



City of East Ridge

1517 Tombras Avenue
East Ridge, Tennessee 37412
(423)867-7711 • www.eastridgetn.gov

East Ridge Parks and Rec
Shawwna Skiles

Time to Make Plans for the 2026 East Ridge Christmas Parade Education Letter

The City of East Ridge is currently planning our annual Christmas Parade and it will be held on **Saturday, November 21, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.** We invite each school to participate by entering a float or other entry. Educational group floats will be judged for originality and creativity; cash prizes will be awarded for:

First place - \$300.00
Second Place - \$200.00
Third Place - \$100.00

Cash awards apply to educational groups only, trophies are awarded for non-educational floats.

We request each float limit the number of walkers to ten; additional participants may ride on the float. The float does not have to be elaborate; you may decorate a small truck or a vehicle as large as a flatbed truck/trailer. Because this will be an evening parade, entries should have lights.

If the parade is postponed due to weather, the makeup date will be the following day, Sunday, November 22, 2026 at 3:30pm. If the weather is still an issue on the makeup date, the parade will then be canceled.

If you have any questions regarding the parade, please contact Shawwna Skiles at (423) 260-9190 or email her sskiles@eastridgetn.gov.

Please return the enclosed registration form before Thursday **November 5, 2026**, by mail or email to:

City of East Ridge
ATTN: Christmas Parade/Shawwna Skiles
323 Camp Jordan Park Way
East Ridge, TN 37412

- **Entry forms received after Thursday, November 5, 2026, will NOT be accepted for entry.**
- **Mandatory Parade Meeting will be Thursday, November 19th, 2026 at 6:00pm located at 323 Camp Jordan Arena 323 Camp Jordan Park Way, East Ridge Tn 37412.**
- **If you are unable to attend, please send a representative of your group to pick up your packet and get important parade day info.**

Brian Williams
Mayor

David Tyler
Vice Mayor

Jacky Cagle
Councilmember

Andrea Witt
Councilmember

Jeff Ezell
Councilmember

Brian Koral
City Manager

EAST RIDGE CHRISTMAS PARADE 2026

REGISTRATION FORM
NOVEMBER 21, 2026 6:30 PM
(LINEUP - 3:45 PM)

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name of Group/Entry _____

Contact Name _____

Mailing Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Contact Info - Phone _____ Cell _____ Email _____

Number of Floats and/or Vehicles in Parade Lineup: _____ Total Number of People/Walkers: _____

Dimensions of *each* float/vehicle/cart/trailer—Length _____ Width _____ Height _____

Please list additional entry dimensions for each float and/or vehicle with descriptions below;

Does your entry include a commercial vehicle? (examples: Semi, Flatbed or Wrecker Rollback) Yes _____ No _____

Will your entry play music? _____ LIVE _____ RECORDED _____

Below, please include information you wish announced as you pass the Parade Review Stand.

I certify that I have read all the rules for the City of East Ridge Christmas Parade and agree to abide by them. My signature indicates my understanding of these rules and agreement to participate in this event. All members of my organization taking part in this event have been notified of the rules. In consideration of the acceptance of our entry, the organization/civic group/parade participant named herein, hereby indemnify and hold harmless the City of East Ridge, and/or their officers and employees, from any claim or demand for personal injury, death or damages which may arise through or in connection with the sponsor's and/or parade participants participation in the City of East Ridge Christmas Parade.

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO:

**Camp Jordan Arena
Attn: Shawna Skiles
323 Camp Jordan Park Way
East Ridge, TN 37412**

**Shawna Skiles
FAX (423) 867-7340
(423) 490-0078
sskiles@eastridgetn.gov**

Entry forms received after Thursday, November 5, 2025 will NOT be accepted for entry.

Mandatory Parade Meeting will be Thursday, November 19 at 6:00pm at the Camp Jordan Arena.

If you are unable to attend, please send a representative of your group to pick up your packet and get important parade day info.



EAST RIDGE CHRISTMAS PARADE 2026 RULES & REGULATIONS

The date of parade will be Saturday, November 21, 2026. The parade will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.; line up will begin at 3:45 p.m. We will start to close off Germantown Rd at 3:30pm. Parade route is on Ringgold Road, lineup will be on Germantown Rd, from the Ringgold Rd/Germantown Rd. intersection north on Germantown to South Terrace. The parade route runs from Ringgold Road at Germantown to Ringgold Road at Tombras Avenue. All parade participants should continue on Tombras Avenue to East Ridge City Hall to disperse/dismantle at that location unless otherwise directed. Rain date will be the following day, Sunday, November 22, at 3:30pm.

