

The Plainfield Chamber's Quaker Day Parade

Logistics & Participant Guide

(Including Candy Distribution, Participant Expectations and more)

PARADE LOGISTICS *(Arrival Times, Staging, Parking, Float Guidelines & End of Parade)*

Arrival Times

- **Judged Entries:** Arrive **8:00 – 8:30 AM**. Judging begins promptly at **9:00 AM**.
 - Awards will be given *prior to the parade* for: **Best Performance, Best Theme, Best Equestrian, Best Antique/Classic, Best Youth, and Chamber Choice (Best Overall)**.
 - **All Other Entries:** May arrive between **8:00 – 9:30 AM**. **DO NOT BE LATE!**
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Road Closures *(refer to the parade route map for more details)*

The Back Your Badge Kids Run will take place the morning of the parade at 9:00 AM

- Due to the kids run, the following road closures will begin at **8:40 AM**:
 - **Hwy 40 (a.k.a Mainstreet)** will be close from **Vestal to Carr Road**.
 - **Center Street at W. Buchanan** will close to **Northbound Traffic**.
 - Immediately BEFORE the parade starts (about 9:40am), the previous road closure along Hwy 40, will EXTEND to Kentucky for parade release from Duke Energy.
 - Please plan accordingly!
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Parade Staging, Parking & Drop-Off *(Refer to maps in your attachments for more details)*

Vehicles & Floats in the Parade – **Use Gate #1**

- Gate #1 is located behind St. Susanna. We prefer you to access this gate via Dan Jones Road.
- Upon entry, a volunteer will guide you to your space.
 - **DON'T FORGET:** Place your **entry number** in the vehicle window.
- **Gate #1 is for participating vehicles ONLY.**
 - No extra vehicles will be permitted into the staging area unless they are in the parade.

Participant Parking and/or Supply Drop-Off – **Use Gate #2**

- This is the **St. Susanna parking lot**, accessed via Dan Jones or the US 40 entrance to Meijer.
 - **You will not be able to enter this lot via the school or church entrances.**
- Parade volunteers will direct participants to the staging area.
- Golf carts will be available to shuttle participants and supplies.

Participant Drop-Off Only – **Use Gate #3**

- This entrance is for **quick drop-off of people only**. No parking and no supply drop-off allowed.

Restricted Access

- The **west entrance** to the Duke Energy lot at Carr Road is for **Duke employees and parade volunteers only**. No parade entries or drop-offs allowed past the guard shack.

Once you've arrived, please ensure at least one person stays with your unit at all times.

Parade Start Time

- The parade begins promptly at **10:00 AM**.

A Note About Pacing

The Quaker Day Parade is one of our community's favorite events and we receive *fantastic* feedback every year. But we also get one recurring complaint: **large gaps between entries**.

Sometimes the gaps are so big that spectators think the parade is over! We need **YOUR HELP** to fix this:

- Remind everyone in your unit to **stay close to the entry ahead of you**.
- Avoid lagging behind or stopping unless absolutely necessary.
- Keep your group moving as a unit to ensure a fun, continuous experience for the crowd.

Your cooperation will make a huge difference and help us keep the parade flowing smoothly!

End of Parade & Pick Up *(Refer to maps in your attachments for more details)*

The parade travels from Duke Energy down **US 40**, then turns **left on Vestal Road** by McDonald's, continuing down the hill to end at the **Al & Jan Barker Athletic Complex (soccer field parking area)**.

- **Participant pickup:**
 - Vehicles may park in the lot closest to **Sugar Creek Road**.
 - You will need to enter & exit via the **back drive: Vestal Rd → Sugar Grove Rd**.
 - **Note:** No buses are provided back to Duke Energy. Please arrange your own transportation.
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Participant Expectations & Parade Policies

To keep the Quaker Day Parade safe, fun, and family-friendly, please review these rules carefully and share them with your entire group.

