

Important Information for Elgin's Fourth of July Parade

Please read this information carefully, and be sure to share it with everyone in your group.

PARADE START/END TIMES & LOCATIONS

The parade steps off **Wednesday, July 4th at 9AM** at Slade and Douglas Avenue. **Everyone must check-in prior to 8AM.**

Please see the attached map for details including: shuttle bus, staging, restrooms, parking locations and disbandment routes.

The Parade takes place rain or shine and would only be postponed or cancelled if the weather was determined to be "dangerous." In this case, an announcement will be posted that morning at www.cityofelgin.org/july4 or on the 4th of July Facebook Event Page.

PARKING & SHUTTLE SERVICE

Many parade participants and spectators like to park in the downtown area near the end of the parade route. Parking is available in the free parking decks (please see map for details).

Shuttle service for parade participants is available in the surface lot at 200 N. Grove Avenue, Elgin, IL 60120 (former Gail Borden Library site) north of the Hemmens. This service allows participants to either be dropped off near their staging position or to park near downtown. The shuttle picks up Kimball/Symphony. **The shuttle service is not for spectators. The last shuttle pick-up will be at 8:30AM.**

CHECK-IN PROCESS & PARADE LINE-UP

Only vehicles that are registered to be in the parade will be allowed into the staging area. **If a vehicle shows up with a group that was not listed on the group's application, it will NOT be admitted into the staging area.**

All groups with a vehicle in the parade must have a group representative check-in at TWO places.

Check-in Point #1: There are three staging area entry gates (BROOK, GROVE, or DOUGLAS). Please see your attached assignment and bring it with you.

- **BROOK ENTRY GATE** - 320 Brook Street, Elgin, IL 60120
- **GROVE ENTRY GATE** - 345 N. Grove Avenue, Elgin, IL 60120
- **DOUGLAS & HORSES ENTRY GATES** - 150 River Bluff Blvd, Elgin, IL 60120

Important Information

- **Entry gates will open for check-in at 7:30 AM and close at 8:00 AM.**
- In order to be granted access to the staging area, your group must be "parade ready" – meaning your vehicle, float, banners, people etc. are decorated and ready to go.



- If you are not “parade ready” the gate volunteers will direct you to the “pre-staging area” in the library parking lot to finish getting ready.
- When you are ready, you may then proceed to your designated block.
- If you are an **all walker group** (no vehicles), you do not need to check-in at the entry gate. You may proceed directly to your assigned block to check-in with your block captain.

Check-in Point #2: With the block captain in the royal blue parade t-shirt

- **Staging is done by assigned BLOCKS (example: Brook-A or Grove-B) rather than individually assigned spaces.**
- Each block’s line-up will be determined by the order in which the groups arrive. It is first come first serve.
- Vehicles will be staged along one side of the street facing north. If necessary, block captains may stage groups on both sides of the street.

We realize that there is a lot of waiting in the staging area before your group reaches the start of the parade route. It is not unusual for wait times in the block to exceed 1 hour or more. Please bring activities, snacks, lots of water, sunscreen, etc. to keep your group members occupied, fed, hydrated, and protected.

In case of an emergency, first call 911 and then notify your Block Captain of the problem.

Please be courteous of our neighbors who so graciously partner with us to put on the parade in their neighborhood, both in the staging and along the parade route. Take care to pick up any trash you see around you before leaving the staging area.

If you have any questions about the staging process or anything else related to the parade prior to July 4th, please contact 311 or e-mail specialevents@cityofelgin.org.

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE 2018
CITY OF ELGIN 4TH OF JULY PARADE**