

Autumnfest Parade Rules

The Autumnfest Parade will assemble as indicated, at the Woonsocket Plaza on 2000 Diamond Hill Road, (Route 114), Woonsocket, RI. 02895

The parade will step-off at 9:30 a.m. sharp on Columbus Day morning. Roads will be closed at 8:45 a.m. by the Woonsocket Police Department and no one will be allowed down the parade route.

We have staggered the arrival time of the organizations participating in the parade in order to alleviate the congestion in the assembly area. Please refer to the confirmation letter for the expected arrival of your group. **All buses are required to place their Division sign in their front windows.**

Identify which category below you are in and follow those directions to your assigned division. A division marshal has been assigned to each division. Please follow the instructions below and address all questions to the individual assigned to your division (usually in the golf cart).

- **All Buses will** turn left at the intersection and proceed towards the Dollar Tree Store where they will then turn right (2x's) staying in front of the stores. Proceed to the end of the division that your band or organization is in; pull to the right to allow your group to unload while leaving the left lane open for traffic to continue to circulate. Bus drivers and band directors will see to it that all vehicles are unloaded promptly. Once unloaded, buses will be directed to bus departure staging area. All buses will depart from that area at 9:00 a.m. sharp!! **Those left behind** will use an **alternate route** via L on Diamond Hill Road, R @ Bound Road, R@ Elder Ballou, L@ Mendon Road, R@ Cass Avenue, L@ Cumberland Hill Road, R@ Hamlet Avenue, R@ Main Street, and R@ By-Pass (KFC).
- **Convertibles** that are carrying honorary marshals, Service Club presidents, etc. must pick up the banners for their cars in front of the former Milford Federal Bank (at the entrance of Plaza).
- **All other vehicles that are NOT in the line of march** must proceed to the Ocean State Job Lot parking lot directly across from the parade formation area. This is the designated drop-off parking area.
- **End of parade** -bands only will turn onto Worrall Street to meet your respective bus located on the By-pass. Leave any Autumnfest banners with volunteers near the corner of Worrall before going to your bus.

Float Information

The float assembly area will be **on** Diamond Hill road. Floats are lined up for judging on the right hand curb line on Diamond Hill Road and designated by numbered spaces included on your confirmation letter.

A float committee coordinator will be located on Diamond Hill Road to direct you to your proper number position. You may pull into the plaza area to arrange your people then go to your position prior to the 8:00 a.m. judging.

- Floats must be ready for judging and lined up in their assigned area by 8:00 a.m. If not ready units will be judged as-is. Floats not in their assigned location will not be judged independently.

- Floats will remain on Diamond Hill Road after being judged. Later as their division approaches the drivers will be “fed into” their proper locations by a parade coordinator.
- Floats and cars go by Worrall Street. Floats winning an award and cars with signs will be given a banner to display during the parade. Volunteers will be stationed near the intersection of Worrall and Social Street. (Stadium Theatre) collecting signs and banners.
- Please convey this information to all members of your float and coordinate a meeting place.

Bands/Drum Corps/Performing Units:

- Musical units are requested to play throughout the parade. A reminder that the parade is recorded at the **reviewing stand** and replayed at a future date and **live streamed** by WOON radio who is located at the corner of Diamond Hill Road and Social Street.
- Bands, drill teams and other units **will NOT stop** to perform or otherwise delay the movement of the parade. This causes the parade to exceed its confirmed time span creating issues with local authorities. Violators of this rule will risk future invitations to participate and will not receive expected compensation.
- Bands will be alerted to look smart and play your best when approaching the reviewing stand. There will be no stopping to perform at the reviewing stand unless the band director has been previously requested to do so. Please start playing at The ELKS Lodge on Social Street.

Rest rooms/Port-A-John

These facilities are located at the front of Woonsocket Plaza. These facilities are not located along the parade route.

Late arrivals

Late arrivals will be assigned a spot in the parade at the discretion of the chairperson and the working marshals.

Intervals (spacing) between divisions and units.

1. The normal interval between divisions is 90 feet, the distance of two telephone poles.
2. The normal interval between units in a division will be 30 to 50 feet.

At any parade halt, the intervals will be closed up and upon resuming march the above intervals will be re-established.

Parade Control & removal of Units

Control of the parade is vested in the Autumnfest Parade Coordinator. The coordinator, along with parade personnel and the Woonsocket Police Department are authorized to enforce any and all Parade Rules and Regulations.

The parade coordinator or designated official has the authority to deny entry and/or remove any unit from the parade for non-compliance with parade rules, regulations or orders. The parade coordinator has the last word in interpreting these rules.

General Parade Guideline

1. All vehicles must carry a fire extinguisher, which will be displayed upon demand.

2. No alcoholic beverages or controlled substances are allowed at any time prior to, during or immediately after the parade.
3. Participation is by invitation only. Parade line-ups are submitted to our broadcasters in advance and we respectfully request that everyone adhere to their assigned divisions.
4. Failure to observe parade rules and regulations may deny future participation and could result in immediate removal from the formation area of the line of march.
- 5. No political messages are allowed on signs of any type in the parade. No political advertising may be handed out along the parade route.**
- 6. No political candidate or friend of the candidate shall use the event to promote same for any political office.**
7. The parade will step off at 9:15 a.m. along a 2 ½ mile route.
8. Entries involving animals will provide equipment to be used in the event that waste materials are deposited along the line of march or in the assembly area.
9. An adult must supervise all persons under 10. No one shall operate a motorized vehicle of any kind unless they possess a valid driver's license.
10. **No objects** of any kind will be **thrown** from any vehicles, i.e. candy, silly string, snappers, advertisements, etc. **Failure to comply will result in removal.** Children have a tendency to run into the road while floats and vehicles are moving in an effort to collect what's been thrown. **It is our intention to prevent any mishap.**
11. Units must complete the entire parade route except in cases of an emergency or they will not be compensated.
12. At the reviewing stand: signs will notify units of the reviewing stand; all units will play while marching past this point. After passing the stand, units will continue to play until the end of the parade at Social and Worrall Streets.
13. Possession of, use of, sale of canned confetti snappers, silly string or similar product could result in arrest, conviction or fine.
14. The General Chairman of Autumnfest will issue all vendor licenses. All vendors shall be in possession of same or will be removed from the parade route.
15. All motor vehicles and trailers must be currently registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles.
16. Consumption of alcoholic beverages on the parade route is illegal, per WPD!