



# Parade Application

(Street Fair Vendor Applications are Separate)  
**2026 Happy Trails Parade – The Village in Apple Valley**  
Parade Dates: Saturday September 12, 2026, at 10:00AM  
Deadline for Applications: August 26, 2026

## Town use only:

Date Rec'd: \_\_\_\_\_  
Float App: \_\_\_\_\_ Script: \_\_\_\_\_  
Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Insurance: \_\_\_\_\_  
Waiver Count: \_\_\_\_\_

Please **PRINT CLEARLY** using black or blue ink

## 2026 Theme: Stars, Stripes, and Hometown Pride

Group/Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Entry: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of persons: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you participating in the Street Fair or Car Show? Y / N

**Each entry MUST be classified - check the most appropriate classification. Only choose one.**

| Check one                | Entry Type                                                                             | Judging     | Music |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Float -Must include Float Application on Page 2. (Can include walkers alongside float) | Y / N       | Y / N |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Drill/Cheer                                                                            | Y / N       | Y / N |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Equestrian or other animal group Type of Animal _____ Amount _____                     | Y / N       | Y / N |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Vehicles Type of Vehicle _____ Amount _____ (max 10 per entry)                         | Y / N       | Y / N |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | School Marching Band- Junior & Senior High School                                      | Y / N       | Y / N |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Walking Unit Only                                                                      | non-compete | Y / N |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Officials/Queens/Political *Must provide own transportation*                           | non-compete | Y / N |

**All entries are required to turn in a script and signed waivers for every participant.  
Vehicles and Floats are required to submit vehicle insurance.**

**Parade entry fees - check the most appropriate classification.**

| Check one                | Fee  | Registration Fees Classification               |
|--------------------------|------|------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | None | Non-Profits, Schools, Churches or Classic Cars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$10 | Commercial Village Merchant                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$25 | Commercial Entry Outside of Village            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$30 | Political Dignitary/Official                   |

**Make checks payable to: Town of Apple Valley. Debit and credit also accepted.**

I have been presented with the Official Rules and Regulations & Liability Waiver. I understand that failure to comply may result in disqualification from competition and/or ineligibility to participate. Submission of this application does not guarantee acceptance. Only complete applications will be considered by the Selection Committee. Rules & event info follow; detach for your records/reference.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Return applications to the recreation counter at Apple Valley Town Hall or recreation@applevalley.org.  
For questions please call (760) 240-7880.



# Float Application

Supplemental Float Application

**\*\*For Float entries only\*\***

Must be turned in by August 26, 2026

**Please PRINT CLEARLY using black or blue ink**

Group/Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Will the float have moving parts (other than the vehicle or trailer)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

How will the float move? ☐ Self-propelled ☐ Pulled by another vehicle

How many people will ride on the float? \_\_\_\_\_

Will anyone on the float wear costumes? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Will the float have amplified sound? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what type? (Music, speech, story, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

## 2026 Happy Trails Parade Float Rules & Regulations

Movement & Vehicles: Once the parade begins, there is to be **NO STOPPING** during the entire length of the parade route.

- All float units are to have their mode of locomotion in proper working order to prevent breakdown.
- In the unlikely event that a float breaks down during the parade, it **MUST** be pulled to the side or off the route within 5 minutes to allow the parade to continue.
- No one will get on or leave from the float once it has started down the parade route.
- All float units can expect the parade to move at about 2½ mph from start to finish.
- All floats being towed must have committee authorization of the lead vehicle, which must be insured, clean and in polished or decorated condition as to integrate smoothly into the parade.

Decoration: For safety reasons, **NO ITEMS** (such as candy or flyers) are to be thrown to spectators from any float entry, for any reason, at any time.

Judging: Place your number on the Left-Hand Side to give a clear view of your entry to judges and cameras. All float units are to follow the instructions given by the Parade Marshall. Rules:

- All float units are to be in their assigned space in the parade staging area no later than 9:30 am.
- A copy of the float rules, must be in participant's possession at the time of inspection.

☐ If accepted as a parade/float participant, I agree to abide by the rules and regulations established by the Parade Committee.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_



**\*\*Required for all entries\*\***  
Must be turned in by August 26, 2026

Please write a brief description of your entry. This is the information the Master of Ceremonies will read from the announcer's booth as you pass by. Include the information you want the viewers to know. This is also the information that would be passed on to the media should your entry win a prize. \*Remember you only have one minute in front of the reviewing area. We reserve the right to edit information as necessary to fit the time allotment.

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



**\*\*Required for all entries\*\***

**\*All participants must sign\***

**Must be turned in by August 26, 2026**

The Town provides a full spectrum of recreation, sport, educational and equestrian programs for children, teens, adults and families to help create "A Better Way of Life." In consideration for the Town, permitting me, my children, or children for whom I have capacity to contract ("Participant(s)") to engage in Town recreation programs on and off Town facilities, I understand and agree to the following:

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS AGREEMENT, WAIVER, RELEASE AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY, A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT AND MYSELF AND I SIGN IT OF MY FREE WILL.

