

GENERAL PARADE FACTS, POLICY AND REGULATIONS

ALL PARTICIPANTS IN THE INDEPENDENCE HEALTH SYSTEM "TOURNAMENT OF LEAVES" PARADE WILL BE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW THE 73rd ANNUAL TOYOTA AUTUMN LEAF FESTIVAL™, PARADE COMMITTEE RULES. THESE APPLY TO ALL CATEGORIES. ALL ENTRANTS MUST AGREE TO THE PARADE FACTS, POLICIES AND REGULATIONS.

Every entry must be covered by adequate liability insurance.

Placement of the parade entries in the lineup is the responsibility of The 73rd Annual Toyota Autumn Leaf Festival™, Parade Committee.

No commercial advertising is allowed without prior written approval of The 73rd Annual Toyota Autumn Leaf Festival™, Parade Committee.

All signage must conform to the standards of The 73rd Annual Toyota Autumn Leaf Festival™, Parade Committee.

No objects may be distributed or thrown to parade spectators from any unit in the parade. Walkers need to be provided. The only exception is candy. At the risk of the Parade participant, candy may be thrown underhand onto the surface of the street toward the curb. Candy thrown overhand toward the back rows of the crowd is expressly prohibited. Any dispersal of candy other than by walkers is the sole responsibility and at the risk of the Parade participant.

All sound-equipped entries must have approval for type, intensity and loudness of sound.

Security arrangements for parade entries are the sole responsibility of the participant.

No philosophical, political, or religious message may be incorporated into the design, or used on any entry in the parade without prior written approval of The 73rd Annual Toyota Autumn Leaf Festival™ Parade Committee.

All floats and specialty groups must be decorated in accordance with the parade theme.

The decision of the judges is final. There will be no duplication of awards. In the event of a tie, cash prizes will be split.

Parade volunteers will have full control of the parade in the formation area, during the line of march, and in the disbanding area.

All entries must be in their designated formation area at the designated time.

For safety reasons: NO SIMULATED OR ACTUAL FIREARMS OR WEAPONS ARE ALLOWED IN THE PARADE, with the exception of Marching Unit Color Guards and Military Service Groups/Organizations.

For safety reasons: NO OPAQUE OR NON-TRANSPARENT MASKS PERMITTED IN PARADE unless representing a sponsor for The 73rd Annual Toyota Autumn Leaf Festival™. They also must have a walker accompany them through the parade.

Units are not permitted to stop along the parade route except in a dire-emergency – No Exceptions. The judges will deduct points for any unit that ceases to move forward during the Parade.

NO ALCOHOL AT ALL ON OR NEAR THE PARADE ROUTE. ANYONE SEEN WITH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, OR VISIBLY IMPAIRED, OR THE LIKE WILL BE DISQUALIFIED AND VACATED FROM THE PARADE ROUTE BY POLICE PERSONNEL.

The Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry reserves the right to accept or reject any application.

Your unit's bio must be submitted with the application. This information will be provided to local radio and television stations. If this is NOT provided, nothing will be announced for your unit via these mediums.

If your unit is pulled by or involves animals, (i.e. horses), you MUST PROVIDE your own clean-up crew for the parade route.

Each group must display and/or perform an activity related to the current 73rd Annual Toyota Autumn Leaf Festival™, theme UNLESS EXEMPTED BY CATEGORY.

All floats and specialty groups must submit unit concept/design for approval by the Parade Committee no later than Friday, September 18, 2026.

To limit the political focus of our Parade, there is a maximum of four (4) units for entry by a recognized Clarion County political party. A recognized Clarion County political party shall be defined as a political party with registration consisting of a minimum of ten percent (10%) of the registered Clarion County voters. These entries must be approved and submitted by the appropriate Clarion County Recognized Political Party Committee.

MARCHING UNITS POLICY AND REGULATIONS

The judges will be at various locations throughout the entire parade route. Each judging area will be well marked in advance.

Marching bands will be held accountable to class. A marching band will be disqualified for performing in a class other than its actual class. If the number of musicians changes such that a band should be judged in a class other than that registered for, it is the band director's responsibility to inform the chamber as soon as possible so adjustments can be made.

You may not have a vehicle in the parade unless it provides your music for performance. A picture and description of the vehicle must be sent for approval by The 72nd Annual Allegheny Toyota Autumn Leaf Festival™, Parade Committee. All other vehicles must be parked in the bus parking area.

FLOAT POLICY AND REGULATIONS

All floats must be designed / decorated in accordance with the current year's Autumn Leaf Festival™ theme.

