



# MORTON PUMPKIN FESTIVAL PARADE 2023

## Farmin' Pumpkins

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 10:30 AM

JOIN US FOR ONE OF THE LARGEST FESTIVAL PARADES IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS AND HAS BEEN RUNNING FOR 57 YEARS!

THE MORTON PUMPKIN FESTIVAL PARADE IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION AND SHOW YOUR MORTON PRIDE!

**\$500 GRAND PRIZE, BEST FLOAT**

**\$200 BEST COMMERCIAL FLOAT**

**\$200 BEST NON-COMMERCIAL FLOAT**

### SUGGESTED DONATION FEES

MORTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERS.....	\$25.00*
NON-MEMBER, NON-PROFITS & CLUBS .....	\$35.00*
NON-MEMBERS, ALL OTHERS .....	\$50.00*
SCHOOL MARCHING BANDS.....	FREE
MILITARY AND VETERAN GROUPS .....	FREE
PUMPKIN FESTIVAL EVENT ENTRIES .....	FREE

\*IF YOUR BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION HAS MULTIPLE ENTRIES, PAY ONE FEE FOR ALL ENTRIES. THESE FEES ARE A SUGGESTED DONATION TO THE MORTON PUMPKIN FESTIVAL TO HELP COVER THE COSTS OF THE PARADE OPERATIONS. FEES ARE NOT MANDATORY. IF YOUR BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION IS UNABLE TO PAY THE SUGGESTED DONATION, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTRIBUTE WHAT YOU CAN TOWARD OUR EVENT COSTS. AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO A MONETARY DONATION, WE ALSO WELCOME YOU TO REGISTER YOUR GROUP TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE PUMPKIN FESTIVAL.

RETURN COMPLETED PARADE APPLICATION AND WAIVER WITH PAYMENT TO:  
MORTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 415 WEST JEFFERSON STREET MORTON IL  
61550 • PHONE (309) 263-2491 • EMAIL INFO@MORTONILLIOIS.ORG

***Applications will close once we have reached 90 entries***  
***Applications that come in after 90 entries will be added to our waitlist***  
***No entries will be considered after September 8<sup>th</sup>.***





Please Print or Type

Name of Organization or Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parade Unit On-Site Contact:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(see rules - if same as main contact, please indicate)

Type of Unit:	Commercial Float (eligible for judging)	Antique/Custom Vehicle
<i>Circle one</i>	Non-Commercial Float (eligible for judging required)	Horses (Clean-up crew)
	Marchers/Walkers Only	Dogs
	Other (decorated) - describe: _____	

Total length of entry needed for parade line-up staging

**(please specify total feet, number and types of vehicles):**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are there walkers with your vehicle/float entry? Yes No / **If Yes, approximate number** \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to have your float judged for competition? Yes No

**Music is Encouraged!** Does your entry have music? Yes No

What type of items do you plan to pass out? Please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Commentary for your entry (this will be read during the parade): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Entry Fee (suggested donation):** Chamber Members \$25, Non-Members Non-Profits \$35, Non-Members \$50

Check/Money Order (made payable to the Morton Chamber of Commerce)

Visa/MC/Discover Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ **OR call the Morton Chamber of Commerce to make a payment over the phone 309-263-2491**

**Line Up will be released by 5pm on Friday, September 15  
No units will be considered after September 8<sup>th</sup>.**



# Parade Rules and Regulations

**Parade entries must be decorated** to the 2023 Festival theme -- "Farmin' Pumpkins"

**No weapons or items resembling a weapon.** If you are in doubt about whether something is a weapon or resembles a weapon, please do not bring it to the parade. If you bring such items, you will be kindly asked to put the items away during the parade.

**Float entries must be** on a hayrack or flatbed trailer. Maximum height of floats is 13 feet, 9 inches in order to clear electrical lines.

**All walkers must be 8 years old or older.** Younger children can safely ride on floats or be pushed/pulled in strollers or wagons accompanied by an adult. **For safety, please make sure walkers stay a safe distance from vehicles and floats at all times.**

**Entries must keep their unit moving** along the parade route and must keep a distance of no more than 30 feet between their unit and the entry in front of them.

**No literature may be distributed.**

**No confetti or streamers may be thrown.**

**Candy or toys may be distributed as follows:**

- No candy or toys can be thrown from a float, car, truck, or tractor.
- Candy or toys may be thrown into the crowd by people walking alongside an entry.
- Walkers must be a minimum of 5' away from an entry when throwing candy or toys.
  - All candy must be thrown to the curb so as not to endanger any children that may run into the street
- Entries should not stop along the route for candy/toy throwers to refill their containers.

**Antique and custom vehicles** may enter individually or as part of a group with a limit of 5 vehicles for any one group. Antique tractors pulling a float will be counted as part of the float entry.

