

#### **Single Parade Spot:**

- **2 individual vehicles (no trailers attached) OR 1 vehicle + trailer**
- **and/or 1-100 participants/walkers**

## Parade Applicant Terms

- All parade information, including directions and lineup, will be sent to the email address on file in the application. Expect to receive information on Friday, August 30, 2024, unless communicated otherwise. It is that person's responsibility to disseminate all information to the organization's parade participants in a timely manner.
- Parade spot assignments are final once the lineup is sent.
- Parade entries must be family-friendly and will be inspected the morning of the parade. Valparaiso Events and the Parade Committee reserve the right to remove any entries deemed inappropriate from the parade lineup.
- We highly encourage ALL parade entries utilize popcorn and/or corn products in some manner. Entries being judged for awards are required to incorporate at least 30% popcorn and/or corn products into their design.
- **It is prohibited to throw anything to the crowd from vehicles/floats or from the center of the road during the parade. Businesses/organizations can have walkers along the side of the road with candy and/or items (excluding paper products like flyers, posters, and business cards) to pass out directly to the parade crowd. A Parade Committee representative will reach out to the email on file in the application to confirm understanding of this rule. If no confirmation response is received, the parade entry will be deemed to have forfeited their parade spot. Failure to comply with this rule during the parade will result in forfeiture of parade participation in 2025.**
- No paper products of any kind, including flyers, posters, or business cards are allowed.
- Participants must be able to keep up with the parade pace. Large units must remain together. Under no circumstances will performances be allowed to stop the forward movement of the parade. The parade will only be stopped in the event of an emergency.
- All participants must be fully covered by insurance in an adequate amount to cover all possible public liability and property damages due to accident or negligence on their part, and do hereby absolve Valparaiso Community Festivals & Events, Inc. dba Valparaiso Events of all responsibility. Any vehicle or float drivers must be properly insured and able to produce proof of insurance at any time.
- Dangerous activity that may endanger or harm spectators, property and/or participants is prohibited. It is also prohibited to touch, frighten, or cause bodily harm to spectators and/or participants.
- There is zero tolerance of abusive language, inappropriate music, disrespect toward other parade participants or parade staff, nudity/improper dress, and alcoholic beverages in the parade.
- Support vehicles must be provided for children under school age that may tire while walking (e.g., organization vehicle, wagon, etc.).
- Skates, skateboards, or bicycles in the parade must be approved by the Parade Committee.
- All animals must be always contained in a vehicle or on a float during the parade and may not walk alongside the vehicle/float under any circumstances. All animal waste must be cleaned up by entrant along the parade route, and entrant must provide water for any animals in their entourage. No horses are allowed.
- All participants must abide by the directions from official parade staff and volunteers.
- Motorized units need a fire extinguisher for safety, and vehicle + trailer setups must have secure safety chains.
- Float/entry height restriction is 12 feet.

### **Popcorn Parade Float Prizes**

**Grand Prize** – float with most overall points (all float entries, all sizes of floats)

**2nd Place** – float with second most overall points (all float entries, all sizes of floats)

**3rd Place** – float with third most overall points

**Special Recognition** – best non-float entry

**Honorable Mention** – additional award-worthy float or non-float

**Best Little Kernel** – best youth float

**Best New Float** – best first year float entry

### **Popcorn Parade Fees**

- Once your application is approved, the card provided with your application will be charged.
- **No refunds will be given.**
- If the Festival is cancelled in advance due to local, state, or federal mandates, we will apply your payment to the 2025 Popcorn Festival Parade.
- Fees:
  - Commercial \$150
  - Non-profit \$50
  - School Band \$0