THE MARIETTA LET FREEDOM RING PARADE
RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Marietta **Let Freedom Ring Parade** is part of the **Fourth in the Park Festival**, which is held annually. This traditional, old fashioned, non-violent day of family fun is centered on the July 4th celebration, and includes arts and crafts, entertainment, food concessions, carnival games, evening concert and fireworks. The 1-½ mile parade begins at the Roswell Street Baptist Church, travels west on Roswell Street, north on East Park Square and Cherokee Street, and ends at North Marietta Parkway.

Any individual, organization, group, business or other entity that desires to participate in the parade must submit an application. All forms must be completed in their entirety and received by The Freedom Parade Committee prior to the deadline. An applicant is not accepted into the parade until written confirmation is received from The Parade Committee. The Parade Committee will consist of the Parade Coordinator, Recreation Services Manager, Recreation Supervisor and a representative of the Economic Development Office. Approval or denial will be mailed to the applicant no more than 14 days from receipt of the application. All applicants will be notified no later than June 3.

The Parade Committee for the City of Marietta will evaluate every parade entry to determine if it is appropriate for the parade. The Committee reserves the right to reject any entry (at any time prior to assembly, at assembly, or during the parade) it deems inappropriate. Upon acceptance, any and all entries must agree to abide by the rules and regulations set forth by MARIETTA CITY COUNCIL. Parade marshals will be stationed along the route to review and enforce said rules. Immediate action will be taken to correct any rule violations. Corrective action may include dismissal from the parade.

Parade application deadline: ***May 31, 2016, 5:00 p.m.***

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. All parade entries must observe parade rules and regulations, and local, state and federal laws.

2. **All entries are allowed one (1) banner and ABSOLUTELY NO hand held signs.**

3. **ABSOLUTELY NO materials may be handed out or thrown along the parade route. Distribution of gifts, merchandise, literature or other items, is prohibited.**

4. Possession of alcoholic beverages or illegal substances is strictly forbidden. The police will be notified of suspected violations. Offenders will be removed from the parade and are subject to arrest and prosecution.

5. Drivers of all vehicles in the parade must have a valid drivers license and be at least 18 years of age.

6. Continuous forward movement ONLY is required of all entries. No stopping is allowed. Entries must not interfere with the parade flow or any other parade entry.

7. Entries must maintain a distance not to exceed 15 feet between each parade entry and remain five feet from the curb or the crowd, which ever is closer to the centerline of the street.

8. All accepted entrants must sign and return the liability disclaimer form agreeing to indemnify the City of Marietta, (it's officers, directors, employees and agents) and hold them harmless with respect to any defense that they shall be required to make in connection with any claim or action arising out of participant's involvement with the parade.

9. All forms must be filled out completely, signed, and received by the parade committee by 5:00 p.m., May 31, 2016. No application will be accepted after the deadline.

10. All units must arrive at the staging area at the designated time. Each qualified entry will receive (via letter) a map of the staging area, parade number and the arrival time.

11. A sound system may only be used for approved vocal or background music.

12. Every application shall be reviewed by the Committee and approved or denied. Any denial may be appealed to the Director of Parks and Recreation within 5 business days from the date of notice.

13. Parade entries may not deviate from the approved application.

14. The Parade Coordinator or his/her designee has the authority to enforce said rules and to remove any entry from the parade in violation of the rules.

CAR OR CAR CLUB/PAGEANT/POLITICAL

1. Comply with rules 1 – 14 under General Rules & Regulations.

2. All cars must be convertibles (unless antique or classic). No closed cars, vans, buses, pickup trucks or t-tops unless they are used as the tow vehicle for a float.

3. Only one (1) vehicle per entry will be permitted. Float and tow unit are considered one (1) vehicle.

4. Car clubs are limited to twenty (20) qualified vehicles. Qualified vehicles may be antique, classic or with similar make & model.

FLOATS

1. Comply with rules 1 – 14 under General Rules & Regulations.

2. Floats are not to exceed 13 feet in height or 16 feet in width. Maximum length is 50 feet. All floats must be skirted to cover the wheel and underside of the trailer/vehicle.

3. Floats should be constructed so they will be able to make all turns along the parade route without impairing the forward movement of the parade.

4. Pick-up trucks are permitted to pull the float, however, riders are not permitted in the bed of the truck nor can a pick up truck be used as a float. A flat bed truck may be used as a float as long as the trailer is fully skirted.

5. Participants may not jump on or off a float while it is in motion.

SPECIALTY/EQUESTRIAN UNITS/MARCHING UNITS/DRILL TEAMS

1. Comply with rules 1 – 14 under General Rules & Regulations.

2. Specialty and equestrian units will be reviewed and accepted based on uniqueness of entry and suitability to the parade.

3. Specialty and equestrian unit participants must be suitably costumed to coincide with the entry.

4. All two-wheel/mini-4-wheel-vehicles may perform 2/s, 4/s, figure 8's, wedge or serpentine movements, provided the drill captain keeps his unit up tight and maintains the proper interval with the unit ahead.