



# Parade Safety Tip's



## Arrival

- Please arrive at or before the requested time of the organizer. The Parade will roll on time with or without all of the floats. This will ensure plenty of time to inspect floats and trailers.

## Drivers

- All drivers must be at least 18 years of age or older and must have a valid driver's license, including ALL ATVS (side by sides, 4 wheelers, and all other recreational vehicles).
- Float drivers should have a valid driver's license for the vehicle being driven (refer to your state's laws on vehicle weight and class).
- Driving while under the influence of drugs or intoxicants is prohibited.
- For the safety of float riders, the driver must minimize abrupt starts and stops.
- Floats decorations should be designed to allow the driver 180 degrees clear vision to the front and sides of the float or tow unit. If this is not possible, a spotter should be used both inside the vehicle as well as outside.
- Drivers should maintain a maximum distance of 30 feet and a minimum distance of one car length between floats and other participants not a part of their group. Not keeping pace with the group or following too close might cause accidents behind you or encourage people to cross in front of your vehicle due to the large gap in space.
- The driver must also obey all local and state laws. Use of a cell phone or electronic device while operating a motor vehicle is strictly prohibited in order to remain alert at all times.
- No items, souvenirs, candy or other types of "throws" will be thrown from the cabs of trucks used to pull floats.
- Drivers should pay close attention to the route and not the crowd. Children can suddenly run into the path of the float without being seen.

## Speed

- Towed and self-propelled floats should be capable of achieving a speed of 20 mph, but should travel at no more than 10 mph when occupied or when traveling on the parade route.

## Towing Safety

- When towing a float, chains should be attached to the trailer and to the hitch of the tow vehicle to prevent the trailer from detaching (i.e. a "runaway trailer").

## Parade Ordinance

See attached Lake Charles City Ordinance for Parades

If you have any questions about float safety, please call our office at 337-491-8737.