PARADE REGULATIONS

NO OBJECTS shall be thrown to parade spectators **INCLUDING CANDY** from any entry in the parade. **VIOLATORS WILL BE IMMEDIATELY EJECTED AND WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE PARADES.** Candy may only be handed/tossed out by walkers next to the curb/sidewalk. **ABSOLUTELY NO THROWING OF CANDY FROM A VEHICLE IN THE PARADE.**

- No fireworks or discharge of firearms are allowed.
- No individual or unit will be allowed to participate in the parade without the prior approval of the City of East Ridge.
- All entries will line up on Germantown Road unless prior authorization is received from the Parks and Rec Director.
- Entries must be in their assigned lineup area NO LATER THAN 5:45PM. If not you will be turned away.
- Candidates in political campaigns may **not** participate in the parade (does not apply to elected officials and office holders).
- **NO Alcohol ALLOWED and NO Tobacco use during parade route procession.**
- Mechanical equipment must be in sound working condition and must carry one or more portable emergency fire extinguishers and must be covered by adequate liability insurance.
- Units may contain no element higher than 13 feet, to provide clearance of overhead wires and traffic lights.
- The parade will move at the rate of approximately 2.5 mph. No unit incapable of maintaining that pace for the duration of the parade will be included.
- Car club entries will be asked to double up in the parade depending on number of entries and length of parade.
- Security arrangements for the parade entries are the sole responsibility of the parade participant.
- Placement of the parade entries in the lineup is the responsibility of the City of East Ridge.
- Individuals and organizations in the parade are expected to perform courteously, in good taste, and with safety in mind at all times during the formation, execution, and dismissal of the parade. Officials shall remove any person or unit that in their sole discretion violates this regulation.
- All individuals and organizations participating in the parade are subject to the laws and regulations of the City of East Ridge. Failure to adhere to those laws and regulations or to obey the lawful command of an official empowered to give such command, will be cause for immediate removal from the parade and may be cause for arrest and/or fine.
- Parade officials assigned for that purpose will control the conduct and movement of the parade. Participants will obey the directions of the Parade Officials as they relate to the parade. Failure to do so will cause the offending individual or unit to be removed from the parade.
- All units must be identified so spectators and officials can easily see the name of each unit or its sponsor. Identification on floats must be on both sides, running almost the entire length of the float. All identification signs and banners must be displayed in such a way as to assure they can be seen.
- This is a night parade so lights should be included as part of the decorations.
- Decisions of the parade judges will be final. There will be no duplication of awards.
- Parade participants must use the FREE shuttle service running from East Ridge High School to Germantown Road between 3:30 PM and 5:30 PM, with drop-offs at each lineup section—no direct drop-offs on Germantown Road are allowed, buses will only depart when full, and late arrivals may be left behind.
- **Single car and classic car entries must** submit photos of the car along with application for approval. This does not apply to car clubs.
- **DO NOT STOP IN FRONT OF THE REVIEW STAND!** This interrupts the pace of the parade and produces large gaps in the parade procession. If you have dancers/walkers with your float. Make sure they keep moving so we can avoid the gaps and causing delays.
- To avoid confusion please do not include a "Santa" in your entry, he will be at the end of the parade.
- The parade will be postponed only in case of heavy rain. Call (423) 260-9190 by 3:00 pm on parade day to inquire of cancellation or postponement. There will be a voice message giving instructions if this should occur. Rainout date will be the following day (Sunday) at 3:30pm.

If you have any questions, please call:
Shawna Skiles
(423) 260-9190
Email: sskiles@eastridgetn.gov

Thank you in advance for your participation and we are looking forward to seeing you on Saturday, November 21st!

Attention Classic Car Entries!

In order to have an outstanding parade with high-quality entries, we have a rule for car entries. You **MUST** submit pictures of your car(s) in order to be accepted into the parade. These pictures must include:

- Front, both sides and rear of car (4 pictures)
Include make, model and year of car.

Those who do not submit photos **will not** be permitted to drive in the parade. This does not include organized car clubs.

Remember, there is to be no revving of engines or squealing of tires. This is a family event and we do not want to have any accidents that could jeopardize future parades.

Thank you for helping us make the East Ridge Christmas Parade a phenomenal success for all these many years.

Shawna Skiles
Parade Director