**Marching/Walking units** are limited to:

- Morton Boy Scout or Girl Scout Club
- Marching Band
- Flag or Rifle Corp
- Military/Veteran's organization
- Politicians, as noted by rules regarding political entries
- Mascots and kid-friendly characters

**Semi units are not** permitted in the parade.

**Animal units are required** to have their own cleanup system and/or crew.

**Commercial Vehicles may enter** the parade if they are:

- Pulling a float decorated to festival theme.
- Being used by a non-profit Morton organization and are decorated to festival theme.
- Being used by approved dignitary.

**Area politicians** may enter as a separate unit or may ride on the float/entry for their party. This includes State Senators, State Representatives, Judges, Regional/County offices, and local offices.

**No inflammatory**, negative, or profane language, messaging **or music**

**No scary** costumes or haunted house related entries

**No flips**, back-hand-springs, or acrobatics of any kind

**No provocative** clothing, displays, signage, **or music**

**Do not leave** any personal items on Lincoln School's property or on Grace Church property at the beginning of the Parade route. The school will be locked up as soon as the parade finishes stepping off.

**No floats** will be allowed to be parked or pre-set in it's assigned location in the line-up until 8:00am on Saturday, September 16.

**Parade officials reserve the right to restrict, limit, or reject (at any time including during the parade) any entry that in the sole determination of parade officials is inflammatory, controversial, and/or upsetting, or does not abide by the rules and regulations.**

**Parade officials will welcome and visit with parade entries and their Parade Unit On-Site Contacts during the staging of the parade in order to promote compliance with these rules and regulations. We please ask for your cooperation in making the parade enjoyable for all concerned.**

**Sign below and return this waiver with application**

**RELEASE AND CONSENT.** IT IS ACKNOWLEDGED AND AGREED THAT THE EVENT (THE "EVENT") THAT IS DESCRIBED IN THE DOCUMENTS, WEB PAGES, AND/OR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS RELEASE AND CONSENT IS A POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS ACTIVITY AND I, FOR MYSELF, AND FOR ANY AND ALL OF MY MINOR CHILDREN OR PERSONS OVER WHOM I HAVE GUARDIANSHIP PARTICIPATING IN OR ATTENDING THE EVENT, AND ALL OUR HEIRS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND EXECUTORS (COLLECTIVELY, "PARTICIPANTS"), HEREBY VOLUNTARILY ASSUME FULL AND COMPLETE RESPONSIBILITY FOR, AND THE RISK OF, ANY INJURY OR ACCIDENT THAT MAY OCCUR DURING PARTICIPANTS' PARTICIPATION IN THE EVENT.

TO THE FULLEST EXTENT OF THE LAW, PARTICIPANTS HEREBY RELEASE, HOLD HARMLESS, AND COVENANT NOT TO FILE SUIT AGAINST (I) THE MORTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND ITS AFFILIATES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, VOLUNTEERS, AGENTS, AND EMPLOYEES (COLLECTIVELY, "CHAMBER"); (II) ANY EVENT SPONSORS; AND (III) ALL OTHER PERSONS OR ENTITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE EVENT (COLLECTIVELY, THE "RELEASEES"), FOR ANY INJURY OR DAMAGES PARTICIPANTS MIGHT SUFFER IN CONNECTION WITH THE EVENT. THIS RELEASE APPLIES TO ANY AND ALL LOSSES, LIABILITIES, OR CLAIMS PARTICIPANTS MAY HAVE ARISING OUT OF THE EVENT, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PERSONAL INJURY OR DAMAGE SUFFERED BY PARTICIPANTS OR OTHERS, WHETHER SUCH LOSSES, LIABILITIES, OR CLAIMS BE CAUSED BY CONTACT WITH AND/OR THE ACTIONS OF OTHER PARTICIPANTS, CONDITIONS OF THE EVENT AND EVENT PREMISES, NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES, RISKS NOT KNOWN TO PARTICIPANTS OR NOT REASONABLY FORESEEABLE AT THIS TIME, OR OTHERWISE. THIS RELEASE IS INTENDED TO BE A COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF LIABILITY TO THE GREATEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW.

In addition, Participants give consent and permission to the Chamber, its affiliates and sponsors, and their successors, licensees, and assigns, the irrevocable right to use, for any purpose whatsoever and without compensation, (i) any photographs, vid eotapes, audiotapes, or other recordings of Participants that are made during the course of the Event; and (ii) the results of Partic-ipants' participation in the Event.

Participants understand that (i) this Release and Consent is given in consideration for being permitted to participate in the Event; (ii) that Participants may be removed from the Event if Participants do not follow all the rules of the Event; and (iii) Participants are voluntary participants in the Event. Participants are in good physical condition and are solely responsible for their personal health, safety, and personal property.

This Release and Consent shall be construed under the laws of the State of Illinois. In the event any provision of this Release and Consent is deemed unenforceable by law, (i) the Chamber shall have the right to modify such provision to the extent necessary to be deemed enforceable; and (ii) all other provisions of this Release and Consent shall remain in full force and effect. Participants understand that Participants have given up substantial rights by signing this Release and Consent, and agree to these terms freely and voluntarily without any inducement, assurance, or guarantee.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_