



Fourth of July Parade Application and FAQs

The theme for the 4th of July Parade - Cheers to 250 years!

The 4th of July Parade will be held on Saturday, July 4th at 10:30 a.m. (depending on the ferry). We ask that All floats/entries be decorated to reflect the spirit of Independence Day and/or this year's theme. All applications must be submitted by email to: becki@sanjuanisland.org or brought to the San Juan Island Chamber of Commerce, 165 1st St S.

Important Date to Remember: **June 24, 2026** is the last day to submit parade applications and description changes.

PARADE AWARDS:

We value the uniqueness of our community. It is our community, our unique history and our culture that visitors come to San Juan Island to experience. We challenge each parade applicant to think about how they can amp it up and engage with the crowd.

-How can you innovate, create and tell your story?

-Remember, our community consists of people of all ages and cultures

- how will your parade entry speak to them all?

To honor your work, this year we will be giving awards in the following categories:

- \$600 Best use of **THEME** - Float
- \$400 Best use of **THEME** - Non-Float
- \$300 Best use of **THEME** - Children/Youth
- \$300 Judges Special Choice
- \$200 In honor of plastic free Salish Sea->float that has reused the most plastic on their entry
- \$200 Best Animal/Animal Group
- \$100 Best Vehicle

CATEGORIES & APPLICATION FEES

SAFETY IS ALWAYS A PRIORITY DURING THE PARADE:

It is mandatory that each parade entrant identify a safety monitor who will be required to walk alongside the entry and help keep the pace of the parade and ensure the safety of spectators. Safety monitors must be 18 years of age or older. For larger entries we suggest 2 safety monitors. This position will be the main contact person for your entry, who is expected to communicate the parade information to your entry participants and to supervise the smooth and efficient operation of the parade from the staging/lineup area, through the parade route. Know the parade rules for your entry and ensure compliance. The entry's monitor is to be available to parade officials for relaying information to your entry in the staging area and along the parade route. Make sure the entry number, which is given at registration on the day of the event, is to be properly placed on your entry in the front right corner. Keep your entry together and organized in the staging area. Accompany your entry during the parade. Control entry speed on the parade route to maintain a 20-30 foot interval between your entry and units before and after. If a gap develops, safely close it up. Ensure the safety of your entry and entry participants. Be safe!

****A representative for your entry will be signing the liability waiver for your group.

CONSTRUCTION AND SAFETY

All entries must be constructed in a manner that ensures they are safe to operate and will not present a safety concern to other participants and spectators. The Parade Committee may remove an entry for safety considerations at any time including, but not limited to, during the staging of floats.

OPERATION:

Only persons with valid driver's licenses are permitted to operate or assist in the operation of motorized vehicles. All non-motorized entries (foot traffic, bikes, wagons, etc.) must be under control at all times and able to keep up with the pace of the parade. **Weaving, swerving and irresponsible driving are strictly prohibited.**

SAFETY REGULATIONS:

1. All motorized vehicles must have working brakes. Brake checks must be administered prior to the parade start.
2. Nothing may be thrown from the entries. Candy and flags are acceptable to be handed out, **just not thrown. No paper or advertisements are to be handed out.**
3. Alcohol is strictly prohibited on all entries.
4. Participants are to be respectful of spectators.
5. Children must be supervised by an adult at all times.
6. If your float/entry includes animals, you must make arrangements to clean up all animal droppings as you proceed along the parade route. Droppings left on the road are a hazard for following floats/entries. Failure to do so will result in expulsion from this year's parade and future parades.

DIMENSIONS & DESCRIPTIONS:

Dimensions and a description of your entry, including how it relates to the 4th of July Parade Spirit and Theme must be included with the application. The announcer's scripts will be what you write! Include your entry's total combined length of all vehicles (including the appropriate spacing between vehicles) so we can allow the appropriate space for the pre-parade line-up of your entry.

SIGNAGE: All entries must be identified (organization, individual, etc.) with a banner or sign. The name on the sign must be the same as the name provided on the application. Signs with your entry number will be provided when your group leader registers on the morning of the 4th.

AMERICAN FLAGS: we will honor the American Flag per the Flag Code of the United States.

