

Frequently Asked Questions for 2009

When is the parade? Saturday, October 24, 2009 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Will the 2009 Millersville Community Parade have bands and balloons?

Yes, the parade committee is planning on hosting approximately 15 musical entertainers and several large helium balloons.

Where and when does the parade begin and end? This parade begins at Penn Manor High School (off of Cottage Ave.) as close as possible to 9:00 A.M. The parade usually reaches the Grandstand in front of the MU Student Memorial Center (S. George St.) at about 9:30 A.M. The end of the parade (effective 2009) will be on James Street, as parade entries pass the reviewing stand and make a left onto James Street (adjacent to Charles Gordinier Hall on the MU campus).

How long is the parade? From the time the first parade entry passes your viewing location, you should anticipate about 3 hours until the final entry arrives.

What is the parade route? The parade begins at Penn Manor High School and then proceeds onto Herr Avenue; crossing Cottage Avenue, New Street, Quarry Drive, Charlotte Street and Kready Avenue. The parade then turns left onto Landis Avenue and continues to North George Street. The parade then turns left again onto N. George Street and marches toward the university; crossing Kready Avenue, Charlotte Street, Cottage Avenue, Model Avenue, Normal Avenue, East Frederick Street, Ann Street and James Street. Finally, the parade passes by the Millersville University Student Memorial Center, where the parade grandstand and emcees are stationed; then all entries turn left onto James Street. The parade ends at the parking lot on James Street (effective 2009). [Approximate parade length: 2 miles]

ATTENTION MILLERSVILLE RESIDENTS: If you live on any of the streets along the parade route, or those between Herr Ave. and N. George St., you will not be able to drive anywhere on parade day between 8:45 A.M. & approximately 12 noon unless you prepare ahead of time. If you anticipate needing to leave during the parade, please move your vehicle outside of the parade route before 8:45. In the event of an emergency, access to any street will be provided as needed.

Where can we park? Free Parking is available in any of the Millersville University parking lots; all of which are only a short walking distance from the parade route, as well as borough streets where available and legal. There is a very large parking lot behind the MU Student Memorial Center, which is at the end of the parade route. This lot is very popular with participants who wish to leave after they complete the parade, but before the entire parade is over. Also, *the Millersville Community Parade committee provides a continuous shuttle service from this lot to the parade staging area at Penn Manor High School.* All participants are strongly encouraged to park in this large lot and ride the shuttle to cut down on congestion in the staging area. Parents are welcome to ride the shuttle over with their children and then ride it back again once the children are with their respective organization. Handicapped parking is available at most parking lots on the Millersville University campus.

Where should I drop off my child and pick them up? Children who are in the parade may be dropped off at Penn Manor High School at the time specified by their group leader and go directly to their parade line-up location. It is suggested that participants park behind the MU Student Memorial Center and ride the shuttle bus to Penn Manor. Parents are welcome to ride the shuttle over with their child and then ride it back again once the children are with their respective organizations. Then, you will already be parked near the end of the parade and can simply leave from there once your child passes by the grandstand. If you park elsewhere, you will still need to meet your child at the MU Student Memorial Center (end of the parade) and then walk to your vehicle. The walk from the Student Center back to Penn Manor is a long one! PLEASE use the shuttle service.

Will the parade be canceled if it rains? How will we know? This parade is advertised to occur rain or shine; so in the event of drizzle or light rain showers, you should assume that the parade will proceed as scheduled. However, in the event of thunderstorms or heavy rain, the parade will be canceled (unfortunately with no rain date). If the parade is canceled, you can get this information by calling the parade hotline at (717) 871.2213, University Information: 872.3024 or by listening to WARM 103.3 FM radio.

Are vendors allowed along the parade route?

Yes; there is a fee for vendors mandated by the Millersville Borough. For more information about vending, please contact the Borough Office at 717.872.4645.

How can I become a volunteer? Contact the parade chairman or volunteer chair at 717.872.3352 for additional information on job descriptions/duties.

Is there a cost to be in the parade? The cost for participating in this year's parade is free to most entrants except businesses and political entities that will be running for office, which will be assessed a \$150 per vehicle entry fee.

Where is the staging for the parade lineup?

Staging for the parade will begin at Penn Manor High School and will include Circle Road and part of Herr Avenue, adjacent to the Penn Manor High School area.

Can our group give out candy to people along the parade route?

Candy may be **GIVEN OUT** during the parade; however, it may only be handed out by individuals walking along the parade route. Candy (nor any other item) **CANNOT** be **THROWN** from floats, cars or other parade entry vehicles.

Are there regulations regarding who may handle the large helium balloons?

Balloons must be carried by individuals ages 12 and up (and weight more than 120 pounds). Children may walk along with the balloon; however, they will be difficult to supervise by anyone handling a balloon.

Can my entry include horses or dogs (or other animals)?

Yes. It is the responsibility of the person owning (or using) the horses, dogs or other animals to provide their own cleanup crew. If someone is not present to clean up after the animals, the entry will be disqualified from the parade and taken out of the lineup.

www.parade.millersville.edu