



Important Information for Elgin's 4th of July Parade

Please read this information carefully and be sure to share it with everyone in your group.

STAGING ASSIGNMENT: Grove D

PARADE START/END TIMES & LOCATIONS

The parade steps off **Friday July 4th at 9AM** at Slade and Douglas Avenue. **Everyone must check-in prior to 8AM, check in begins at 7AM.**

Please see the attached map for details including shuttle bus, staging, restrooms, parking locations and disbandment routes.

The Fourth of July parade will go on in light rain, but in the event of severe or dangerous weather the parade will be canceled. City staff will make a judgement call no later than 7:00 a.m. on July 4th if the weather is looking questionable. An email will be sent to the group's registration email as soon as possible, and the City will also post an update to the City of Elgin Facebook page.

General Important Information

Please be courteous of our neighbors who so graciously partner with us to put on the parade in their neighborhood, both in the staging area and along the parade route.

This includes but is not limited to:

- Picking up any trash you and your group may create.
- Keeping music at a reasonable volume while in the staging area.
- Staying off of the lawns of the residents.
- **Reminder that the neighbors' houses are not public restrooms, there are port-o-lets along the staging area for your use. Please ask the block captains for directions to the nearest one.**

PARKING & SHUTTLE SERVICE

Many parade participants and spectators like to park in the downtown area near the end of the parade route. Parking is available in the free parking decks ([please see map for details](#)).

Shuttle service for parade participants is available in the surface lot at 200 N. Grove Avenue, Elgin, IL 60120 (former Gail Borden Library site) north of the Hemmens. This service allows participants to either be dropped off near their staging position or to park near downtown. **The shuttle service is not for spectators. The shuttle will start running at 7:00AM. The last shuttle pick-up will be at 8:10AM.**

CHECK-IN PROCESS & PARADE LINE-UP

Only vehicles that are registered to be in the parade and have all their insurance information submitted will be allowed into the staging area. **If a vehicle shows up with a group that was not listed on the group's application, it will NOT be admitted into the staging area.**

All groups with a vehicle in the parade must have a group representative check-in at TWO places.

Check-in Point #1: With the gate Captain in a parade t-shirt with the parade logo on it. There are three staging areas (BROOK, GROVE, or DOUGLAS) and two entry gates (Brooke and Grove).

- **BROOK ENTRY GATE** - 320 Brook Street, Elgin, IL 60120
- **GROVE ENTRY GATE** - 345 N. Grove Avenue, Elgin, IL 60120
- **DOUGLAS GATE** - 150 River Bluff Blvd, Elgin, IL 60120

Important Information

- **Entry gates will open for check-in at 7:00 AM and close at 8:00 AM.**
- To be granted access to the staging area, your group must be "parade ready" – meaning your vehicle, float, banners, people etc. are decorated and ready to go.
- If you are not "parade ready" the gate volunteers will direct you to the "pre-staging area" in the library parking lot to finish getting ready.
- When you are ready, you may then proceed to your designated block.
- If you are an **all walker group** (no vehicles), you do not need to check-in at the entry gate. You may proceed directly to your assigned block to check-in with your block captain in the parade t-shirt.
- Parade walkers may be dropped off at either of the gates or the shuttles to get to their assigned locations.

Check-in Point #2: With the Block Captain in a Elgin vest.

- **Staging is done by assigned BLOCKS (example: Brook A or Grove B) rather than individually assigned spaces.**

Each block's line-up will be determined by the discretion of the block captain, this is generally done on a first come first serve basis. The City and block captains reserve the right to adjust the order within your assigned blocks.

Vehicles will be staged along one side of the street facing north. If necessary, block captains may stage groups on both sides of the street.

We realize that there is a lot of waiting in the staging area before your group reaches the start of the parade route. It is not unusual for wait times in the block to exceed 1 hour or more. Please bring activities, snacks, lots of water, sunscreen, etc. to keep your group members occupied, fed, hydrated, and protected.

In case of an emergency, first call 911 and then notify your Block Captain of the problem.

If you have any questions about the staging process or anything else related to the parade prior to July 4th, please contact 311 or e-mail peter.tomeczko@elginil.gov.

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE 2024 CITY OF ELGIN 4TH OF JULY
PARADE**

