



December 5, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Inclement Weather Date is Friday, December 11

Location: The Parade will start at Main Street & Maddox Boulevard and end at the old Fire House. Entries may stop at the Judge's Stand in front of Chincoteague Island Library for a short performance.

What to Expect: Enchanting floats, fire companies, bands, marching units, religious groups, decorated boats & golf carts, equestrian teams, classic cars, and more. Keep an eye out for Santa too!

After Parade: Festivities continue at the Chincoteague American Legion Post 159, 4023 Main Street. Take a photo with Santa while enjoying complimentary hot dogs and refreshments provided by the Kiwanis Club of Chincoteague.

Awards: 1st & 2nd place trophies & monetary prizes will be awarded in 8 categories!

Plus, Best In Show will be awarded to the entry that best depicts the theme.

Winners will be announced through a Facebook Live Video as soon as the votes have been tallied and posted to the Chincoteague Chamber Facebook and website.

Annual Toy Run: The Chincoteague Police Department will be collecting new, unwrapped toys for their Annual Toy Run during the parade. Please consider making a donation and help put smiles on the faces of less-fortunate children this holiday season.

Visit ChincoteagueChamber.com for updates and information about participating in the parade.

ENTRY DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 23rd

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARADE PARTICIPANTS

Chincoteague Old-Fashioned Christmas Parade: December 5, 2026
(Inclement weather date is Friday, December 11)

To Participate, fill out the attached application and submit to the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce. **You must read the Regulations and Liability Waiver**, check the box acknowledging that you have read and understand, sign and date the page, and return it with your application.

Deadline to submit: November 23rd

MAIL TO: 6733 Maddox Blvd. Chincoteague Island, VA 23336

FAX TO: 757-336-1242

EMAIL TO: events@chincoteaguechamber.com

Line Up Numbers: Visit ChincoteagueChamber.com or Facebook.com/ChincoteagueChamber for updates & line up number & line up map AFTER NOON ON DECEMBER 4.

Parade line up is at 5:30PM beginning at the intersection of Main Street and Maddox Boulevard. North on Main Street toward the Chincoteague Combined School - some entries will be held in the school parking lot. Please know your line number and follow directions of the volunteers to your designated holding area.

Equestrian groups are provided a special designated space off the line-up route but near their place in line... the areas are on the grass, near lighting and rest rooms with adequate parking for your trailers. Please plan to congregate at these designated areas and you will be directed to your place in line as it approaches your group. **Equestrian groups must provide a person/vehicle to clean up after their horses, so the road is clean for those that follow.**

High School Marching Bands: There is a travel expense allowance of \$200 for each participating high school marching band.

Parade starts at 6:00 PM

Voting will take place at the Judge's Stand in front of the Chincoteague Island Library. Entries should pause at the Judge's Stand and may stop for a short performance.

After Parade: Participants are welcome to stop at the Chincoteague American Legion Post 159, 4023 Main Street to visit Santa while enjoying hot dogs and refreshments provided by the Kiwanis Club of Chincoteague.

Award Winners will be announced through a Facebook Live Video 20 to 30 minutes after the parade and posted to the Chincoteague Chamber Facebook and website. If you have won, feel free to contact Moriah Lemming at 540-454-4196 on the night of the parade or the Chamber office at 757-336-6161 during business hours to collect your trophy and monetary award. Winners will be contacted by the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce for pick up arrangements. Please provide a good phone number and email on your entry form for notification.

Award Categories:

Best Float
"Reason for the Season" Religious Group
Marching Unit/Performance Group
Decorated Boat
Equestrian Unit
Vintage/Antique Cars and Vehicle
Decorated Golf Cart
Marching Band

All judged entries are eligible for the **Best in Show** prize awarded to the entrant that best depicts the theme.

Entry Form

A Star-Spangled Christmas

Celebrating America's 250th Anniversary

46th Annual Chincoteague Old-Fashioned Christmas Parade

Organization _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Contact Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Alternate Contact Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Introduction to be read as you pass the judges (10-20 seconds, must fit in area provided)

Category (YOU MUST SELECT ONE):

☐ Float

☐ Religious Group

☐ Marching Unit/Performance Group

☐ Decorated Boat

☐ Equestrian Unit

☐ Vintage/Antique Car or Vehicle

☐ Decorated Golf Cart

☐ Marching Band

☐ Not-Judged

Approx. length required for your entry during line-up: _____

Will you stop to perform for the judges? YES _____ NO _____

Brief description of your entry for logistics: _____

The attached Parade Regulations and Liability Waiver MUST be completed & submitted with your parade entry form to participate. Deadline to submit: November 23rd

**PLEASE READ! Chincoteague Old-Fashioned Christmas Parade
Regulations and Liability Waiver**

Parade Rules:

- **MUST REGISTER** - All Chincoteague Old-Fashioned Christmas Parade entries must submit a parade entry form and completed Parade Regulations and Liability Waiver to the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce prior to parade date to participate. Walk-ons and entries with no waiver on file, will not be permitted to participate.
- **FAMILY FRIENDLY** - All aspects of entry must be appropriate for all ages, as parade is a family-friendly event.
- **NO SANTAS** are permitted in the parade.
 - Why? The real Santa has already accepted our invitation! The finale of the parade is always Santa riding on a firetruck. It is confusing to the children to have more than one Santa in the parade.
- **NO THROWING CANDY** or other items. Items must be handed to spectators and the distribution is the sole responsibility and liability of the parade participant.
 - Why? Throwing items, including candy is dangerous and can lead to children running toward moving parade entries. It also causes excessive litter on the streets and sidewalks of Chincoteague.
- **All motorized vehicles** must be registered, insured, and driven by a licensed operator.
- **Stay seated or secured** - Parade participants riding on a parade entry must remain seated, or if standing be secured in place by an adequate safety strap or harness, throughout entire length of parade.
- **Animals**, including but not limited to horses, ponies, dogs, and goats, must be controlled by handlers at all times and participants assume full responsibility and liability for their actions.
- **Animal refuse** must be removed from the parade route immediately. Please plan accordingly.

PLEASE NOTE, ANY VIOLATION OF THE ABOVE RULES MAY RESULT IN YOUR REMOVAL FROM THE PARADE AND FUTURE APPLICATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION BEING DECLINED. PARADE OFFICIALS HAVE AUTHORITY TO REMOVE ANY PARADE ENTRY.

Waiver:

The undersigned acknowledges that they shall inspect all aspects of their parade entry prior to usage and ensure said entry is safe for its use and purposes, in good state of repair, and there are no problems posing threat of injury of any kind to any volunteers, employees, agents, and/or guests of the undersigned, or to any third party.

The undersigned further acknowledges that the activities of the parade (including pre- and post-parade activities) are dangerous and involve risk of serious injury, death, and/or property damage. The undersigned agrees on behalf of their parade entry, to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce and its affiliates, employees, agents, and representatives connected with the parade for any personal injuries, property loss, or damage suffered by any person as a result of the actions of the parade participants connected to the group, float, or individuals.

☐ By checking this box, I acknowledge that I have read and voluntarily sign the release and waiver of liability and indemnity agreement. I understand the rules of the Chincoteague Old-Fashioned Christmas Parade and agree to comply under penalty of removal from parade activities.

SIGNATURE

DATE

PLEASE ENSURE WAIVER BOX IS CHECKED AND FORM IS SIGNED AND DATED BEFORE SUBMITTING.