



## 4th of July Parade Rules and Waivers

Welcome to the Ames Main Street 4th of July Parade! We're excited to celebrate Independence Day with our community and appreciate your participation in making this event memorable. The goal of our parade is to safely celebrate our patriotic spirit. By following these rules, parade floats agree to the following rules and waivers:

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### 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Rules

- All entries are subject to approval by the Ames Main Street 4th of July Event Team. Ames Main Street reserves the right to request modifications to be made to parade entries.
- All entries must provide their own identification, signs, etc. Ames Main Street will issue a parade number for the staging area to ensure each entry is in the correct place.
- If you choose to hand items out:
  - Candy, fliers, or promotional items may be passed out to spectators on the side of the streets. Candy may be handed to spectators or tossed on the ground in front of the spectators.
  - Throwing candy or other objects into the crowd is not permitted. Do not drop or throw candy into the middle of the street. Example: no throwing candy out the window of a vehicle; no throwing candy from the back of pick up or trailer. An underhand toss in front of the spectators would be considered appropriate.
  - **If you are caught throwing candy from your vehicle, Ames Main Street reserves the right to decline your participation in future parades.**
  - Parade entries who wish to hand out candy, fliers or promotional items must provide at least 4 walkers, one for each corner of the vehicle or parade entry. This is to help ensure safety for you as a parade entry and for parade watchers.
- Prohibited items include confetti cannons and mess making devices, spraying or throwing water into the crowd, and like items.
- Parade entries are not allowed to litter or discard decorations and other materials on public streets and private property, including but not limited to dumpsters on private property.
- If your group has animals, you and your entry are responsible for all animal droppings from your animal. If you do not clean up after your animal, your entry will be subject to cleaning fees.

- Parade route and parade entries will be monitored throughout. If a parade entry does not follow the guidelines, they will not be allowed to participate in the parade the following year.
  - All groups may pause at the designated two areas on the route where you may pause for 15 to 30 seconds to do a short routine. These areas are at: the intersection of Main Street and Burnett (as you head east) and the intersection of 5th Street and Kellogg (as you head west).
  - If you have a car to park that will not be in the parade, you will not be able to park it in the staging area. Keep in mind that you will not be able to pull into the parking lot and drop-off.
  - Be ready to go once the parade starts and keep moving as much as possible once it does. Be patient for the start and have a good time!
  - Immediately after the parade: return to your line-up location, or continue driving out on 5th street, turning right onto Grand. Do not stop and unload on 5th street while the parade is still going on! Do not park on 5th street while waiting for others to finish the route. Volunteers will usher you on.
  - Parade order: registering early does not guarantee a front spot in the parade entry order. Consideration for early parade staging order will be given to City, Police, Fire, and Veteran Group entries. Parade staging order is based on types of entries and how many. We spread out similar types of entries throughout the parade order.
    - Example: if we have three car club entries, they will not be staged in the same section, they will be separated and placed throughout the overall parade line up.
    - Example: if we have four dance groups, they will not be staged in the same section, they will be separated and placed throughout the overall parade line up.
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#### **4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Waivers (signed via Google Doc)**

- We hereby release Ames Main Street and all parties involved in the planning, organizing, and staging of the parade, from damage and/or personal injury inflicted or incurred, during the Fourth of July Parade held on July 4, 2025.
  - We also give consent that pictures and/or videos, including representatives of our organizations may be used for promotional purposes.
  - We have read and will oblige by the Fourth of July Parade Rules and Waivers for the parade held on July 4, 2025.
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Thank you for making Ames' 4th of July Parade an exciting celebration! We look forward to seeing your creativity and spirit shine through. Happy Independence Day!