[illegible]



# 2026 HAPPY TRAILS PARADE OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Detach and keep for your records

## Entries:

- Prospective entrants must submit the official application(s) prior to the entry deadline for consideration by the Town of Apple Valley. All entrants will be notified of their application status by email. The Town of Apple Valley and the Apple Valley Village Property-Owner Business Improvement District (PBID) is not responsible for any cost incurred by applicants at any time before, during or after parade selection.
- Information will ONLY be given to the key contact whose name appears on the application. That person will be responsible for communicating with the rest of your group.
- Complete, sign and return the application and liability forms no later than August 26, 2026. Applications can be picked up at The Town of Apple Valley 14955 Dale Evans Parkway, Apple Valley, CA 92307. Town Hall Building Parks & Rec Dept 760.240.7880 Contact E-mail for event [recreation@applevalley.org](mailto:recreation@applevalley.org)
- No entries, in the performance of drills or other display, may stop performing or cause any delay in the parade. Major disruption in the parade flow will not be tolerated and may result in disqualification and/or denial of future parade applications. You must keep in motion and/or with the flow of the parade.
- Town of Apple Valley reserve the right to refuse entry to any applicant at any time.
- In the event of cancellation, notification will be made by 6:30 a.m. the morning of the parade via email from parade representatives. There will be no alternate parade date. There will be no refunds only credits for entry fees for future dates.
- Any motorized vehicle must be in good working order with functioning brakes. Leave a safe stopping distance between you and the group ahead of you.
- No political campaigns or signage for re-election will be accepted in the parade. Dignitary must be in the office. Entries expressing political or social views are strictly prohibited and will be denied parade entry.
- Detailed line-up instructions will be e-mailed to you a week before the event.

## Line-up:

- ALL LINE UP AREAS WILL BE CLOSED TO THROUGH TRAFFIC DURING CHECK-IN. Parents will not be permitted to drive into barricaded areas to drop off children. There will be designated drop off and pick up areas for parents and marching units. The parade line-up will be at the discretion of the Recreation Coordinator.
- Access to the Parade Assembly area will open at 7:30 a.m. and close at 9:30 a.m. All judged and non-judged entries must be checked in by 9:30 a.m. Detailed instructions will be e-mailed prior to the event.

## Parade Route:

- The parade will begin at the corner of Central RD and Outer Hwy 18. Travel west towards Pawnee RD, left onto Pawnee and disperse at Powhatan RD. \*Note: Parade route is approximately 1 mile long.

## Judging Rules:

- All entries will be judged en-route. A reviewing stand will be located along the route. The parade will start promptly at 10:00 a.m. Winners will be posted on [applevalleyvillage.com](http://applevalleyvillage.com) and Town of Apple Valley social media website by Wednesday September 16, 2026. We reserve the right to change or alter the rules at any time. Prize ceremony will be held at a following Town Council Meeting.

## Reviewing Stand:

- Place your number on the Left-Hand Side to give a clear view of your entry to judges and cameras.



# 2026 HAPPY TRAILS PARADE OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Detach and keep for your information

## Decorations & Music

- **2026 Theme: Stars, Stripes and Hometown Pride**
- All entries in floats and wheels must be decorated PRIOR TO LINE-UP. The type of decorations and float must be approved by parade committee. You will be contacted within 10 days of submitting the application for float approval.
- Amplification equipment may be used only for playing themed music. No vulgar, profane, or illicit music will be tolerated. Volume must be kept at a reasonable level. Any other use of such equipment may result in immediate disqualification. In addition, any entry wishing to engage in oration of any sort must submit a copy of said message to the parade committee for approval. If you plan on having music as a part of your entry, please let the Recreation Coordinator know for line up purposes.

## Safety:

- Entrants will construct their entry so that it will be safe on public streets and the construction will not endanger the health or safety of any individual on, with, or in the observance of the entry.
- A helmet must be worn by each cyclist, including but not limited to motorcycles, bicycles, roller blades, unicycle, etc, in accordance with State and City laws and rules set by the Town of Apple Valley. No exceptions will be made.
- Dune buggies and other "off-road" vehicles may enter provided they are brought in on a trailer or towed to and from the parade route.
- Parade officials reserve the right to disqualify entries that are deemed unsafe (i.e. overloading of truck beds).
- No member of the Town of Apple Valley or the Apple Valley Village PBID, the Board of directors, as individuals, associations, event management or staff as a group, will be held responsible for accidents to the entry or its occupants while being transported to/from the staging area, or while participating in the parade. This includes, along with other accidents, those caused by traffic, by breakdown, by fire and/or carbon monoxide gas.
- Children riding on floats or flatbed trucks must be seated if there are no protective restraints.
- All dogs must be kept on leashes and held by someone strong enough to manage them.
- **Equestrian/animal entries** must always be in control of their animal in the assembly area(s) and parade route. If your animal spooks or becomes unmanageable, please remove yourself from the parade route and exit using a side street or parking lot immediately.
- All decorations must be fire retardant, and all motorized floats must secure inspection and approval as deemed necessary by the Sheriff and or Fire Department prior to the event.
- The Town of Apple Valley is a Proud Sponsor of the events that are Hosted by The Village in Apple Valley. All the regulations of the Town of Apple Valley apply to events that take place within the Township.

