

**WEST VIRGINIA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
GRAND FEATURE PARADE FLOAT
RULES AND GENERAL INFORMATION**

The float must be completely decorated. All floats must include skirting or fringe on the bottom. Every float must have constructed sides.

Craftsmanship on every float must produce a neat decorative and creative effect.

Any group or individual can build or obtain a float from any source and enter it in the West Virginia Strawberry Festival Grand Feature Parade.

The parade float application for competitive entries must be completed and returned to the Parade Committee by no later than April 1st. Acceptance reply will be issued as soon as the float application is approved.

NO POLITICAL or CONTROVERISAL issues may be represented or alluded to in any way on any float.

NO INDIVIDUAL RUNNING FOR POLITICAL OFFICE MAY RIDE OR BE REPRESENTED IN ANY WAY ON A FLOAT.

All vehicles used for pulling of floats MUST have prior approval, if not provided by the WV Strawberry Festival Grand Feature Parade Committee.

All floats MUST be at judging location by 10:00 AM on Parade Day. Once at this location the drivers must remain with the float at all times and be ready to move float to parade line-up after judging.

All float entrants must obey the instructions of the Parade Officials in order to provide even movement of the Parade as a whole. These Officials will be properly identified and have authority to disqualify or eject entrants from the Parade.

A distance of 40 to 60 feet must be maintained between any two entries.

Floats MUST NOT STOP during the parade unless the entire position has come to a halt.

In case of mechanical difficulties the float must be moved to the side and out of the Parade flow as quickly as possible to prevent gaps in the Parade.

Float riders must remain on the float throughout the entire parade. The Parade Committee MUST approve any exceptions.

Failure to comply with the rules and regulations may result in competitive disqualification, ejection from the parade and removal from future invitation.

FLOAT DIMENSIONS:

Maximum Length 40 ft. (excluding vehicle)

Maximum Width 12 ft.

Maximum Height 14 ft.

The parade committee must approve any exceptions.

SAFETY:

Any float considered unsafe will not be allowed in the line-up. Decorative material **MUST** be fire retardant. Holding a sample of the material in the vertical position and placing the flame of a match one-half inch below determine satisfactory flame proofing. If the material ignites, it must extinguish itself when the flame is removed. **AS A RULE, TISSUES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTABLE** for the Grand Feature Parade.

Due to crowd control and safety: **NO ITEMS ARE TO BE THROWN OR DISTRIBUTED FROM THE MOVING FLOAT OR VEHICLE PULLING THEM, NO EXCEPTIONS.**

The use of alcoholic beverages by drivers as well as riders' before and during the Parade is **PROHIBITED**.

Safety devices must be incorporated into the float for each rider, whether seated or standing.

TOWING VEHICLES:

Vehicles must pull floats no larger than a pick-up truck. Automobiles or small pick-up trucks are preferred. **NO FOUR WHEELERS WILL BE ALLOWED TO PULL A FLOAT.** The vehicle pulling the float should be inconspicuous as possible. No signs are to be placed on the towing vehicle. No display is to be included on the towing vehicle and if a pick-up truck is used, no persons or animals are to ride in the bed of the truck. (any expectations must meet prior approval).

If the Festival is requested to provide a pulling vehicle:

- A) The request must be made on the Parade Application and be received May 1st
- B) The Parade Committee will assign pulling vehicles to floats.

JUDGING:

All float riders must be in costume and on the float by the time the parade starts at 1:00 PM. They need not be present for judging. **FLOATS WILL NOT BE JUDGED DURING THE GRAND FEATURE PARADE.**

Impartial judges who work independently will judge floats. The judges' decisions are final. The official list of awards will be completed for announcement on TV during the Parade.

PARADE ADJUDICATION STANDARDS:

Originality	20 points
Use of Color	15 points
Spectacular Appeal	30 points
Design Excellence	20 points
Use of Theme	15 points

All winning floats will receive special edition WV Strawberry Festival Plaques. The Sweepstakes Winner will also receive a plaque.

COMPETITIVE CATEGORIES:

<u>Sweepstakes Award:</u>	Presented to float with overall highest total points.
<u>Theme Award:</u>	Presented to float best displaying Festival Theme
<u>Fairs / Festivals:</u>	First, second and third place awards
<u>Professional Floats:</u>	First, second and third place awards
<u>Amateur Floats:</u>	First, second and third place awards

WEST VIRGINIA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
GRAND FEATURE PARADE

RULES AND GENERAL INFORMATION FOR ENTRIES

1. Only Individuals holding a Political Office will be invited to participate in the Parades. But will not be allowed to pass out information regarding re-election. Only Information in regards to the office that they hold.
2. No Individual running for Political Office (that they do not already hold) will ride or be represented in any way (float or vehicle).
3. Entry of vehicles for Businesses ;
 - a). Fee for **One** vehicle with representatives of the Business will be \$500.00
 - This allows passing out of information (with board approval)
 - Passing out of misc. goodies by walking (No throwing from vehicle or float)
 - Banner (at their cost) with business providing their own carriers
4. No children under the age of 8 are permitted to march in the Grand Feature Parade.
5. No Throwing of objects (candy, Frisbees, etc.) from moving vehicle or floats. Groups may walk and hand objects out.
6. **NO STOPPING** is allowed at any time during the Parade. This is prohibited and may cause possible disqualification.
7. Groups are to provide a copy of your general liability insurance.
8. All visiting Royalty are invited to ride on the WVSF Visiting Royalty Float.
Unless the festival they represent enters a float. No individual vehicles are allowed.
9. Persons needing a car for the parade must provide their own. No trucks allowed.
10. Entry for the Grand Feature Parade will by invitation only. Applications will be considered on the basis of entertainment value. The WV Strawberry Festival Board of Directors reserves the right to reject any application that does not fit the needs of the Parade.