2026 4th of JULY PARADE APPLICATION

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN WITH PAGE 2 AND YOUR PARADE CONCEPT

Rockford 4th of July Civic Committee Parade Rules for July 4, 2026

- The Rockford 4th of July Civic Committee reserves the right to not approve any application.
  - Approved applications will receive an **email** showing approval and their division information at a later date.
- 1 Parade Unit = Maximum 4 Vehicles. Anything Beyond the max allowed must have written authorization from the 4th of July Civic Committee. Then printed and shown to the parade marshal at the parade line up.
- There is no stopping on the parade route. Stay with the continued pace of the parade as directed in front of you. Only Rockford Police Officers and Parade Marshals are allowed to stop the flow of the parade.
- **THROWING** of any objects from your float/vehicle along the parade route will **not** be permitted. Objects are defined, but not limited to, **candy**, political propaganda, leaflets etc. If you are seen throwing anything, you will be removed from the parade route and agree to a pay a fine of $500.
  - *Candy handed out along the sides of the parade route **IS** permitted.* ***No Throwing candy from the center of the unit/street.***
- Your parade unit must be of a patriotic nature. Occult or non-patriotic units will not be permitted in the parade.
  - Up to 80,000 people are expected along the parade route.
  - We are celebrating our country and our community. If you do not want to follow the rules of decorating, then please do not apply.
  - Any group that doesn't show any festive decorations pertaining to Independence Day will not be allowed to partake in the parade.
- Signs that insult, belittle or embarrass any individual or organization will not be allowed to be carried or displayed as part of your parade unit.
- Active political campaigning will not be allowed in any division other than the division that is termed "Political Division."
  - **Each** politician must pay an entry fee to march/float in the parade. Please see fees on page 1.
- We are all Americans celebrating the birth of this great nation and our community!
- **Questions:** please contact Tom Luepkes at 815-979-2977.

*****I have read the Parade Rules and will abide by them*****

X _____ **Date**_____ mm/dd/yy

2026 PARADE APPLICATION

Rockford 4th of July Civic Committee, a 501(c)4 Not-For-Profit
728 N. Prospect Street – Suite 107, Rockford, IL 61107
4thandlights@gmail.com www.4thandlights.com
Parade Contact: Tom Luepkes, 815-979-2977

ROCKFORD, IL 4TH OF JULY CIVIC COMMITTEE
Est. 1963

Name of Organization: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Address: _____

_____

Email (required): _____

Type of Parade Unit:

☐ Vehicle (Decorated) ☐ Float

☐ Marching ☐ Other _____

Vehicles and Floats must submit concept art with this application.

PARADE ENTRY FEES

- **Commercial/Business Units:** Please include a check with a **minimum donation** of $100
- **Political Entries (other than incumbents):** Please include a check with a **minimum donation** of $400 ***per Individual*** *Political Entry*. *You will not be allowed to participate if the parade fee has not been received.*
- **Nonprofits/Not-For-Profits**: No Charge with return of 501c3 or 501c4 number.

Please fill out, sign, and return application no later than **June 20th** to ensure your position in the parade.

Rockford 4th of July Celebration

2026 Parade Information

Line-Up time:	4:00 pm Sharp
Jeep Parade Start Time:	4:40 pm Sharp
Motorcycle Start Time:	4:50 pm Sharp
Main Parade Start Time:	5:00 pm Sharp

PARADE ROUTE

Route forms at 7th Street and 6th, 5th and 4th Avenues.
Proceed North on 7th Street to East State Street.
Turn West on East State Street
CONTINUE on East State Street, crossing the bridge and passing Wyman and Main Streets.
Disband at Church Street.

THROWING candy or objects is **NOT PERMITTED**.

PLEASE NOTE

- **7th Street will be CLOSED to parade traffic**
- **Please use 6th Street South (one way) and 9th Street South (one way) to reach your assigned Parade Division. If you move an unmanned barricade, put it back once through.**

If you throw candy or any items, you will be removed from the parade immediately from the Police Department. **Handing out** candy is permitted.