No float may be higher than 12 feet from ground to top.

All Floats must have a skirt from the deck to one foot from the ground.

The pulling vehicle must be no larger than a ¾ Pick-Up Truck and in excellent condition and pulling vehicle must be smaller than the float. (REMEMBER: The float is the main emphasis for the parade, NOT the vehicle pulling it.) You MUST SEND a photo of the pulling vehicle when submitting your application.

The back of a pick-up truck cannot be used as a float. The vehicle pulling a float is not permitted to have people in the bed.

Please, limit the number of persons on the float to 10. If more, please notify the Chamber office as to the reasons.

Throwing items/candy from the float is highly discouraged. It is preferred that walkers are in place to distribute items/candy. At the risk of the Parade participant, candy may be dispersed by throwing underhand onto the surface of the street toward the curb. CANDY THROWN OVERHAND TOWARD THE

BACK ROWS OF THE CROWD IS EXPRESSLY PROHIBITED. Any dispersal of candy other than by walkers is the sole responsibility and at the risk of the Parade participant.

Any advertisements or acknowledgement of sponsorships can be no larger than 1 (one) 24" x 36" sign per sponsor.

Banners recognizing sponsorships accompanying floats are only permitted by major sponsors The 73rd Annual Toyota Autumn Leaf Festival™.

PennWest University floats are not required to be pumped. If you have any questions please ask the Executive Director of the Clarion Chamber of Business and Industry.

NOVELTY UNITS, NON-PROFIT SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS OR GROUPS & SPECIALTY GROUPS POLICY AND REGULATIONS

Banners are limited to "Non-Profit" Service Organizations ONLY...NO EXCEPTIONS!!

Vehicles are limited to those of sponsors unless pulling a float, providing music for a dance group or chauffeuring an invited VIP.

GENERAL RELEASE AND INDEMNITY

TO: Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry, hereinafter called "Sponsor"

RE: Type of Event Being Held: The 73rd Annual Toyota Autumn Leaf Festival™, hereinafter called "Event" to be held from October 3rd – October 11th, 2026.

IN CONSIDERATION OF being permitted to participate in the Event, the undersigned, on behalf of myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, hereby:

1. Acknowledges that he/she is over 18 years of age and acknowledges the undersigned's participation in the Event may include activities that may be hazardous to the undersigned and assumes the risk of injury or harm associated with such participation.
2. Releases and forever discharges the Sponsor and its employees, officers, directors, sponsors, shareholders, affiliates, agents, representatives, successors and assigns (collectively the "Releasees") of and from all liability, claims, demands, damages, costs, expenses, actions and causes of action (collectively the "Claims") in respect of death, injury, loss or damage to self or property howsoever caused, arising or to arise by reason of or during my participation in the Event, whether prior to, during or subsequent to my attendance and notwithstanding that any Claim may have been contributed to or occasioned by the negligence of any of the Releasees.
3. Indemnifies and saves harmless the Releasees from and against any and all liability incurred by any or all of them arising as a result of or in any way connected to my participation in the Event.
4. Understands and acknowledges that the Sponsor does not carry or maintain health, medical or disability insurance coverage for the undersigned and therefore agrees to assume responsibility for such insurance coverage on the undersigned.
5. Agrees that in the event that any provision of this Release and Indemnity is held to be invalid or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity or unenforceability of such provision will not affect the remaining provisions of this Release and Indemnity which shall continue to be enforceable.

6. Acknowledges that the undersigned's participation in the Event may result in the use, reproduction, and/or publishing of photographs and/or video including the undersigned's image, likeness and/or voice without compensation. and, gives the Sponsor permission/authorization to so use, re-use, reproduce, release and/or publish and re-publish any photographs, voice recordings and/or videos, including the undersigned's image, likeness and/or voice in any media of the public domain, including but not limited to, the world wide web (internet), without compensation, royalty or fee.

7. Releases and forever discharges Sponsor and its employees, officers, directors, sponsors, shareholders, affiliates, agents, representatives, successors and assigns (collectively "the Releasees") of and from any and all claims, demands, damages, costs, expenses, actions and causes of action (collectively "the Claims") which the undersigned may have against Sponsor resulting from Sponsor's use, re-use, publication and republication of any photographs, voice recordings and/or videos, including the undersigned's image, likeness and/or voice in any media of the public domain, including, without limitation, the world wide web (internet), whether said use is for the purpose of illustration, promotion, advertising, trade or any other purpose whatsoever."