



STEWARTVILLE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PO Box 52, Stewartville, MN 55976 | 507-533-6006 | admin@stewartvillechamber.com

Greetings from the Stewartville Summerfest July 4th Parade Committee!

Warm weather and summertime fun are right around the corner! We hope you will join us for this year's Stewartville Summerfest July 4th Parade. **The parade will take place Monday, July 4, 2024, starting at 6:30 pm.** Attached is the Parade Waiver form.

We have a great tradition of being one of the biggest and best parades in the area and draw over 6,000 excited viewers. This town festival, organized by the Stewartville Area Chamber of Commerce, is an incredible opportunity for you to advertise, have fun, and entertain thousands of people! Following is our fee structure for the parade:

Stewartville Chamber Members: *FREE

Non-Chamber Businesses: *\$100

Individual Politicians: *\$100 (per person, not political party)

Non-Profits/Organizations: *FREE **any advertising on your entry will be a \$200 charge payable the day of the parade, collected by a parade committee member or forfeiture of your entry**

If you have an interest in becoming a Stewartville Chamber Member, information is included with this mailing.

Please return your parade waiver by June 21. *Any parade waivers received between June 21 – July 1 will be charged \$200, no exceptions. No parade waivers/entries will be accepted after July 1, 2024. There will be NO parade entries accepted on July 4. Your business/organization/entity name must match our records to be allowed into the parade line up. You **MUST** have your paperwork that will be emailed or mailed to you with your parade line up number to be allowed into the parade line-up staging area. All unpaid/open invoices with the Stewartville Area Chamber of Commerce must be paid in full prior to June 21, 2024. Thank you for helping us create an organized, safe, and fantastic parade! Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

As in the past we would like to remind you of a few guidelines for you to follow:

- ***The parade committee reserves the right to accept or decline applications.***
- **Please do not hand out STICKERS.** Stickers have become a problem following the parade. We do not have the resources to clean up after the sticker litter mess. We will not allow parade entries handing out stickers. They will be pulled from the parade line-up.
- **A \$100.00 fee for unclean unit locations.** We have implemented this fee due to issues raised by other businesses/units in recent years. Please assist us with keeping school grounds and city clean.
- **Please throw candy only on straight stretches & far enough into the crowds so small children do not run into the streets. Do not allow young children to throw candy. They cannot throw it to the curb! Throw only small candy and do not throw it to reach the people in the back due to injury to people in the front! Throw candy to the curb on the street, NOT at people.**

Parade Letter Continued....

- **ICE MUST NOT BE DUMPED or THROWN** during the parade. No water or ice - we have animals and small children who could become hurt.
- **Please do not throw coins** in the parade, again, this could be dangerous for animals and small children.
- **NO water apparatuses or water balloons. Your unit will be pulled immediately without a warning.**
- If you have walkers, they either must keep up with your unit or the unit will have to continue without them. We are having concerns with too large of gaps in between units.
- If you have children with your unit, you need to have an adult(s) on the unit as well. You are responsible for anyone on your unit. We would encourage you to not allow young children to throw candy or lean over the side of unit.
- **NO** alcoholic consumption allowed on any parade unit - in the lineup or on parade route.
- All floats please provide your own approved signage. Non-profit units will not be able to advertise "for-profit" businesses without paying the \$200 fee (the fee prior to June 21st was \$100). Payment is expected prior to line up otherwise unit will be turned away or asked to take down print and banner materials advertising businesses that have not paid the registration fee.
- Political units are allowed one candidate or elected official per unit – prior to June 21st the fee was \$100 per individual candidate/elected official. Any time after June 21st, each candidate/elected official will be charged \$200. The payment will be expected the day of the parade if each candidate is not previously registered, or they will not be able to walk with their print and banner materials.

We are again asking all horse units, to provide their own "pooper scooper" to go along with your unit. We also would like to ask you to clean up your area of staging before leaving. If left unclean, there will be a \$100.00 fee. Again, we have had issues in the past and have had to implement this fee. If you have a young colt with you, they **MUST** be tied to the mare or wagon NOT walking on its own. We appreciate everyone's participation and are asking for general courtesy.

While the Stewartville Chamber of Commerce takes every precaution to make this a fun, safe and fabulous event, we assume no liability or responsibility for the actions and safety of your unit and/or its members. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Gwen at the Chamber office at 507-533-6006. We look forward to seeing you on July 4th.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Gwen Ravenhorst, Administrator
Myrna Welter, Membership Director
Melissa Leuning, Parade Chairperson
Stewartville Area Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 52
Stewartville, MN 55976
507-533-6006
admin@stewartvillechamber.com

Enclosure