

Mile Branch Settlement Pioneer Christmas Parade

Rules and Guidelines

2011

The dates for our Pioneer Christmas this year are December 3-4, 2011. On December 3rd, we will officially begin with a parade at 10:00 a.m. that flows from Fairground Road through the middle of town and into the fairgrounds.

The Mile Branch Settlement committee has established a set of rules to govern its parade. Please read these rules carefully before entering the parade. These rules are designed to protect parade entrants and the Mile Branch Settlement. The rules are as follows:

1. The parade will consist of horse or mule drawn wagons or buggies, walking groups, and horses, all dedicated to promoting the goodwill of the Mile Branch Pioneer Christmas. All entries must be dressed in period clothing to maintain the essential flavor and atmosphere of pioneer life.
2. The parade will begin at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, December 3, 2011.
3. All entries must be in line as specified by **8:00am** on the morning of the parade.
4. Parade entrants must register with a member of the Pioneer Christmas committee **NO LATER THAN SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH AT 5:00 p.m.** Entry request may be faxed to **(601)876-3056**. Faxed entries must also be submitted no later than **November 19th at 5:00 p.m.**
5. No motorized vehicles OF ANY TYPE will be permitted. Bicycles are not permitted.
6. Individuals seeking public office will not be allowed to enter campaign entries in the parade.
7. Elected public officials representing Washington Parish residents will be invited to participate in the parade as a representative of their current office, but are required to dress in period clothing and must ride in wagon/buggy, horseback or walk.
8. Business and commercial entries are prohibited as a means of advertising.
9. All participants riding horses will be required to REGISTER BEFORE 9 a.m. behind the rodeo arena the morning of the parade with their horse and proof of coggins in hand. Participants under 18 years of age must have a parent or guardian's signature. Any pace other than a walk at any time prior to, or during the parade will result in immediate expulsion of the horse and rider. Additionally, riders may not purposely STOP their horses or lag more than 5 yards behind the riders ahead.
10. The parade will start and end in the parking lot across from the Rodeo Arena. All unloading/dismantling must be conducted at the end of the parade route.
11. **The ONLY throws allowed will be tootsie rolls, taffy or Mile Branch wooden nickels.** If you wish to purchase Mile Branch wooden nickels please contact a member of the Mile Branch Committee.
12. It is at the Parade Committee's discretion to determine whether or not entries are appropriate for participation. Entries must check-in on the morning of the parade.

- 13.** Any behavior not in keeping with a family atmosphere before or during the parade will result in immediate expulsion.
- 14.** IT IS REQUIRED THAT MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN ATTIRE THEMSELVES IN PROPER PERIOD CLOTHING DURING THE PARADE. Period clothing are those worn during the fair at Mile Branch Settlement, examples can be seen in TV shows such as "Little House on the Prairie." Women who ride horses may wear blue jeans, however long dresses (aprons encouraged) are required for all other women. Males must wear pioneer-western wear (vests, suspenders, and the like are encouraged). Children are included in these clothing requirements. Western hats permissible, NO BASEBALL CAPS, bonnets for women. No modern clothing, printed or mod t-shirts, halter-tops, sequin tops, advertising of any type, heat pressed or screen print artwork allowed.

Any questions or situations not explained in the rules listed above will be answered or handled at the discretion of the parade committee.