

To: Parade Participants 2015
From: Amy Hamilton, Recreation Director

Thank you for participating in Bedford's special celebration. Please take a minute to review this important information AND SHARE THIS WITH THE MEMBERS OF YOUR GROUP. Our emphasis is always on safety, so please do all that you can do to assist in making this a safe event for all.

PLEASE NOTE THESE IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS:

1. All groups with children must provide escorts from the drop off loop on Loomis Street to the group's meeting spot on Page Field. This will ensure that parents are handing their children to the appropriate groups.
2. Performances at the Reviewing Stand will be limited to one minute to avoid interrupting the parade pace. Performances along the way should be handled with discretion to avoid creating gaps between groups.

ATTACHMENTS:

- **Parade Staging Overview Map**
- **3 Specific Staging Area Maps**

Identifiers: All groups must have a means of identifying the group to the parade goers (sign, banner, etc.)

Please note: Loomis Street between South Road and Great Rd, as well as streets off of Loomis will be closed to automobiles at 10:00!

GROUP STAGING AREAS:

STAGING AREA 3: PAGE FIELD: *Minuteman Company, BHS Sexuality & Gender Alliance, Bedford MA DI, Bedford Youth Soccer, Bedford Embraces Diversity, PMC, Girl Scouts, Cultural Council, Pop Warner, Callahan's Karate, Thompson Lodge, Mu-Sa Total Martial Arts, LBYH, Attitudes Dance, and Montessori School.*

Members must arrive at Page Field by 9:50 AM because the road closes at 10:00. Please note specific staging instructions on the attached map (Staging Area 3). All group areas will be clearly marked by signs on the field.

The parking lot at Page field is designated as a drop off spot only and will have a one way flow of traffic! Group escorts will meet parade participants here and walk them to their groups. **Children are never to be dropped at the end of Loomis unless escorted by a parent to Page Field.**

STAGING AREA 2: DEANGELO DRIVE: *Citizen of the Year, Historical Society, COA, BHS Cheerleaders, BHS JROTC, BHS Marching Band, Democratic Town Committee, Bedford Family Connection, Bedford 4-H, Riggio, Cub Scouts Troop 194, POMS, Bedford Children's Center, Rotary Club, Serv Pro, Mothers Out Front, Guard Up!, MCC and Kamate Fitness.*

The above groups along with their floats and parade vehicles will line up @ Deangelo Drive no later than 9:50 AM (Loomis Street closes at 10:00). Vehicles and floats will face Loomis Street. To line up, drive to the end of Deangelo Drive and turn around in the circle at the end of the road. **Please do not try to maneuver a three point turn into your spot.** Each group's staging area will be marked. Please see the attached map of Staging Area 2 for your group's specific location. **Children are never to be dropped at the end of Loomis unless escorted by a parent to Deangelo Drive.**

STAGING AREA 1: BEDFORD EMERGENCY VEHICLES/ DPW AND DIGNITARIES: These groups will be in Staging Area 1 (map attached). Groups should arrive no later than 10:00AM (DPW 10:15 AM). DPW vehicles enter all parade apparatus on Lane Ave and line up starting on the corner of Winthrop and Loomis once all Fire vehicles are in place. Dignitaries will meet at the corner of Great Road & Loomis Street.

MANDATORY SAFETY CHECK: Drivers of all FLOATS AND OTHER NON-EMERGENCY AND NON-DPW VEHICLES must meet on foot at the intersection of Loomis St. and DeAngelo Drive at 9:45 for a safety briefing. The Police Chief/Police Representative will inspect all vehicles for safety prior to the start of the parade.

There is no parking for floats at the end of the parade. We ask that riders be dropped off at the end of the parade near Wilson Park. Vehicles must continue on either Route 62 or Routes 4/225.

The parade route begins at the intersection of The Great Rd. and Loomis St., proceeds north on The Great Rd. and turns left onto Mudge Way, where it ends. Parade steps off at 10:30. Distance is a little less than a mile, up-hill, so be prepared to walk. If driving vehicles in the parade, ensure that your vehicle is prepared to travel at a slow speed. If your vehicle is open and will be transporting people, please make sure that the railings are adequately strong to secure your passengers.

Please contact me at the Recreation Office 781-275-1392 or amy@bedfordma.gov with any questions prior to Bedford Day.

Once again, thank you for your assistance in making Bedford Day a successful and **SAFE** celebration.

Partial list of float/vehicle safety considerations:

- Please use seatbelts if available.
- Make sure everyone is seated during the operation of the vehicle or float.
- Floats may not exceed 5 mph while occupants are on the float.
- Drivers must have 360-degree vision or communication.
- Maintain 50 feet from the unit in front of you.
- Drivers are to focus on driving, not waving or tossing candy.
- Candy must be tossed into the crowd, not on the road.
- Drivers are to not use cell phones during parade.
- All floats will have an adult assigned to ensure all occupants are seated and children are controlled (other than the driver).
- No riders will have arms or legs dangling from the float.
- No riders will be sitting at the front of the float where there is potential for a rider to fall between the trailer and towing vehicle.
- The float must come to a complete stop and driver must place the vehicle in “park” before any member gets on or off. Driver will announce that people can now get on or off.
- Driver or designated observer must announce to all riders when the vehicle is starting movement or stopping movement, to avoid falling due to a jerking motion.
- All drivers will have a valid driver’s license.
- Please make sure all material and decorations are securely fastened.
- Trailers must meet safety standards and operational requirements.
- No smoking on float.

Safety Before, During, and After the Bedford Day Parade Is Our Number One Priority!