

2023 Covington Lions Club



CHRISTMAS PARADE



Hosted by the Covington Lions Club and the City of Covington

Parade starts at 10 am on Saturday, December 2, 2023

REGISTER ONLINE AT www.covingtonalions.org/christmas-parade beginning September 5, 2023

*****After completing the registration form (Google forms) you will be directed back to the website to pay – your application is not completed until payment is received*****

Key Information:

- \$20 entry fee – after expenses any remaining proceeds will be given to local Newton County charities
- Participants CANNOT throw candy – all candy/favors MUST be handed to spectators
- 100 Entrant limit (floats, horse groups, walking groups, dance groups, bands, etc. – each is counted as an entrant)
- Entries will be cut off when the 100 Entrant limit is reached OR November 18, 2023 – whichever comes first
- Parade starts at 10 am
 - If you want to be judged, you must be lined up by 8:30 am
 - ALL entries must be lined up by 9:30 am EXCEPT for horses – see horse information below
- Legion Field will be available for final float assembly and horse staging area – the ice rink will be there so it gets crowded fast
- First-In First-Out lineup – lineup order in the parade is based on arrival. When you get to the entrance to the line-up area (intersection of Mill St and Newton Dr) with your completed float, we will put you in line on Newton Drive. No vehicles will be allowed onto Newton Drive at Mill St other than parade entries.

Parade Judging and Awards

***Please note that only entrants who check “Yes” for the judging question on the online registration will be judged**

Best All-Around Entry Plaque will be awarded to the best float based on holiday spirit, creativity, and construction.

1st and 2nd Place Ribbons will be awarded in the following Categories: Schools, Scouts, Churches, Civic Groups, Businesses, Other

*****Judging is subject to change depending on number of entrants and other factors**

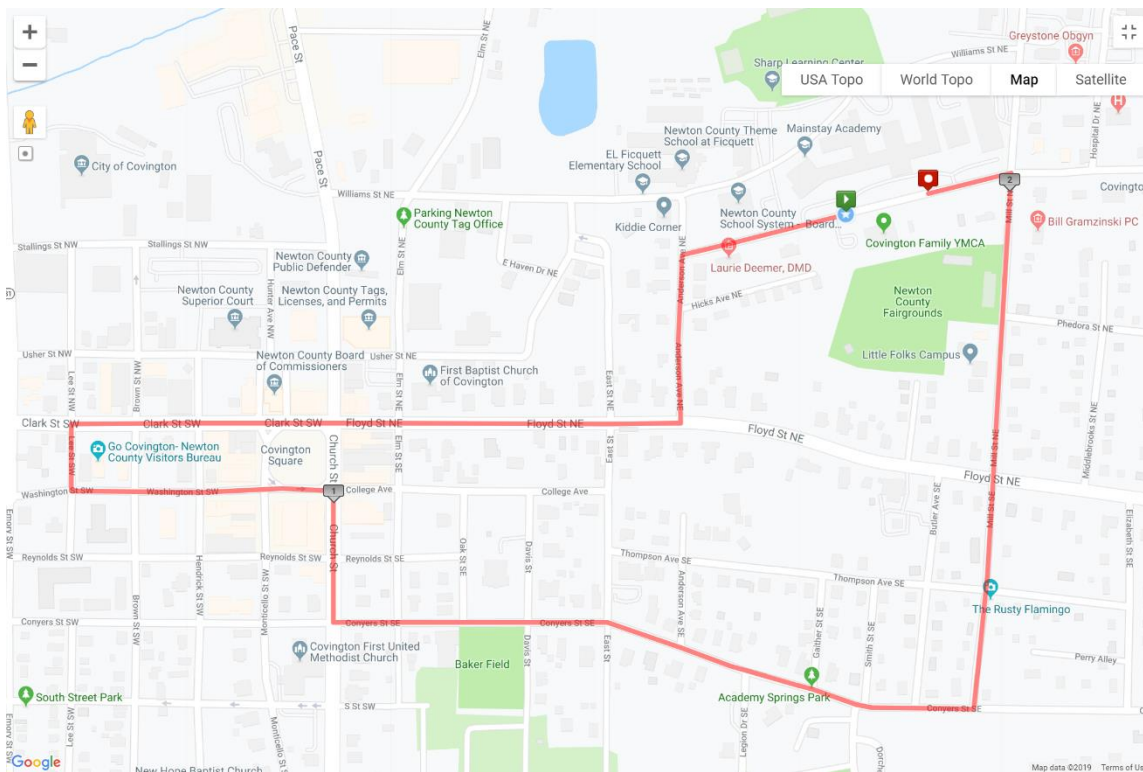
Horse Information

- Horses will gather on Legion Field, please enter from Mill Street.
- Horse groups will be judged starting at about 9:30, then will move up to Newton Drive at about 10:30. Since the horses go last, right after Santa, they do not need to assemble up on Newton Drive getting restless until it is closer for them to start. **This timing will depend on the number of other floats entered in the parade - these are just approximate times.**
- Horse groups MUST have a clean-up person following their group. Or each horse must wear a bun bag.
- Negative Coggins tests are required.
- Horse awards will be Best Rider Costume, Best Horse Costume, Most Holiday Spirit, and Judge’s Choice.

Rules and Regulations

To ensure a safe and successful parade, all participants must adhere to the following:

- 1) No one will be allowed to drive a vehicle in the parade without a valid Georgia Driver's License and must be over the age of 18. No tractor-trailers allowed.
- 2) All children riding on floats and vehicles must be accompanied by a minimum of two adults. Safety is of the utmost importance so have plenty of supervision for your group's participants.
- 3) No particular theme this year but you must have Christmas/Holiday decorations. Decorate your entry – a wreath on the grill of your car isn't going to cut it.
- 4) Participants who act inappropriately or use language or music that is deemed offensive by the organizers (Covington Lions Club and/or the City of Covington) may be removed from the parade.
- 5) All entries must be lined up and in position as directed by the organizers no later than 9:30 am. NOTE: **Entries wishing to be judged must indicate this on their online application and must be ready by 8:30 am.** Parade begins at 10:00 am.
- 6) **ONE** decorated float with a total maximum length of 40 feet (i.e. truck plus trailer) is allowed per entry.
- 7) Candy **cannot** be thrown from floats. Walkers through the parade route can pass candy or favors. Be Careful! No getting on and off floats through the parade.
- 8) Drivers of all vehicles will adhere to parade organizers' instructions at all times and will follow the directions of the parade route, maintaining a safe distance between vehicles.
- 9) Participants are to have an easily read banner with the group's name on the right side of the vehicle. A parade number will be issued at lineup.
- 10) All animals must be on a leash or rein at all times. Horses must wear diaper/bun bags or have a walker to clean up after them.
- 11) There is to be only **one** Santa in the parade. He is the guest of the Covington Lions Club and the City of Covington.
- 12) Distribution of handbills, pamphlets, and other literature is prohibited. This is a litter free event.
- 13) Participants failing to adhere to these rules may be removed from the parade.
- 14) **Just because your group might be finished with the parade, there might be plenty of other groups still on the parade route. Follow all traffic directions from the Lions Club members and the Covington Police when exiting the area. It will be crowded, and it may take a while to get out.**



Parade Route moves west on Newton Drive, left on Anderson St., right on Floyd/Clark through the square, left on Lee St., left on Washington/College, right on Church St., left on Conyers St., left on Mill back to Newton Dr. Follow all Police or Lions Club members directions regarding traffic flow and road closings.