

Parade Rules & Information

- Parade lineup & check in will begin at 12:00 pm, Abilene High School parking lot, on July 28th, 2026. You **MUST** check in to receive your number to be announced.
- All entries that want to be judged must be in their position @ 2:30 pm when judging begins.
- Please keep at least one attendant with your entry at all times, as judging will take place prior to the parade's start.
- Bathroom facilities can be found only at the Vo-Ag building near the tennis courts at the High School, United Methodist Church at 7th and Cedar and the First Christian Church at 7th and Buckeye.
- We ask that you not drink alcohol during the course of your parade experience. No alcohol will be permitted in the parade.
- At 3:45 p.m. the front units will begin to move towards Buckeye. Subsequent units will then move accordingly up the route to the prepare for the beginning of the parade at 4:00 p.m.
- If you are needing special accommodations for walkers and/or livestock – please coordinate with Kylie Lee or Kayleigh Ferris prior to parade day.
- At 7th & Buckeye, units will wait to move onto the parade route. The Parade Coordinator will hold each unit on 7th street until the unit in front of them has gone at least 25 ft. This allows you adequate time to react to slowdowns in the parade and increases the safety of viewers as well as offers you maximum exposure for your entry.
- **PLEASE DO NOT THROW CANDY OR OTHER ITEMS UNTIL YOU ARE AT 7TH AND BUCKEYE.**
- Walkers should accompany your unit to distribute treats or goods by walking along with your unit, as close to the viewers as possible. Please do not place children or viewers in danger by throwing materials close to the moving unit. We ask that all candy be packaged and/or in the original wrapper for the health and safety of consumption.
- **IF THROWING CANDY OR OTHER ITEMS FROM A VEHICLE, PLEASE THROW IT ALL THE WAY TO THE CURB. Please do not throw items, such as bouncing balls, that children may chase into oncoming traffic.** Our main concern is the safety of those watching and participating in the parade event.
- Parade officials will be moving along the route to keep viewers off the streets as much as possible to give you the maximum amount of space to safely move along the route.
- If your vehicle breaks down or begins to have problems, please try to move onto a side street, if at all possible, or move to the right side of the street, so that other units may pass. Hopefully, parade officials will be near you to offer assistance, should you need it. Horse units that are experiencing trouble should likewise, do all they can to safely move their animals off the parade route.
- The parade route officially starts at 7th & Buckeye, progressing south to 3rd St, where you will turn right and go west on 3rd St. Units that have permission and are required to bring their units to the fairgrounds or to the rodeo may turn right onto Rogers St. Other units should continue west to the official release point at 3rd and Washington.
- If you want to park and attend the Central Kansas Free Fair please turn north on Washington. Cars and pickup trucks without trailers can find parking near the carnival by turning right on 8th St and right into the parking lot. Units pulling trailers that need to be parked for the duration of your visit should look for the sign that says "Trailer Parking" on the west side of Washington near 9th St.
- ***We hope that you enjoy your experience. We thank you for participating in this community event. Together we can continue to make the parade a strong event in our community.***