

## *The City of Bastrop Presents*



## *2023 Lighted Christmas Parade*

*December 9, 2023 6pm-8pm*

*Historic Downtown Bastrop*

Bastrop's fanciful, fantastic, fun—and even famous—annual **Lost Pines Christmas Parade** will light up the night skies as it makes its way down Main Street on **Saturday, December 9th**.

If you were in on the fun last year, you know first-hand it's an experience not to be missed, or—if you were a participant—it's not too early to gear up for this year's fun. If you missed last year, we've got an experience that you, your family, and your friends will remember for a lifetime.

It's Bastrop's famous Lighted Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 9th, an absolute highpoint of the Lost Pines Christmas season. More than 100 entries—from fanciful floats to fire trucks, from Honey Bears to longhorns, from Santa's helpers to the man himself—will light up the Main Street night for this joyful holiday tradition, produced by the City of Bastrop.

With festive lights blazing and music in the air, this year's parade taps your vision—celebrating the message, magic, and memory of Christmas through your eyes: what Christmas means to you. Sugarplums and sparkles, sights and sounds, cherished moments of Christmas past, or bright hopes for the future - it's yours to express.

## **We are holding a spot just for you!**

As in the past there are no participation fees. **Please note the following changes for this year.**

\*You must bring your registration form with you the night of the parade. It must be signed and filled out before you get your number. There must be a 3 – 5 sentence narrative on your entry for the MC to read.

\* **There will be no space available at the High School to work on your float. Due to construction and limited space, your float/entry must be complete upon arrival and entry into the line up.**

\* **PLEASE NOTE – There is a new route this year. The parade will end at Emile and Water Streets, but you must keep moving to one of the designated areas, so the parade does not come to a standstill. You must keep moving. There will be officers there directing you to keep moving. Please make sure everyone on your float/entry knows that you must keep moving and cannot stop to unload. You must keep moving. **Unloading cannot be done on city streets, keep moving to allocated areas such as Convention Center or City Hall.****



**\* PLEASE NOTE – there will not be an area for staging at the High School.**

You will still come to the check-in and line up for the parade on the north side of **Bastrop High School**. Line-up will still be on a first come basis. Please bring a copy of your registration form. Be sure everyone involved in your entry has been informed of the logistics of the new route. Line-up assistants will direct you to the parade line up area.

- Bring a copy of your registration application with you.
- Only completed floats will be allowed in the parade line up area.
- **Dance Troupes or Walking Groups cannot stop to perform or solicit for funds.**

**Line-up and registration begin at 4 PM;** the parade begins to roll at 6 PM sharp! All that's missing to make this an extra special parade is your group—on foot, float, horseback, car, truck, carriage, flatbed, bike, trike, wagon, or scooter—and of course all the lights, sparkle, and imagination that you and your group can bring to the event.

## Lost Pines Christmas Lighted Parade

### 2023 PARADE RULES & REGULATIONS

1. **NO ARTICLES WHATSOEVER** (gum, candy, flyers, etc.) may be thrown, handed, or passed from any float or vehicle. Items may be handed to parade attendees by those walking the parade route but they must stay at least six feet away from the float for safety reasons. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**  
*\*Please note young children or individuals with health issues may not be able to complete the route on foot.*
2. **NO SANTAS.** Only one "Official Santa" will be in the parade. He will be provided by the City of Bastrop. Santa hats may be worn, but no parade participants are allowed to be dressed as Santa. Please make sure your float/vehicle **does not** include a 'live' Santa. Santa decorations (blow-ups, wooden cut-outs, etc.) are permitted.
3. Bring a copy of your parade registration form the night of the parade for line up. The parade line-up will be in the order that participants arrive at check-in. Floats must be "parade-ready" to receive their official number and line up. **THERE WILL NOT BE A PREP AREA THIS YEAR DUE TO CONSTRUCTION AND LIMITED SPACE. YOU MUST COME READY.**
4. The parade will begin promptly at dark around 6 PM, rain or shine.
5. Consumption of alcoholic beverages by drivers or any participants before or during the parade is expressly forbidden.
6. A licensed driver must drive all vehicles, trucks, or any type of motor vehicle. Small, motorized vehicles (mini-bikes, small tractors, go-carts, etc.) must be operated by a person age twelve or older.
7. Entries are expected to use **caution** during the parade. Drivers must not display any excessive acceleration and must be always in complete control of their float and its participants.
8. Riders shall not hang over the sides of the floats or vehicles. Riders may not get on or off the floats during the parade. Participants may exit their float only when they reach the disassembly area.
9. All floats and vehicles in the parade must continue to the end of the parade route as displayed in



this parade information packet and shall not block the flow of traffic for other participants during disbanding. **Once you turn left on Emile Street you must keep going. You cannot unload at this location. You must keep moving. These details should be shared with all participants in the Lost Pines Christmas Lighted Parade. No unloading on city streets. City Hall and Convention Center are available areas for unloading.**