The Flag Code Title 4, United States Code, Chapter 1 <https://governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2023-05/flagcode.pdf>

AND FINALLY: Please no obscene, vulgar, or defamatory signs which would be offensive to local community standards or otherwise considered to be inconsistent with the standards, themes, quality, or purposes of the San Juan Island Chamber of Commerce 4th of July Parade.

Registration will begin at the corner of Spring and Airport Center, in front of M&W at **9am.**

4th of July PARADE APPLICATION – MUST BE TURNED IN BY JUNE 24TH

PRIMARY CONTACT PERSON _____

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION (If Applicable) _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

CONTACT PHONE # _____

SECONDARY CONTACT PERSON _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

CONTACT PHONE # _____

The following information you provide will be used by the announcers. Name of entry (as you want it announced) and entry statement: attach if more room needed

Do you have any special requests related to line-up position? Please explain the reason for your request. Efforts will be made to accommodate requests, but there are no guarantees!

All applications must be submitted by email to: becki@sanjuanisland.org or dropped off at the San Juan Island Chamber of Commerce, at the corner of 1st and Sunshine Alley. All applications and fees are due June 24, 2026.

FEES

\$100 for groups & individuals to march in parade. Additional \$35 for a vehicle

\$200 for political entries

Fees can be paid online at: <https://sanjuanisland.org/payment/>

Number of Vehicles:

Types of Vehicles (motorized, electric, classic, vintage, motorcycles, over-sized, other, please specify):

Will your entry include animals such as horses, dogs? If yes, what kind and how many?

Questions? becki@sanjuanisland.org 360-298-0458

Important – Please Read and Sign:

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT: In Consideration of Applicant’s participation in any way in the event, THE UNDERSIGNED, for herself/himself, his/her personal representatives, assigns, heirs, and administrators, acknowledges and agrees:

1. To waive, release and discharge the Town of Friday Harbor, the County of San Juan, and the San Juan Chamber of Commerce, and their agents, volunteers, elected officials and employees, of and from any and all claims, demands, costs, liability and causes of action whatsoever that may arise as a result of participation in the Parade, including but not limited to, any claims, causes of action, liability, damages, demands and costs related to injury or death to any of the Applicant’s person or property, whether caused by the negligence of the releasees or otherwise.
2. To indemnify and hold harmless the Town of Friday Harbor, the County of San Juan, and the San Juan Island Chamber of Commerce, and their agents, volunteers, elected officials and employees from and against all losses, costs, damages, expense, and liability caused by an accident or other occurrence in bodily injury, including death, sickness and disease to any persons, or damage or destruction to property, real or personal, arising directly or indirectly from operations, products or services rendered at the July 4th Parade, whether caused by the negligence of the releasees or otherwise.
3. To make no claims in tort or other law against the San Juan Island Chamber of Commerce, or the Town of Friday Harbor, for any act, whether intentional or negligent, on the part of any person or object either prior, during or after the parade. Applicant further agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the San Juan Island Chamber of Commerce, the Town of Friday Harbor, and the County of San Juan from any act committed prior, during or after the parade on the part of the Applicant, which may cause harm to another's person or property. This waiver and release shall inure to the benefit of Town, County and Chamber and shall bind Applicant along with its employees, heirs, legal representatives, assigns and successors in interest of the Applicant or any member thereof.

Applicant further expressly agrees that the foregoing release, waiver, and indemnity agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the State of Washington and that if any portion hereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

I, the undersigned, HAVE READ AND VOLUNTARILY SIGN THIS RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT and acknowledge that no oral representations, statements or inducements apart from the foregoing written agreement are relied upon. I have read and agree to abide by all Rules and Regulations set forth in this Parade application. By signing below, I agree to consider this application a commitment and realize that no refunds will be made for cancellations after June 30, 2026.

Signature _____ Date _____

Responsible party representing entry

_____ Date _____

San Juan Island Executive Director

Mail to: San Juan Island Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 98, Friday Harbor, WA 98250

Or deliver to: The San Juan Island Chamber of Commerce Office, 165 1st Street S..

[Office only--Agreement signed, dated and attached check he