

March 7, 2025



Dear St. Patrick's Day Parade Participant:

The Bay City St. Patrick's Day Parade will be on **Sunday, March 16, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.** Please read this entire letter so that you are prepared and ready to participate in this year's parade.

- **Line up begins at 12 noon.** Please enter the line up area as indicated on the attached **ENTRY MAP**. The parade begins at **2:00 p.m.** sharp! **KNOW YOUR POSITION NUMBER** and notify all members in your group of the position number. Please show your POSITION NUMBER to officials when dropping off parade participants. Follow the directions and be respectful to the parade officials and police officers who will assist you during the line-up.
- Read the attached **ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE RULES**. These rules are for everyone's safety and will be enforced.
- Please be aware that there may be parade viewers standing in the street because of possible snow on the sidewalks. Be very careful going down the parade route. Have your driver **WATCH BOTH SIDES OF THE STREET** for parade viewers, so everyone is safe.
- It is unlawful to transport anyone or any part of a vehicle that is not intended for passengers or on any trailer, including a float, except while actually traveling in the parade. NO burn outs or other motor vehicle code violations during the parade.
- Have a plan for reassembling your group to account for each member and related equipment after the parade. Follow the **EXIT MAP** to break down your float. Please be aware that non-street vehicles are **NOT** permitted on the parade route after it is reopened to traffic.
- **BE PATIENT** while driving home. Traffic clears in a very short time. A little patience can prevent unnecessary delays due to accidents or the dreaded wrong turn.

Please remember to use the blue trash barrels for your trash. This helps us clean up faster and prevents fines from the City of Bay City. Thank you!

- Porta-Johns and trash barrels are located along Center Avenue at Green, Trumbull, and major intersections.
- Bay County TV will broadcast the parade on Spectrum ~ Channel 190 at 2:00 p.m.

Parade Entrance Map

NEW ~ Bay City Bridges

Lafayette Bridge is **CLOSED!**

Liberty Bridge & Independence Bridge are **TOLL BRIDGES!**

(The cost one-way over these bridges is \$7.50)

Veterans Memorial Bridge is **FREE!**

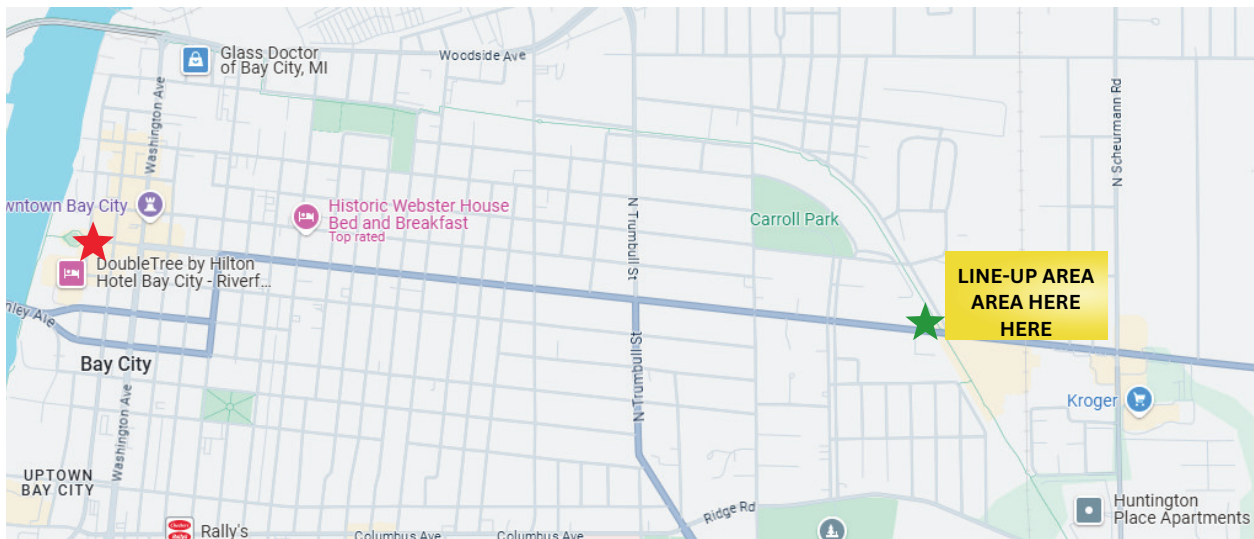
The St. Patrick's Day Parade starts at the corner of Park Ave. and Center Ave. at 2:00 p.m. It proceeds down Center Ave. and stops at the corner of Center Ave. and Water Street.

