

## RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. **No one** will throw any candy or artifact into the crowd. **No one** will be allowed to **leave** or **enter** a vehicle once the parade starts. **THESE ARE SAFETY ISSUES.**
2. All entries must have some type of Christmas decorations or Christmas theme. All portions of your entry to include vehicles and/or floats must have decorations adorned on all of them. **This is a requirement to entry.** Please do not use anything that can be interpreted as Santa. Santa will arrive and be at the end of the parade. The Merchants of Columbia County will have final say as to whether or not a group meets the parade criteria and may pull any group from the parade if actions are not done in the Christmas Spirit.
3. **If your entry is being judged, you will need to mark the section of the application accordingly and your group will be notified after the parade if you are a winner.**
4. When your entry reaches the end of the parade route, please do not return back using Belair Road. Use an alternate route. All entries requiring participants to be picked up will be disbanded at Evans High School and directed towards this destination.
5. Please do not stop your group at the TV cameras; this can cause gaps in the parade or cause a back up on the route. We are on a time limit regarding road closings. Keep the parade closed up 25' between entries.
6. All decisions by the judges will be in good faith and will be final.
7. All entries are subject to acceptance and approval by the Merchants Association of Columbia County Parade Committee.
8. The Merchants Association will not be responsible or liable for any lost or stolen objects or for any accidents that may occur.
9. All horse and animal entries must have someone to pick up the animal droppings. **THIS IS A MUST OR YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE PARADE.** All pooper scoopers must check in at the chairman's table with the utilities that they will be using to scoop poop. **NO RAKES, NO ROLLER BLADES, SKATES, ETC.** Shovels, brooms and wheel barrows are the only items allowed. If we see that the situation is not being handled, you will be pulled from the parade. All horse entries must confine animals to parade assembly area and parade route. All poops must be removed. Failure to comply with this could jeopardize participation in this parade and future parades.
10. All animals must be kept under control at all times.
11. No distribution of flyers with political views, etc. is allowed at the parade.
12. If additional decorations are done at the assembly area, you must clean up the area used.
13. Remember that this is a Christmas Parade and not a line of advertisements or endorsements. **Please comply.**