

2026 Cairo Christmas Parade Entry Form

Entry Deadline: Wednesday, November 18, 2026
Parade Date: Thursday, December 3, 2026

Contact: Madison Brown
madisonb@cairogachamber.com

Name of Organization_____

Contact Person_____ Phone_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Email_____

Type of entry (*please check all that apply*):

- ☐ Vehicle & Float (size of float_____)
- ☐ Vehicle(s) ONLY: Number of vehicles _____ Type of vehicle(s)_____
- ☐ Band ☐ Animal ☐ Walking Unit
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

Judging will begin promptly at 5:45pm. All entries being judged **MUST** be in place no later than 5:30pm. All entries not being judged **MUST** be in place no later than 6:30pm. Parade will begin promptly at 7:00pm.

AWARD CATEGORIES:

(1st & 2nd Place Awards for each of the following categories)

"A Red, White, and Blue Christmas" Award
The entry that carries out this year's theme to the max!

Most Creative Award
The entry that shows the most creativity.

Illuminations Award
The entry with the most amazing display of lights.

Return completed entry packet to the Chamber of Commerce at 961 N. Broad St., or via email to madisonb@cairogachamber.com.

If you have any questions, please contact the Chamber of Commerce at (229) 377-3663.

2026 Cairo Christmas Parade Guidelines

Please read carefully & distribute to all parade participants.

Parade Theme & Entry Requirements

- All entries must be decorated with the parade theme: "A Red, White, and Blue Christmas." Entries may be historical, humorous, religious, or modern in design, but must be in good taste, as many spectators will be children.
- All entries must be lit and fully decorated in the holiday spirit to support the parade theme. This is a nighttime parade – entries without lights or decorations are subject to removal from the parade.
- No Santa impersonators are allowed. Santa will be featured at the end of the parade and escorted by the Cairo Fire Department.
- Parade entry signs (11x14) must be placed in the front left windshield of each vehicle. Signs will be available for pickup from the Chamber during the week of the parade and must be picked up before 3:00pm on Wednesday, December 2nd.

Parade Route, Lineup, & Judging Details

- The parade will begin at the Chamber of Commerce, continue down Broad Street, and end at Cairo First Methodist Church.
- Parade entries may begin dropping off floats at their assigned space starting at 3:00pm. The lineup order will be emailed to the address provided on your entry form at the beginning of parade week.
- Streets near the lineup area will be blocked off at 4:00pm. After that time, only official parade entries will be allowed to enter the lineup area.
- The Chamber will provide shuttles at designated areas to transport participants to their floats. Participants must provide the name or number of their entry to ensure drop-off at the correct location.
- All entries interested in being judged must be completed and in place by 5:30pm. Judging will begin promptly at 5:45pm. Due to time constraints, the judges will only make one attempt to judge each entry. Judges will evaluate entries based on their interpretation of the parade theme. All entries not choosing to be judged must be lined up by 6:30pm.

Parade Conduct, Safety, & End-of-Route Procedures

- For the safety of all participants and spectators, no items may be thrown from moving entries. This includes candy, flyers, literature, food, or other materials.
- Hot-rodding, burnouts, or wheelies are strictly prohibited at any point during the parade. These rules will be strictly enforced to protect spectators and other participants.
- The parade will move at a steady walking pace with no stopping permitted. If your entry experiences difficulties, please exit the parade route promptly and safely.
- Entries using animals of any kind must have a clean-up crew following the unit. All participants are responsible for maintaining cleanliness in both the staging and unloading areas.
- Currently serving elected officials may be permitted to ride in the parade but may not campaign or display election-related materials.
- All entries must have a completed parade package on file at the Chamber. Final instructions, entry numbers, and lineup details will be emailed to the address listed on the application.
- At the conclusion of the parade at Cairo First Methodist Church, please ensure all children are picked up by a responsible adult. The Chamber is not responsible for children exiting floats. The Cairo Police Department will be directing traffic in the unloading area—please follow their instructions for a safe and orderly exit from the parade route.

Acknowledgement of Parade Guidelines

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the 2026 Cairo Christmas Parade Guidelines. I agree to ensure that all participants involved with my entry follow these guidelines for the safety and enjoyment of all. I also understand that any entry found in violation of these guidelines may be subject to removal from the parade and may not be allowed to participate in future parades, including the 2027 Cairo Christmas Parade.

Entry Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Contact Person (print): _____ **Signature:** _____

If you have any questions, please contact the Chamber of Commerce at (229) 377-3663.

2026 Cairo Christmas Parade Agreement & Liability Waiver

Theme: "A Red, White and Blue Christmas"
Parade Date: Thursday, December 3, 2026
Parade Start Time: 7:00pm | Lineup Begins: 4:00pm

GUIDELINES AGREEMENT

- I hereby acknowledge that I have received, read, and understand the official Guidelines for participation in the 2026 Cairo Christmas Parade. I accept full responsibility for ensuring that all individuals participating with my entry are informed of and will comply with these guidelines. I understand that failure to comply with the parade guidelines may result in immediate removal of individuals or the entire entry from the parade. The designated Parade Marshals, Cairo Police Department, Security Personnel, Parade Chairperson, and/or Parade Coordinator are authorized to enforce these rules.

LIABILITY WAIVER & RELEASE

- I hereby release, waive, and discharge the Cairo-Grady County Chamber of Commerce, its staff, officers, board members, agents, volunteers, the City of Cairo, and all parade sponsors from any and all liability, claims, losses, or demands arising from or related to participation in the 2026 Cairo Christmas Parade. This includes, but is not limited to, personal injury, property damage or loss, accidents or incidents occurring before, during, or after the parade, and acts of nature, negligence, or unforeseen circumstances.
- I further understand and agree that participation is voluntary and at my own risk. The Cairo-Grady County Chamber of Commerce and the City of Cairo will not be held responsible for any damage or injuries incurred by participants, spectators, or third parties.

PHOTO/MEDIA RELEASE

- I grant permission for the Cairo-Grady County Chamber of Commerce to use photographs, video recordings, names, and likenesses of participants from this entry for promotional, advertising, or informational purposes. I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product or compensation for its use.

CONSEQUENCES OF NONCOMPLIANCE

- I understand that failure to abide by these rules and guidelines may result in disqualification from the current and/or future parade participation.

Entry Name: _____

Contact Person (print): _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

If you have any questions, please contact the Chamber of Commerce at (229) 377-3663.

2026 Cairo Christmas Parade Commentary

Theme: "A Red, White, and Blue Christmas"
Parade Date: Thursday, December 3, 2026
Parade Start Time: 7:00pm | Lineup Begins: 4:00pm

Please provide a brief description of your parade entry to be used by the announcer and/or television commentator during the parade broadcast. Commentary should be limited to content that can be read aloud in approximately 15–20 seconds. Descriptions may include your organization's name, theme inspiration, participants, or special features of your entry. Please note that for timing and consistency, all commentary is subject to editing by the Parade Coordinator.

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Entry Name: _____

Contact Person (print): _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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