

Downtown South Boston

Christmas Parade Entry Application

Parade Date:

 Saturday, December 5, 2026
 5:00 PM

Early Bird Registration Deadline:

 Friday, November 20, 2026

- Applications received after the final EARLY BIRD deadline will require an additional **\$10 registration fee**.

Final Registration Deadline:

 Thursday, December 3, 2026, at 5:00

Registration Contact Information:

 Phone: 434-575-4208

 Email: info@downtownsobo.com

2026 South Boston Christmas Parade Registration Information

Section A

Contact Information (Required for All Entries)

Organization/Business/Individual: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Choose Your Entry Type (Check One)

- ☐ Float → Complete **Section B: pg. 3**
 - ☐ General Walking Group → Complete **Section C: pg. 4**
 - ☐ Antique Vehicle (30 years or older – 1996 or older) → Complete **Section D: pg. 5**
 - ☐ Individual Vehicle (Car/Truck/Jeep/etc.) → Complete **Section E: pg. 6**
 - ☐ Dog Entry → Complete **Section F: pg. 7**
 - ☐ Horse Entry → Complete **Section G: pg. 8**
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Section B - Float

Entry Fee

☐ Business – \$30

☐ non-profit – \$20

Float Name: _____

Float Dimensions

Length: _____

Width: _____

Height: _____

Towing Vehicle Information

Please provide complete information for any vehicle towing your float or trailer.

- Year: _____
- Make: _____
- Model: _____
- Color: _____
- Company Name (if applicable): _____
- Vehicle Description (including logos, lettering, or identifying markings):

- License Plate: _____
- Driver Name: _____
- Driver Phone: _____

Section C - General Walking Group

Entry Fee

☐ Business – \$30

☐ non-profit – \$20

Group/Organization Name: _____

Type of Group (check one):

☐ Business

☐ non-profit

☐ Community Group

☐ School/Youth Group

☐ Other: _____

Number of Participants: _____

Will your group have a banner or sign identifying your entry?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please describe:

Will your group use any props, decorations, or other items during the parade?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please describe:

Person in Charge During Parade: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Section D – Antique Vehicle

(Vehicle must be 30 years old or older – Model Year 1996 or older.)

Entry Fee

☐ \$10 per vehicle

☐ \$20 for a group of 4 vehicles

Group/Club Name (if applicable): _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone: _____

Antique Vehicle Group Listing (Up to 4 Vehicles)

Total	Make	Model	Year	Color	Driver	Phone
1						
2						
3						
4						

Antique Vehicle Group Listing (Up to 4 Vehicles)

Total	Make	Model	Year	Color	Driver	Phone
1						
2						
3						
4						

Section E – Individual Vehicle (Car/Truck/Jeep/etc.)

Entry Fee

☐ Business – \$30 per vehicle

☐ non-profit – \$20 per vehicle

Year: _____

Make: _____

Model: _____

Vehicle Length: _____

Driver Name/Group Leader Name: _____

Driver Phone: _____

Group Info

Total	Make	Model	Year	Color	Driver	Phone
1						
2						
3						
4						

Group Info

Total	Make	Model	Year	Color	Driver	Phone
1						
2						
3						
4						

Section F - Dog Entry

Entry Fee

☐ \$5 per dog

Owner's Name: _____

Dog's Name: _____

Breed: _____

Current Vaccinations?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Dog Entry Guidelines

- All dogs must always remain under the control and supervision of their handler.
- Handlers are responsible for their dog's behavior, safety, and cleanup during and after the parade.
- All dogs must be current on required vaccinations.
- Dogs must be comfortable in a crowded environment with loud noises, music, vehicles, and other animals.
- Aggressive or unsafe behavior may result in removal from the parade lineup.
- Dogs must remain on a leash or secured in a safe manner unless otherwise approved by parade officials.
- Handlers are responsible for bringing necessary supplies, including water, waste bags, and any items needed for their dog's comfort.
- Please do not bring a dog that is sick, injured, or showing signs of illness.
- If your dog becomes stressed or unable to safely participate, handlers must remove the dog from the parade route.
- Owners/handlers are responsible for any damage, injury, or incidents involving their dog.
- Parade organizers reserve the right to adjust placement or remove any entry for safety concerns.

