



Dear Parade Applicant:

You are cordially invited to participate in the 42st Annual Summerfest Parade on **Saturday, August 22, 2025 at 11:30a.m.** Check-in and line-up begin at 10:00a.m. Line up at Hayes and State Street under the tent.

Please find attached an entry form to complete and return. Below are the parade rules for 2025. Please read them carefully and comply.

The theme for this year's parade is: **A Day at the Beach**. Is your day at the beach getting that ideal tan? Maybe you want to Hang 10 and ride the waves. Whatever it looks like, show off your favorite beach activities and themes!

SUMMERFEST PARADE RULES:

1. The main objective of the Summerfest Parade is to entertain, promote the community of Hastings and all of Barry County and to celebrate summer.
2. All parade entries must be made on an official parade application and returned to the Barry County Chamber of Commerce or parade chair.
3. The Summerfest Parade's Committee has the final decision as to the suitability of entries in the parade. Notification or rejection is made as soon as possible but no later than 8 hours before parade time.
4. Political candidates are allowed; however, they must follow these rules:
 - a. They must be an officially announced candidate.
 - b. A poster or banner must contain their name and the office for which they are running.
5. Political / Social / Other issues are not considered for parade entries.
6. Horses and riders are welcomed to appear with the following restrictions:
 - a. Horses must be of good temperament and able to deal being around large crowds.
 - b. Riders should be experienced and knowledgeable of handling their animals.
 - c. Horse units must provide for and take care of any cleanup necessary from the time they arrive until their departure. No parade cleanup is provided.
7. Motor vehicles must travel the entire route at parade speed without breakdowns. Check your cooling system.
8. Float participants shall not ride and/or perform on floats when:
 - a. Exposed to open rotary equipment, belts, pulleys and other such devices.
 - b. Devices and/or platforms not well secured while participants are sitting, standing and/or performing.
 - c. Handrails and/or grab bars have not been provided.
 - d. Parade participants **shall not throw** and/or distribute material from floats during the parade. Tossing of candy, gum, flowers, etc. from the mobile units is prohibited. Walkers **can't throw candy**. Walkers need to walk over to the crowd and distribute the candy. "Throw it at their feet."
 - e. Dancing and/or similar activities is not allowed on the floats while in motion.
 - f. An adult must accompany children under 12 years old.
 - g. Persons walking with a float must stay 10 feet away on all sides.
 - h. Fire extinguishers are recommended on all floats.



9. Lineup begins at 10:00 a.m. and check in at the corner of State Street and Hayes Street. We will be under a pop-up tent at the entry area for the parade. Someone from your group must check in to receive your line-up position. Experience has shown us that we need this time to properly prepare a well-organized parade.
10. The parade begins at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 22nd, 2025 – rain or shine. Please help by observing the above time requirements.
11. Everyone who enters is recognized.
12. If you have a large group, please have a meeting place, and have one person register your entry.
13. If you have walkers, they must be ready to walk at Step Off. You cannot drive them towards the front, and then unload. This results in large gaps.
14. Remember to stay right behind the entrant in front of you, not right in front of the entrant behind you!

Thank you for considering the 2025 Summerfest Parade. We look forward to receiving your application.

The Hastings Summerfest Parade is subject to cancellation and the rules are subject to amendment, due to weather, sickness, accidents, riots, labor disputes or strikes, epidemics, acts of nature or public enemy, governmental order, law or regulation, or any other legitimate conditions beyond the control of either party in agreement.

Please contact us and return your application as stated below.

Barry County Chamber of Commerce
221 W. State Street, Hastings MI 49058
(269) 945-2454
parade@hastingssummerfest.com



ENTRY PARTICIPANT: _____

CONTACT: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: (Day) _____ **(Evening)** _____

EMAIL: _____ **Please email me next year** Y N

ENTRY INFO

Walkers: Y N Animals: Y N Approx Length of Entry: _____

Distributing Materials / Candy (DO NOT THROW): Y N

Entry Description (Float, bus, walkers, etc.): _____

ENTRY ANNOUNCEMENT:

Please fill in as much information as possible. This material is used to announce your entry as you pass in front of the announcer. It is used for the radio broadcast and gives your entry the proper recognition it deserves.

ENTITY NAME: _____

Years in Parade: _____

I have read the application form and agree to accept responsibility for the conduct of my unit. All members and drivers have been instructed as to parade guidelines, time, and route. I have read the parade rules and the City of Hastings Participant Instructions and agree to the guidelines.

INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT

I _____ agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Summerfest Committee, Barry County Chamber of Commerce and the City of Hastings from any claim, demand, suit, loss, cost of expense or any damage which may be asserted, claimed or recovered against or from the Summerfest Committee, Barry County Chamber of Commerce or the City of Hastings be the reason of any damage to property, personal injury or bodily injury, including death, sustained by any person whomever in which damage, injury or death arises out of or is incident to or in any way connected with the performance of this parade, regardless of which claim, demand, damage, loss, cost of expense is caused in whole or part by the negligence of the Summerfest Committee, Barry County Chamber of Commerce, the City of Hastings, or by third parties or any of the agents, servants, employees or factors of any of them.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____