## Parade Awards

- Judged Categories (5): Floats, Equestrian, Wheels, School Marching Bands, and Drill/Cheer.
- Cash Prizes (per category): 1st Place – \$100 | 2nd Place – \$50 | 3rd Place – \$25
- Best Overall (Judges' Choice): \$125

2026 Preliminary Parade Instruction on next page....



## PRELIMINARY PARADE INSTRUCTIONS

Detach and keep for your information

**Routing & Instructions may change as we approach the day of the event. Finalized instructions will be emailed 7-10 days prior to the event. If you do not use e-mail, please let us know.**

To ensure your participation goes as smoothly as possible, below you will find preliminary information for your preparations. All line up areas will be closed to through traffic during check-in. All roads in assembly/staging area will be closed off by 7:00AM. Access to the Parade Assembly area will open at 7:30AM and close at 9:30AM. Parents will not be permitted to drive into barricaded areas to drop off children. You will park outside the assembly area and walk in. If you have participants that have limited mobility let the volunteers at the check point know.

Instructions and a map will be e-mailed to you prior to the event. Check-In will be from 7:30AM-9:30AM. All Participants must be checked in and in line by 9:30AM. Please be patient and aware of traffic and other participants when checking in. Use your best judgment and be safe.

1. All entries registered for the event will be allowed access from the manned road closure at Central Road and Ottawa Road.
2. The main contact for your group needs to check in and pick up your entry number. We will direct you to the area director for line up. The rest of the group will form in the areas described on the next sections. Check in with your area director for line up.
3. Do not switch places in the lineup. By switching with another group, you and the entry you switch with will be disqualified from judging.
4. The parade will start promptly at 10 a.m. but be ready to step off at 9:45.
5. The judging stand will be located along the route. Judging will be en-route.
6. No vehicles except those riding in the parade are allowed on the parade route or assembly/staging area at any time.
7. There is no parking in the assembly/staging area for non-parade vehicles. There is neighborhood street parking only. If you need special consideration to enter the assembly area due to limited mobility of a participant; please let the staff at the road closure know and they will direct you. Once you drop off please remove your vehicle from the assembly area immediately.
8. Portable restrooms will be available at the assembly area and near the parade route stages. Stage locations: TBD
9. If you have a medical emergency, please notify EMS by calling 911.

**End of Parade:** The 2026 Happy Trails Street Fair will be during & after the parade from 10:30AM-3PM located at James Woody Park. There will be food, street vendors and car/ float viewing area at the end of the parade. Please let us know if you will be participating in both events.

Once the parade is over you will need to coordinate a plan on how to get back to your cars if you parked near the assembly area

A map of area will be sent with instructions 7-10 days prior to the event.

If you have questions, please contact The Town of Apple Valley at 760-240-7880.



## PARADE ENTRY APPLICATION ADDENDUM

Detach and keep for your information

### **Subject: Campaigning and Political Activity Prohibited**

#### **Definition of Campaigning**

For purposes of the Happy Trails Parade, campaigning means any activity intended to influence or encourage a person to vote for or against a candidate or ballot measure. Campaigning includes, but is not limited to:

- Asking for votes or expressly advocating for the election or defeat of a candidate or ballot measure;
- Displaying campaign signs, slogans, logos, websites, social media handles, or QR codes intended to promote a candidate or ballot measure;
- Distributing campaign literature or other campaign materials;
- Soliciting campaign contributions or volunteers; and
- Using an official parade entry, vehicle, float, costume, signage, or other parade materials to promote an incumbent's reelection or the election of a candidate.

#### **Campaigning Prohibited in the Happy Trails Parade**

The **Happy Trails Parade** is a community event intended to provide an enjoyable, inclusive, and nonpartisan experience for all participants and spectators. To maintain the nonpartisan nature of the parade, **campaigning and political advocacy are prohibited by all parade participants and entries.**

Participants may not use their parade entry, vehicles, floats, costumes, signs, banners, handouts, social media promotions, or other materials associated with the parade to:

- Advocate for or against a candidate or ballot measure;
- Ask for votes;
- Distribute campaign literature or campaign materials;
- Solicit campaign contributions or volunteers;
- Display campaign slogans, logos, websites, or QR codes intended to promote a candidate or ballot measure;
- or
- Otherwise engage in campaign activity as defined above.

This prohibition applies equally to **all parade participants and entries, including elected officials, candidates, political organizations, campaigns, businesses, nonprofit organizations, community groups, and other participating individuals or organizations.**

#### **Compliance**

By submitting a Happy Trails Parade Entry Application, the applicant acknowledges and agrees to comply with this prohibition on campaigning and political activity. The Town of Apple Valley reserves the right to review parade entries and determine whether an entry complies with the parade's rules and requirements. Entries that do not comply may be denied participation or removed from the parade.