Required Paperwork

- All entries must have a **completed, signed entry form** and, if applicable, a **copy of insurance for all vehicles**.
 - **Drivers must possess a valid driver's license.**
 - Units missing paperwork will not be allowed to participate.
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Family-Friendly Guidelines

- This is a **“G-Rated” family event**. All entries, costumes, music, and signs must reflect such.
- **No alcohol** is permitted on floats/vehicles at any time.
- **No smoking** on or near floats/vehicles.

Float & Unit Safety Requirements

- Units/Floats must be of **good quality and taste** and are subject to approval by parade staff.
 - Floats **may not exceed 13 feet in height (from the ground)**, including stabilized props.
 - Float beds must be sturdy and capable of carrying the intended weight.
 - Float drivers must possess a valid driver's license and be adequately trained to drive their float safely.
 - Emergency exits must remain accessible on all floats/vehicles.
 - All units carrying people must have proper **safety restraints** (body harnesses, protective railings, etc.) to prevent falls.
 - No standing in the back of pick-up trucks or floats.
 - No sitting on hoods, trunks, or equipment not intended for passengers.
 - **Children must have direct adult supervision** at all times—whether in a vehicle, on a float, or walking in the street.
 - Vehicles and floats must remain in the **middle of the road (yellow lines)**.
 - Walkers should stay along the **outer white lines** on either side.
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Parade Flow & Pacing

- Remind everyone in your unit to **stay close to the entry ahead of you**.
 - Avoid lagging behind or stopping unless absolutely necessary.
 - Keep your group moving as a unit to ensure a fun, continuous experience for the crowd.
 - Performances must be **done while moving**, unless special approval has been granted by the Parade Committee.
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Animal Entries

- All animal entries must provide immediate cleanup of any animal waste.
 - Failure to comply will result in **fines from the Town of Plainfield.**
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Weather Policy

- The parade is a **rain or shine** event and cannot be rescheduled.
 - In case of severe weather, the start may be **delayed**. Participants will be asked to return to vehicles or shelter inside St. Susanna Church or Duke Energy until conditions improve.
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Parade Committee Authority

- The Parade Committee reserves the right to **remove any entry, vehicle, or participant at any time** if there are safety or security concerns, interference with parade progress, or any other reason deemed necessary.

Candy Details & Guidelines

Passing out candy is **optional**, but if your group chooses to do so, please follow these important safety rules:

Safety Rules for Candy Distribution

- **Hand out candy at the curb** — not from the middle of the street. This keeps children safely away from moving vehicles.
 - **Do not throw candy or giveaways from floats or vehicles.** Throwing from vehicles encourages kids to run into the street, creating a serious safety hazard.
 - Assign volunteers to **closely monitor candy distribution** so that all handouts happen at the curb and do not draw children into the parade route.
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Candy Distribution Guidelines for Parade Participants

This handy guide was provided by a long time Parade Entry!

Objective: Ensure candy is distributed safely **and evenly** along the parade route, with enough saved for spectators at the end.

- **Sample Candy Purchase (for planning purposes only):**
 - 6 jumbo bags of Tootsie Rolls
 - 2 (10 lb) bags of Starbursts
 - 4 (5 lb) bags of Smarties

- 2 large bags of Dum Dums
- **Preparation & Distribution** - To keep distribution even, divide candy into bags for each route segment:
 - **Segment 1: Duke Energy → Shaw Street (Hampton Gentry Funeral Home sign)**
 - 8 bags total (4 on each side of the street)
 - **Segment 2: Shaw Street → Center Street (Shirt Tales/Gear Up)**
 - 8 bags total (4 on each side of the street)
 - **Segment 3: Center Street → Vestal Road (End of parade route)**
 - 6 bags total (3 on each side of the street)

Note: Even though the majority of spectators are located in Segments 1 and 2. Try to divide candy accordingly so no one is left out toward the end.

QUESTIONS? Contact us at 317-839-3800 or email chamber@plainfield-in.com