10. The maximum height for any float, vehicle or other type of parade entry is *twelve feet*.
11. Due to parade pacing and sharp turns in parade route, **NO 18 WHEELERS/TRACTOR TRAILERS WILL BE ALLOWED.**
12. All parade entries must be **LIGHTED** with Christmas themed lights. *More lights = more better!*
13. **Any and all horses participating in the parade must have a negative Coggins Test presented to the parade committee along with the parade entry. All reports must be within date - no out of date forms will be accepted. Horses must be diapered, or you must have walkers behind each horse to clean up after your horses.**
14. **PARTICIPANTS CHOOSING TO DISREGARD THESE RULES MAY NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE.**
15. **Dance Troupes and Walking Groups cannot stop to perform or solicit funds. It is crucial you keep moving.**
16. **You will need to bring a copy of pages 6 and 7 to the parade line-up the night of the parade to register, obtain a number, and be put in the line up.**

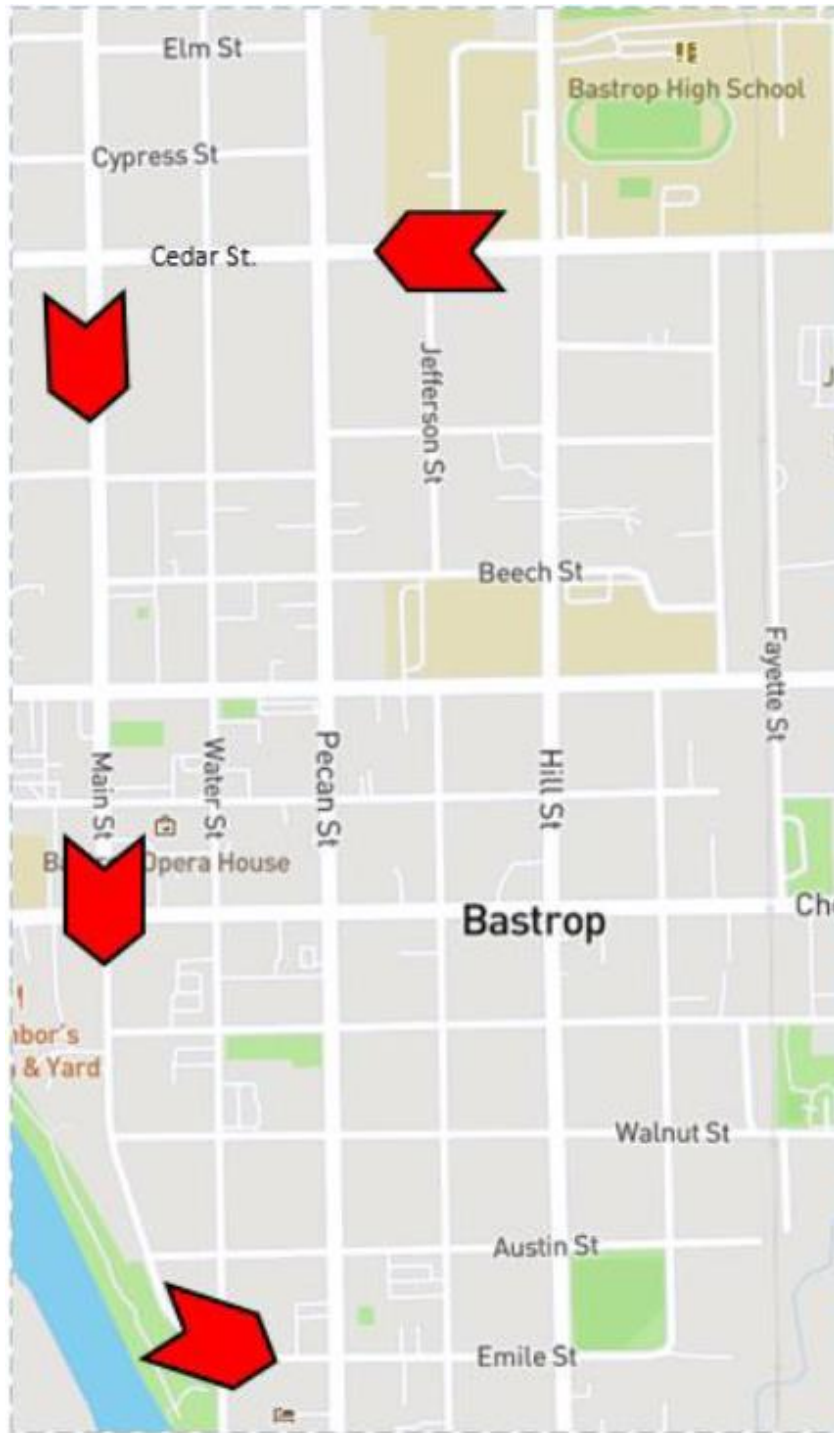
## An important note to our Parade Participants:

**THERE WILL NOT BE A STAGING AREA AT THE HIGH SCHOOL THIS YEAR. YOU MUST ARRIVE WITH YOUR FLOAT COMPLETED. LET RIDERS KNOW THAT THERE IS LIMITED/NO PARKING AVAILABLE AT THE HIGH SCHOOL FOR RIDERS/DROPOFFS. PARKING IS AVAILABLE AT THE CONVENTION CENTER AND IS A SHORT DISTANCE TO LINE-UP AREA.**

FLOATS: The conclusion of the parade shall be past the barricades/cones on Emile Street. From that point, all floats will be directed East along Emile Street to keep the parade entries moving. You cannot stop along streets to unload. It is vital that you keep moving, and you can continue to City Hall or Convention Center if you must unload, so the parade does not stall.

**Keep in mind when planning your float that Riders may not get off or on floats during the parade. Again, please remember that not everyone will be able to complete the route on foot, especially young children.** Stay on your float until you reach your disassembly point. Walkers need to stay at least 6 feet from the float during the parade. Please follow and share these guidelines with everyone involved in your float and SHARE THE MAP!





## Parade Route

Bastrop High to  
Cedar Street

Cedar Street to  
Main Street

Main Street to  
Emile Street

Turn Left on  
Emile Street

DO NOT STOP  
ALONG CITY  
STREETS TO  
UNLOAD!



# Lost Pines Christmas Lighted Parade

## 2023 JUDGING INFORMATION

The Annual Lost Pines Christmas Lighted Parade is a judged event. This year winners will be selected in the following categories:

- **Overall Best Lost Pines Christmas Entry – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place**
- **Best Pedestrian Group**

*\*All marching or walking groups are eligible. Includes bikes and horses.*

- **Best Car Group**
- **Best Emergency Vehicle Decoration**

*\*All vehicles affiliated with law enforcement, fire departments, EMS, etc. are eligible*

- **Most Beautiful Float**
- **Most Original Entry**
- **Best Marching Band**
- **Best Group - 15 or more**
- **Best Cyclist 1 – 4 Wheels**
- **Reason for the Season**

Judging occurs along the parade route so be sure that your Parade Registration Form is filled out completely including email address, phone, and description for the announcers. Please make sure that the handwriting is legible. **Winners will be presented certificates at a future Council meeting.**

When you line up, you will be given an entry number, and you will be instructed as to the posting location of your number. No entry numbers will be given after 5:45 PM, so you must be “parade ready” prior to that time. **Make sure your entry number is on the correct side, and very visible for the judges to see.** This is the only way the judges will be able to select our award- winning entries, so be sure it is prominently displayed in the location specified when you check- in and line up for the parade.



# Lost Pines Christmas Lighted Parade

## 2023 JUDGE INFORMATION FORM

**Description:** \*THIS FORM IS REQUIRED TO PARTICPATE. Please make sure your float description is as detailed as possible. This information will be given to the parade announcer. Be sure to Include details such as names of riders, business or organization name, costume information or any special information you want to share.

**Organization / Business:** \_\_\_\_\_

### 2023 Lost Pines Christmas Lighted Parade Announcer Description (Please give the following info on your entry for the MC to read):

**Name of Business:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Who is on your float/entry:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Theme of your Entry:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Holiday message:**



# Lost Pines Christmas Lighted Parade

## 2023 REGISTRATION FORM

**\*THIS FORM IS REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE.** You must bring a copy of your registration to check in on the day of the parade.

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization, Business, or Individual being represented on the float:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Type of Entry:

- Marching Group                       Livestock                       Walking Group  
 Float                                       Vehicle                               Other

# of Vehicles: \_\_\_\_\_

If 'Other', please provide description:

Entry Length: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Height: \_\_\_\_\_

All parade entries must be LIGHTED with Christmas themed lights. Floats must be parade-ready to receive a registration number. Line up starts behind Bastrop High School at 4:00 PM. Go west on Gordon Street from Hwy 95 and follow the signs to registration or float prep. Parade begins at dark. For more information, call 512-332-8984 or email [kdanielson@cityofbastrop.org](mailto:kdanielson@cityofbastrop.org).

I have read and understand all rules pertaining to the Lost Pines Christmas Lighted Christmas Parade. I hereby release the City of Bastrop from liability in the event of any damage, bodily injury, or other mishap during the parade, registration, or other activity involved in parade participation.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

