

Guidelines for parade participants:

1st and foremost – safety!!! Be sure parents know to meet their group at Leonardtown Middle School (Rt 5 south of Leonardtown across from Fair Grounds) and all children are transported via bus with adult supervision. There are about 1500 walkers in the parade. **DO NOT drop children at Ryken**, or on Route 5 or any other side street to walk into Ryken. Parents can ride the bus over with their child and then quickly turn around and ride it back to their car if they want. The buses will start running at 0800 from Leonardtown Middle School until everyone is transported. Last year they were done before 0930.

No personal vehicles should come to Ryken unless they are in the parade or you made special arrangements with me for a “back parking lot parking spot” for elderly, handicapped persons or a vehicle with large/heavy equipment that would be hard to get on a school bus.

Ryken Bus Circle in front of the school is for buses only, personal vehicles clog up the circle and delay the buses. All buses – including bands – will unload in front of Ryken in the bus circle. There is not any room to turn around behind Ryken and it is not safe with so many pedestrians.

USCG – you will come in, go left, turn around in the bus circle, come back up and line up in front of the Fire Trucks facing the entrance

Scouts – space out the units, put parents at the back of their unit to help separate them from the next

Horses – check out how many we have, if you feel you are going to be too crowded in the space allocated, please let me know ASAP. I can put a couple of trailers in the back parking lot and you could set up there and walk up to the line up spot if needed. After you pass through town and come down the hill back toward Ryken, we ask that you take your horses to the grassy area and wait while the emergency vehicles pass before you head back to Ryken

Miss Fire Prevention will line up behind the USCG, but in front of the Fire Equipment

Ridge Lions – will step off a few minutes early to hand out flags to the spectators

Fire Trucks – come in, go left, turn around in the bus circle and line up facing the entrance, be sure your equipment will fit in the bus circle

All cars, trucks, motorcycles, floats – ALL VEHICLES – in the parade need to be parked by 0800. Line up is from 0700 – 0800 so please – for “safety sake” plan to be parked before the pedestrians arrive. Floats and large vehicles that can’t fit in a parking spot will be directed to come in, turn left and enter your row from the back side so that you are facing the entrance. I am in need of a few more volunteers to help with the line up. If anyone in your group is interested in helping, please let me know. Thanks.

We have a full parade, every single spot it taken. **Please do not bring any vehicle that you did not sign up.** If your numbers (totals) do not match mine, please let me know ASAP. (I received 3 calls today for new units to be added)

Attached is the line up. Please find your organization and look up your row and spot. Because of so many large groups, I did move some of the smaller units around so everyone would fit. I will be putting up row signs to make it easier to find your row. If you asked for an additional parking spot, you will need to make sure that vehicle is unloaded and parked before 0800 in the back parking lot, down past the cemetery. I do have a few spots left so if you still need one, let me know. I will have 6 golf carts available to transport elderly and disabled persons. Also to help you move equipment if you need it. They will be at the front of Ryken, just walk up to them and tell them you need a ride, they will be happy to help you.

Buses will be behind the Court House to take all participants back to Leonardtown Middle School.

Connie.pennington@pae.com, please email if you can, rather than calling, thanks – see you soon and pray for sun!!!