We are excited to have our four-legged participants join us for the parade! Thank you for helping make this a safe, clean, and enjoyable event for everyone. Your cooperation and responsible participation helped ensure great experience for all parade guests and participants. We look forward to seeing you there!

Section G - Horse Entry

Proof of a current negative Coggins test is required for participation

Entry Fee

- ☐ \$10 per horse
- ☐ \$20 for a group of 4 horses

Entry Type

- ☐ Individual Rider/Owner
- ☐ Group/Organization/Club

Group Name (if applicable): _____

Primary Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Number of Horses Entering: _____

Horse & Rider Information

#	Horse Name	Breed	Rider Name	Coggins Provided
1	_____	_____	_____	☐ Yes ☐ No
2	_____	_____	_____	☐ Yes ☐ No
3	_____	_____	_____	☐ Yes ☐ No
4	_____	_____	_____	☐ Yes ☐ No

(Attach additional sheets if entering more than 4 horses.)

(Required for All Entries)
Music Information

Will your entry have music?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what type of music will be played?

How will the music be provided?

☐ Live Performance

☐ Recorded Music

☐ Other: _____

Will the music be amplified (speaker/sound system)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

(Required for All Entries)
Announcer Information

Please provide a brief description (50 words or less) to be read as your entry passes the announcer.

Tow Vehicle Requirements

If your float is pulled by a business vehicle not affiliated with your registered entry, please complete the Tow Vehicle Information Sheet. Towing vehicles displaying business logos or advertising must either submit a \$10 sponsorship contribution to Destination Downtown South Boston or cover all business branding with Christmas decorations during the parade.

The South Boston Christmas Parade

Rules & Expectations

Thank you for participating in the SOBO Christmas Parade! Our goal is to provide a safe, fun, and festive experience for participants and spectators. Please review the following rules before submitting your entry.

Registration Requirements

- All parade entries must submit a completed application and applicable entry fee by the registration deadline.
- Entries received after the deadline may be subject to a late registration fee or may not be accepted.
- All entries must provide accurate contact information and entry details.
- Any changes to your entry after registration must be reported to parade organizers.

Parade Theme & Decorations

- All entries must follow the Christmas parade theme and include appropriate decorations.
- Entries should be family-friendly and suitable for all ages.
- Only **one Santa Claus** is permitted in the parade. Santa will be the final entry in the parade.
- Businesses and organizations are encouraged to creatively incorporate their theme, branding, and holiday spirit.

Lineup & Parade Day Expectations

- Lineup information will be provided prior to parade day.
- All entries must check in upon arrival and park only in their assigned lineup location.
- Please arrive on time and be prepared to participate safely.
- Larger entries, floats, trailers, and animal groups should arrive early to allow adequate time for placement.
- All entries must display their organization/entry name and assigned lineup number where it is visible to judges and announcers.

Safety Requirements

- All drivers must be **21 years of age or older**.
- Drivers must have a valid license and operate vehicles safely.
- No reckless driving, spinning tires, revving engines, or actions that may create unsafe conditions.
- No motorcycles, golf carts, three-wheelers, dirt bikes, or similar vehicles are permitted unless approved by parade organizers.
- Tractor trailers and oversized vehicles require prior approval.
- Entries must maintain a safe distance from the entry in front of them.

Candy & Spectator Interaction

- **Throwing candy or items from moving vehicles is strictly prohibited.**
- Candy may only be distributed by walkers safely alongside the parade entry.
- Entries must continue moving and may not stop along the route to visit with spectators.

Vehicle & Float Requirements

- All vehicles, trailers, and floats must be properly decorated.
- Any towing vehicle displaying business logos, advertising, or branding not associated with the registered entry may be required to cover the branding or may be invited to participate as a parade sponsor.
- All towing vehicles and drivers must be listed on the parade application.

Animal Entries

- All animals must always be properly supervised and under control.
- Dog handlers are responsible for leash control, behavior, and cleanup.
- Horses and riders must be experienced and able to safely participate in a parade environment.
- Current animal health documentation may be required.

Parade Conduct

- All entries must remain moving throughout the parade route unless directed otherwise by parade officials.
- Entries may not stop, perform, or block the parade route.
- Participants are expected to represent the parade in a positive, respectful, and family-friendly manner.