- **Line-up** for entries begins at **12:00 p.m. (NOON)** on parade day.
- **Line-up** check-in area is on the **corner of Center Ave. and Livingston Ave.**
- Parade Officials will be checking in entries and directing them to their parade line-up position. Please have your **parade entry number** ready to show the officials!

DO NOT drive down Center Ave once the barricades are up!

DO NOT try to enter Center Ave. to get to the line-up area. There is no place for cars to turn around once line-up begins at noon. It is also extremely unsafe to have unauthorized vehicles on Center Ave. during line-up and the parade!

PLEASE be respectful and cooperative to the Parade Officials. These volunteers give their time and talent to make sure the St. Patrick's Day Parade is a fun-filled family event each year!





St. Patrick's Day Parade Rules

Parade line-up numbers will be posted one week before parade day on our website <https://www.stpatparadebaycity.org/parade-info/>.

- All applications are subject to a review and approval by the Parade Association.
- Parade entries are requested to arrive at the parade line-up area at 12:00 P.M. (Noon) the day of the parade. See the line-up map on our website.
- The Parade will start promptly at 2:00 P.M.

THE CENTER LANE OF CENTER AVENUE IS TO REMAIN OPEN FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES AND THE REARRANGING OF PARADE ENTRIES.

- A float entry must be skirted, and all objects on the float must be completely decorated in good taste. **No** signs stating prices of goods or services offered by business entry on a float. Extra vehicles or UNDECORATED units will NOT BE ALLOWED ACCESS into the parade line-up area.
- Lettering must be at least 6 inches in height unless a company logo is incorporated in the design of the float.
- All floats are encouraged to be decorated with an Irish theme.
- All material must be flame retardant.
- This is a family event. Parade floats or vehicles as well as parade participants must be decorated/dressed in good taste with no inappropriate signs, clothing, or decorations.
- Only current political officeholders may enter the parade. Political candidates running for any office may **NOT** enter the parade. **No Exceptions!**

- Horse units and antique cars will be permitted. Only cars 30 years or older will be considered antique. Horse units must provide a “pooper scooper” and keep the streets clean.
- **NO** intoxicating beverages/drugs will be permitted in the parade or line-up area.
- The Bay City Public Safety Department will have the authority to act as they see fit to ensure the safety of parade visitors and participants.
- **NO objects or candy may be tossed or thrown from floats or vehicles. CANDY MAY be HANDED out ALONG THE CURB** on the parade route.
- **NO** brochures, coupons, or advertisements may be distributed along the parade route.
- **NO** confetti may be thrown and **NO** confetti cannons may be used at any time during this event.
- The entry must keep moving along the parade route and not stop. The driver should ensure approximately 50 feet of clearance between themselves and the float ahead.

Deviation from the above rules will be made at the sole discretion of the Parade Association. Entries that do not follow the rules will NOT be invited to return for the next year’s parade.

