



61st Annual Marshall Christmas Parade Application

Monday, December 1, 2025 at 7PM



DEADLINE: APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY TUES, NOV 11, 2025
Only 110 entries will be allowed - APPLY TODAY!

The Marshall Christmas Parade has been a family tradition for 61 years. The parade brings together family and friends to enjoy the sights and sounds, and for many it marks the beginning of the holiday season. Participants have the very important responsibility to ensure viewers are dazzled by each and every entry. PLEASE SEE RULES, INSTRUCTIONS & TIMELINE ON 2nd PAGE OF THIS APPLICATION.

2025 THEME: Christmas Stories

Name of Organization/Business _____ Contact Person _____

Title/Duty Within Organization _____ Date of Birth _____

Email _____ Phone _____

NOTE: Instructions and rules will be emailed to this email address.

Total Entry Length: _____ feet (please add up all vehicles lengths, including tow vehicles & hitches)

NOTE: No parade entry can be taller than 14-feet.

ENTRY TYPE (do not check more than one)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Float (with or without walkers) | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking Performance (dancers, etc) | <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Band |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Truck/Equipment (NOT Float Tow Vehicle!) | <input type="checkbox"/> Walkers ONLY(no vehicle) | <input type="checkbox"/> Color Guard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Responder/Firetruck | <input type="checkbox"/> Hot Air Balloon | |

DETAILS (check only those that apply)

- ☐ Our entry has music either made by us or broadcasted (MUST be holiday music!)
- ☐ Contains Dogs ☐ Contains Horses **ALL ANIMAL ENTRIES MUST HAVE A CLEAN UP CREW!**
- Est. # of WALKERS: _____ (ALL walkers, including # of band members or those beside your vehicle or float)

WAIVER of Physical Damage or Personal Injury In consideration of participating in the Marshall Christmas Parade, the Releaser, intended to be legally bound for themselves and their agents, employees, volunteers, guests, licensees, heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims they may have against the City of Marshall, its officials, and the City of Marshall representatives, successors, and assigns for any and all injuries or damages suffered from participation in the Marshall Christmas Parade.

I, the undersigned, have read this waiver of liability, fully understand its terms, understand that I have given up substantial rights by signing it, and have signed freely and voluntarily without any inducement, assurance, or guarantee being made to me and intend my signature to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law.

Signature _____ Print Name _____ Date _____

MARSHALL HOLIDAY LIGHTS & DECORATION FUND DONATION

Your gift will help defray the thousands of dollars spent each year for maintenance on our downtown lights and decorations. Your gift will be acknowledged on a banner in the parade, an ad in the newspaper, and on social media.

\$ _____ **Holiday Donation Amount** Donation is optional and not required for parade entry.

- ☐ Payment is enclosed (check payable to MAEDA) ☐ Please invoice me ☐ Call me to pay with credit card

RETURN FORM BY TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2025 to the Choose Marshall Welcome Center at
323 W. Michigan Avenue, Marshall, MI 49068 **Email** to info@choosemarshall.com

Fill out this Form Online at ChooseMarshall.com/events/annual-events/christmas/christmas-applications/

Questions? Please contact Kimber Thompson at (269) 781-5163 or info@choosemarshall.com



RULES, INSTRUCTIONS & TIMELINE

61st Annual Marshall Christmas Parade

Monday, December 1, 2025 at 7PM



2025 THEME: Christmas Stories

1. ALL entries MUST BE WELL LIT and be decorated for the holidays.

This is a nighttime parade, so lights are necessary for the **SAFETY** of parade attendees and participants as well as for their entertainment value. **Headlights do not count toward lighting your vehicle.** If your vehicle is not decorated and/or has only minimal lights, you will not be allowed to participate in the parade.

2. Marching bands, ALL walkers, performers, etc. MUST be in uniform, costume, or wear holiday-appropriate attire. Walkers should have lights or glow sticks on every person.

3. ALL FLOATS WILL BE JUDGED. Make sure to have 2 people available to carry your banner if you win!

4. All participants are required to keep pace with the parade marshal and keep spacing gaps to a minimum between groups/floats to ensure a smooth and continuous parade.

5. SANTA is not allowed on any entry. There is only ONE Santa and he is found on the last float. No one else is allowed to dress as Santa and he is not to be depicted in any life-like decorations.

6. ABSOLUTELY NO CANDY CAN BE THROWN FROM VEHICLES. We ALL need to keep candy out of the center of the road, to keep people/children out of the way of parade vehicles. Candy is to be passed out by walking participants ONLY. To keep the parade moving quickly, candy should be “underhand tossed” BEHIND the barriers lining Michigan Avenue (where the parking spaces are located). VIOLATORS MAY BE REMOVED FROM THE PARADE AND WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE PARADES.

7. Gun shots and cannons are not allowed. Live fire/flames are allowed only with special permission.

8. Any group containing animals MUST include a clean-up crew or appropriate apparatus to eliminate waste being left in the road. No one wants to step in a mess!

9. Vehicles on trailers are not permitted without prior approval.

10. Parade is not lined-up in first-come, first-in-line fashion. As much as possible: music entries are spaced out, horses are kept away from fires and loud groups, etc. We rotate annual entries.

IMPORTANT TIMELINE

5:40 - 6pm FLOATS line-up

6pm All Floats must be IN PLACE and set, w/ lights working

6 - 6:30 All other entries line-up

6:30pm All Entries In Place

7:00 SHARP - PARADE BEGINS

Parade ENDS in the area of the Marshall Middle School.

**FINAL APPROVAL OF PARTICIPATION AND DECORATION OF ENTRY
WILL BE HELD AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE.**

**Please read all of the requirements *carefully* and fill out the application *completely*.
Incomplete applications WILL NOT be accepted.**

Specific Parade instructions and placements will be emailed the week prior to the parade.

Questions? Please contact Kimber Thompson at (269) 781-5163 or info@choosemarshall.com

Choose Marshall Welcome Center ~ 323 W. Michigan Avenue, Marshall, MI 49068 ~ 269-781-5163

DEADLINE: APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY Tuesday, November 11, 2025