Parade Committee Authority

The SOBO Christmas Parade Committee reserves the right to:

- Adjust lineup placement for safety and organization.
- Remove any entry that does not follow parade rules or creates a safety concern.
- Disqualify entries before or during the parade for non-compliance.

No refunds will be issued for entries removed due to rule violations.

Thank you for helping us create a safe, festive, and memorable Christmas Parade experience for our community. We appreciate your participation and look forward to celebrating with you!

Participant Waiver, Release of Liability & Assumption of Risk

By submitting this application, the undersigned agrees to the following terms on behalf of themselves and all participants, drivers, handlers, volunteers, employees, representatives, animals, and property associated with their parade entry.

Assumption of Risk & Release of Liability

I understand that participation in **The South Boston Christmas Parade** involves risks, including but not limited to vehicles, trailers, floats, animals, crowds, weather conditions, road surfaces, equipment, and other participants. I voluntarily assume all risks associated with participation.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, I release and hold harmless **Destination Downtown South Boston, The South Boston Christmas Parade Committee, the Town of South Boston, Downtown South Boston, their employees, volunteers, representatives, sponsors, and agents** from any claims, damages, injuries, losses, expenses, or liabilities arising from participation in the parade.

Responsibility & Safety

I accept full responsibility for the safety, operation, and condition of my entry, including vehicles, trailers, floats, decorations, equipment, animals, and participants. I am responsible for any damage, injury, or incident caused by my entry or those participating with me.

All drivers, operators, and handlers are responsible for following all parade rules and ensuring safe participation. Animal owners/handlers are responsible for the care, control, cleanup, and behavior of their animals.

Cancellation, Postponement & Event Changes

Destination Downtown South Boston reserves the right to delay, modify, postpone, relocate, or cancel the parade due to weather, emergencies, safety concerns, road closures, government requirements, or other circumstances beyond its control.

Participants acknowledge that **Destination Downtown South Boston, The South Boston Christmas Parade Committee, the Town of South Boston, and Downtown South Boston are not responsible for expenses, losses, damage, travel costs, preparation costs, or other expenses resulting from changes, postponement, or cancellation of the event.**

Entry Approval & Removal

Destination Downtown South Boston and the South Boston Christmas Parade Committee reserves the right to approve, deny, modify, or remove any entry that does not comply with parade rules, safety requirements, or community standards. No refunds will be provided for entries removed due to violations or safety concerns.

Media Release

I grant permission to **Destination Downtown South Boston** to take and use photographs, videos, and recordings taken during **The South Boston Christmas Parade** to be used for promotional and community purposes without compensation.

Applicant Affirmation & Signature

By signing below, I affirm that the information provided in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I have read and understand the **South Boston Christmas Parade Rules & Expectations** and agree to comply with all parade requirements.

I understand that I am responsible for all individuals, vehicles, animals, equipment, and property associated with my entry. I acknowledge and agree to the **Participant Waiver, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk, and Hold Harmless Agreement** included with this application.

I understand that failure to follow parade rules, safety requirements, or instructions from parade officials may result in removal from **The South Boston Christmas Parade** without refund.

Entry Name: _____

Organization/Group (if applicable): _____

Printed Name of Applicant/Responsible Party:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Phone Number: _____

FLOAT -- WALKING GROUP/ORGANIZATION -- ANTIQUE CAR

IND. VEHICLE -- DOG -- HORSE

Office Use Only

Date Received: _____

Entry Number: _____

Amount Paid: _____

Music? _____

**(Required for All Entries)
Announcer Information**

Please provide a brief description (50 words or less) to be read as your entry passes the announcer.

Float TOWING INFO

Walking Group/Organization

Antique Car – 30 years or older

Individual Vehicle

Dog – Vaccinations

Horse – Vaccinations/Coggins

Notes:

The South Boston Christmas Parade

Tow Vehicle Information Sheet

Registered Parade Entry: _____

Business/Company Name (if applicable): _____

Driver Name: _____

Driver Phone: _____

Tow Vehicle

- Year: _____
- Make: _____
- Model: _____
- Color: _____

Does the vehicle display business logos or advertising?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If **yes**, choose one:

☐ \$10 Sponsorship Contribution to Destination Downtown South Boston

☐ Business logos/advertising will be covered with Christmas decorations.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Return to:

Destination Downtown South Boston

432 Main Street

South Boston, Va 24592