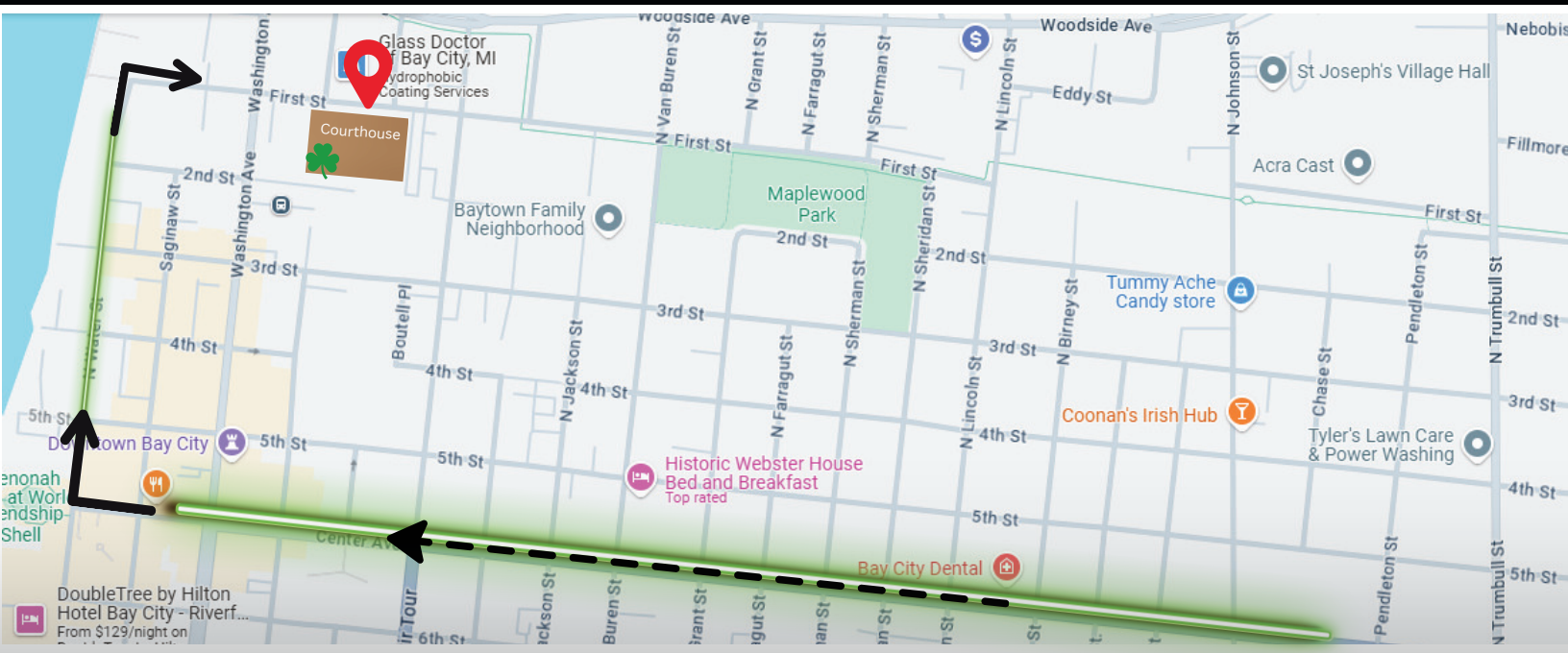
- Parade Judges will determine float winners during the parade. Winners will be contacted after the parade and invited to an Awards Reception.
- **Award Categories:** Best Irish Theme, President’s Trophy, and Best Overall.

We hope everyone has a fun-filled parade day! Please retain these rules for your information and call (989) 686-6834 with any questions.

Happy St. Patrick’s Day!

Parade Exit Route:

ALL Entries MUST follow the EXIT ROUTE outlined below:



DO NOT STOP at the corner of **CENTER AND WATER STREET!**

DO NOT STOP on **WATER STREET** for any reason!

Stopping, stalling, or standing at CENTER AND WATER STREETS IS PROHIBITED!

There will be a police officer and parade officials at Center and Water directing traffic.

To disband your float or pick-up parade participants, YOU may utilize the parking lot of the **BAY COUNTY COURTHOUSE**.

- **Turn right (north)** onto Water Street and proceed to Second (2nd) and Water Streets.
- **Turn right** onto Second Street and cross Washington Street and proceed to the Courthouse Parking Lot.
- There will be a Porta John and trash barrels for your use as you break down your float or undecorate your vehicle. **Do not put wood or glass into the trash barrel, only paper/light broken down cardboard.**
- Please leave the parking lot as soon as you are done to leave space for the floats coming behind you.
- When exiting the parking lot, **turn right (north)** on to Washington Street.
- **Turn right (east)** on Woodside Ave.
- Take Woodside to Scheurmann Street. **Turn right (south)** on Scheurmann Street.