

Cochranton Fair Parade Committee

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Parade Season, 2024

Dear Parade Participants:

We are looking forward to and planning the **2024 Cochranton Community Fair Parade!** You are cordially invited to join us for a wonderful evening on **Wednesday, August 7, 2024!**

The theme for this year's parade: ***Communities That Flourish!*** Please remember this theme as you plan and prepare to join us during Fair Week in Cochranton, PA. We hope you can join us in presenting an incredibly special parade in our community!

Whether you have participated in the past, or are joining us for the first time, your patriotic community-spirited hearts are appreciated, and needed, to be enjoyed by parade-goers everywhere. Our thanks to those who participated in the 2023 parade, making it one of our largest parades to date. Our goal again this year is to create and present a fun-filled evening for spectators, participants, and volunteers.

Registration Information:

- **Participants must pre-register using the attached "GENERAL APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE" form.** You may either return the application in paper form, via email, or via the website.
- **Phone registrations will not be accepted.**
- **You may register online by May 1, 2024 (or before if website updates are completed)**
- Our parade has grown over the years and we want to be able to recognize each group as it passes the announcer's stand and make sure your accolades are shared with the spectators. **We must receive your group information by July 15, 2024,** or we cannot guarantee that all your information will be read at the announcer's stand, or that you will receive a guaranteed spot in the parade line-up.
- **ALL applications are subject to approval by the parade committee. (Please see the enclosed Policy Brochure for more information.)**
- Except for EMS in emergencies, ALL parade entrants, including horses/animal units, are expected to finish the parade route.

Walk-In Participants are not permitted to join the parade. There will be no exceptions. PLEASE DO NOT ASSUME that because you have participated in prior parades that you will be included in the line-up; IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE YOUR INFORMATION IN WRITTEN FORM BY THE DEADLINE, YOU WILL NOT BE PERMITTED INTO THE LINE-UP AREA.

Accordingly, our line-up will be finalized by July 31, 2024. We will make every effort to notify you of your line-up number prior to parade day (not necessarily in the first days of August). If you provide an email address, we will send this information via email; otherwise, we will contact you by telephone. **Please DO NOT CALL to request this information.** Your help and patience with our volunteers will be sincerely appreciated.

PARADE DETAILS:

- **Attachments to letter:** Please find a registration application form, parade policies, and any information specific to your group as registered in prior years. ***Biographical information must be in our hands by July 15th, or it will not be included in the announcer's book. Information provided at sign-in will not be read.***

PARADE DAY INFORMATION (August 7th):

3:00 PM – FLOATS ONLY may arrive to begin final set-up in the area designated for float parking (judging will commence at 5:30 PM – you will be deemed ready by 5:30 PM). Judging of floats must be completed by 6:00 PM in order that judges may tabulate results and notify the announcing stand so that trophies may be presented as floats pass the stand. The decisions of the judges are final. Complete rules will be published in the Cochranon Community Fair Book.

Non-Float Participants are not permitted in the line-up area until the sign-in time listed below. (i.e., any participants other than floats)

5:00 - 6:15 PM – Arrive and Sign-In at Cochranon Elementary School. You must sign in so that we know your group is on the premises prior to step-off.

Please send one representative only from your group to sign-in to save on congestion at the sign-in area. (Please share your line-up number with other members of your group when you receive it prior to the parade day.)

Portable toilets will be available at sign-in.

We do ask that you extend every courtesy to your fellow participants and volunteer staff during sign-in, line-up, step-off, and the parade itself. Inappropriate behavior will necessitate departure from the line-up area.

6:15 PM – Extra Vehicles (your transportation) must exit the line-up area and head to your pick-up point at the Cochranon High School area. If your transportation does not exit by 6:15 PM, those vehicles will have to wait until the remaining units have stepped off and will be directed by a less direct route to the high school area. Car-pooling is a great idea! For those meeting special transportation (e.g. limos etc.), we ask that you please meet your limo outside of the line-up area and arrive with only the special vehicle; not several drop-off cars and the limo. We want to keep traffic in the area flowing smoothly for you so that you can enjoy this wonderful evening!

6:30 PM – Parade steps off

Rain Date:

There is no rain date; we plan to host the parade on the night of August 9th. We will be finalizing preparations on parade day; therefore, we will not accept or return telephone calls or emails on parade day. IF the weather forces us to cancel, we will do our best to have it announced on the radio. A final decision will be made at 6:15 PM. We do not plan to cancel; we plan to have a parade.

Please join us to show off your fabulous modes of transportation and many many talents!! We anticipate a good turnout this year and your presence amidst all marching bands, floats, and drill teams will add to the excitement of the day! If you have a different type of group than is included in your information packet, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate your entry and answer your questions. We look forward to an exciting event this August and look forward to seeing you there! **If you have any questions regarding the event, please contact the committee/secretary at one of the contact points listed on the letterhead.**

THANK YOU for all your efforts and enthusiasm! See you in August!

Sincerely yours,

The Cochranon Community Fair Parade Committee

P.S. Don't forget our new email address: cfp.parade@gmail.com