

# ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE INFORMATION & POLICIES



**Saturday, March 17, 2018**

Thank you for participating in the 2018 Saint Patrick's Day Parade in downtown South Bend! We encourage you and your organization to make your entry as entertaining as possible with a definite tip 'o the hat to the Irish in honor of the holiday.

**Critical parade safety policies:** Entrants who do not abide by these parade safety policies will be removed from the line-up and will not be allowed in future parades.

- **Distribution of candy is no longer allowed.** It has presented a safety issue in past years with kids rushing the distributors. You may still distribute trinkets, flyers, coupons, etc.
- **Do not throw anything at the spectators or into the crowd.** Anything you distribute must be handed out by walkers along the curb. We don't want any spectators leaving the sidewalk for safety reasons. Please make sure any children in your entry understand this – it's been an ongoing issue.
- **Clean up after your animals.** If you have any animals in your entry, you must clean up after them immediately for the entry behind you.
- **Do not stop** once the procession starts. Maintain the space between you and the entry ahead of you.
- **Do not change positions.**
- **Please do not block driveways or park on the private property of the local businesses.** We are guests in the Howard Park Neighborhood. Please be respectful.
- **Judging:** Judges will begin reviewing entries starting at 9:30 am and ribbons will be awarded immediately before step-off for several categories. The winner of each category will be announced as they pass the announcer platform at Howard Park. If you win one of the awards, please display your ribbon prominently on your entry.
- **Disperse promptly at the end of the parade route.** The parade route ends at Niles and Washington by the AM General parking lot where entries will be directed to disperse by either continuing up Niles or turning right onto Washington. **Do not stop!**

*Parade volunteers will review these policies with participants in each entry prior to step-off.*