2017 Onancock Christmas Parade

 “Onancock Christmas on the Bay”

*27th Annual Christmas Parade*

DECEMBER 10, 2017 at 5:00 P.M.

**PARADE GUIDELINES**

**General:**

* **The parade route is on Market Street**. Participants will line up along College Avenue then take a left on to Market Street to begin the parade. The parade will end in front of the Onancock Town Gazebo Park on Market Street. **Make sure to stop and/or perform in front of the judging stand which is located at the junction of Market Street and Queen Street (PERFORMANCES SHOULD NOT EXCEED 3 MINUTES IN DURATION)**. Entries will be judged on appearance and originality.
* PLEASE DO NOT HAVE ANYONE DRESSED AS SANTA CLAUS ON YOUR FLOAT. The Town will provide the only Santa Claus for the parade.
* The Town Manager is the final authority on the Christmas Parade.
* **Entries with live animals are to provide their own clean-up crews**.
* The Town will NOT provide candy for participants to distribute. Parade participants should bring candy if they wish to pass it out along the parade route.
* ***Candy SHOULD NOT be thrown from above. It is a safety issue for your audience.***

**Specifically for Fire Companies:**

* Fire companies will be judged in three categories— Best Overall, Best Antique Piece of Equipment, and Farthest Distance Traveled. Awards will be given for 1st and 2nd place in each category.
* When lining up for the parade, please make sure your order matches your entry description. Otherwise, your vehicles will be announced in the wrong order.

**Safety:**

* There shall be a responsible person for each float or entry. Any entry with children under the age of 18 must have adult supervision at all times.
* Please instruct float riders to find a safe, stable position and to remain there for the duration of the parade.
* To protect the safety of parade spectators, please be careful when distributing candy or gifts. It is recommended that candy be handed to the parade spectators by walking participants.
* Any vehicles entered in the parade must keep all wheels on the ground at all times. Wheelies and/or reckless operation of vehicles will result in immediate removal from the parade. Only licensed drivers may man motorized vehicles; this includes zero turn tractors. **NO ATVs ALLOWED.**

**Line-Up and Location:**

* Line-up begins at 4:00 p.m. and the parade starts promptly at 5:00 p.m. Market Street closes to vehicular traffic at 4:45 p.m. Please plan accordingly and *arrive on time or you will not be allowed to participate.*
* To access line-up positions: from Market Street turn on to Hill Street. Then turn right on Liberty Street. Proceed and turn right onto College Avenue. All parade participants will line up along either side of College Avenue. Horse trailers will park in the marked parking lot of the Old Onancock School to unload then riders and their horses will proceed to their designated lineup area.
* Parade coordinators will be located along the lineup route.
* You may NOT park on College Avenue or in the Old Onancock School parking lot unless otherwise specified.
* All entries should remain in their line-up location until the parade begins.
* The start of the parade will be initiated when the fire signal is sounded.
* Be advised that Market Street from College Avenue to the Town Gazebo Park will be closed to vehicular traffic from 4:45 to the finish of the parade. Please plan accordingly.
* Parking will be at a premium on parade day--please carpool!