

FREE ENTRY

VILLAGE OF MORTON GROVE

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

MORTON GROVE DAYS

250
YEARS

1776 ★ 2026

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2026

2:30 PM | CHECK-IN AT 1:30 PM

BEGINS AT DEMPSTER & CENTRAL

FREE PARADE ENTRY

4' X 8' BANNER FOR ONLY \$50



AN INVITATION FROM THE VILLAGE OF MORTON GROVE FOURTH OF JULY PARADE COMMITTEE

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the Village of Morton Grove's Fourth of July Parade festivities, celebrating the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The Parade offers an excellent opportunity for advertising and brand exposure to local community members. This year, **entry is free** for Morton Grove-based businesses and organizations joining us for this historic celebration.

The 2026 Village of Morton Grove's Fourth of July Parade Participant Contract is enclosed. Please return the contract to us no later than **May 1, 2026**, to secure a position in the parade.

This year's parade will be held on **Saturday, July 4, 2026**. Check-in will be at 1:30 p.m. and the parade will begin promptly at 2:30 p.m. The parade will start at the intersection of Dempster Street and Central Avenue and proceed west down Dempster Street ending at Ferris Avenue.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Amy Raffel at araffel@mortongroveil.org or **847-663-3007**.





2026 Morton Grove 4th of July Parade Participant Application



Date of Parade: Saturday, July 4, 2026 | Check-In Time: 1:30 p.m. (2:00 p.m. latest) | Parade Starts Promptly at 2:30 p.m.

Parade will be held rain or shine — NO RAIN DATE

Participant Direction

- **Check-In:** Check in at **intersection of Mango Avenue and Frontage Road**, just north of Lincoln Avenue. You may only enter northbound from Lincoln Avenue. Bring proof of vehicle insurance unless already provided.
- **Assembly & Staging:** Line up along **Frontage Road**, east of the Mango Avenue intersection, between Lincoln Avenue and Dempster Street.

Parade Participant: _____

Address: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Email: _____ Contact Phone: _____

Entry Fee (see below): \$ _____ * **Special 250th Anniversary Entry Pricing (Base Entry FREE)**

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Payment Type: Check (enclose) Credit Card (enter below)

Card Number: _____ Expiration: ____ / ____ CVC: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

* Make checks payable to *Village of Morton Grove*. Entry fees are non-refundable.

✓	Participant Category	Entry Fee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Profit Organization / Youth Organization (e.g. scouting or sports)	FREE
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business / For-Profit Organization	FREE
✓	Parade Add-Ons	Add-On Fee
<input type="checkbox"/>	4' x 8' Parade Banner Quantity: _____ <small>See next page for details</small>	\$50/banner
<input type="checkbox"/>	Additional Donation	_____
Total Entry Fee		

What vehicle are you entering?			
<small>Motorized vehicles must provide proof of insurance.</small>			
✓	Vehicle Type	Quantity	Length (feet)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Float		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Truck / Pick-Up		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Car / Van / SUV / Car		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Marchers Only		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other: _____		

Will the participant play live or recorded music? Yes No

- Review the Parade Participant Requirements and sign the enclosed Parade Participant / Performer Contract.
- Throwing items from moving vehicles is prohibited. All giveaways must be handed to viewers along the curb only.
- The Village cannot guarantee specific parade positions.

Parade Banner Request (Optional with Add-On Fee)

This information will be used to prepare y one (1) four-foot by eight-foot (4' x 8') banner for your group to carry or display along the parade route. \$50 parade banner fee required. The participant may keep the parade banner following the parade.

Banners will be provided to participants at the parade check-in. Please email your organization's logo, any specific art direction, or completed artwork to administration@mortongroveil.org no later than **May 1, 2026**. Staff will create banner artwork if no artwork is provided.

Name of Group: _____

Additional Text Requested:

Parade Emcee Script Information (Optional)

This information will be used to introduce your group to the audience along the parade route. Please type or write legibly.

Name of Group: _____

City Origin: _____

Individuals to be Recognized (first and last name):

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____

History, Awards, or Other Important Information:

Applicant Checklist

- Complete application (page 1, Parade Banner Request (optional with fee), and/or Parace Emcee Script Information (optional))
- Check payment enclosed or credit card information (if fee applies)
- Signed Parade Participant/Performer Requirements & Contract

Send application and all required items by **May 1, 2026**, to administration@mortongroveil.org or
Attn: Administration, Village of Morton Grove, 6101 Capulina Avenue, Morton Grove, Illinois 60053

PARADE PARTICIPANT/PERFORMER REQUIREMENTS & CONTRACT

THIS PARADE PARTICIPANT/PERFORMER CONTRACT (the "Contract") is hereby entered into by and between the Village of Morton Grove, an Illinois Home Rule Municipal corporation located at 6101 Capulina Avenue, Morton Grove, Illinois ("Village") and the "Parade Participant/Performer" listed above.

1. **Parade Participant/Performer Services Provided:** The Parade Participant/Performer shall actively participate in and perform in the Village's 4th of July parade at the date, time, and location set forth above ("Parade"). The Parade Participant/Performer shall report to the designated staging area set forth above at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of the Parade. The Village and Parade Participant/Performer may modify the time of performance by mutual written agreement.
2. **Parade Rules:** The Parade Participant/Performer agrees to abide by all terms and conditions in the Contract and all direction and requirements contained in the parade application and Contract ("Parade Rules"). Decisions on the application and interpretation of Parade Rules are in the exclusive purview of the Village and the parade official designated by the Village ("Parade Official").
3. **Placement of Position in Parade:** The Parade Participant/Performer must comply with the direction provided herein for check-in, assembly and staging, and will be informed of their position in the Parade at check-in. Parade Participants/Performers must march in the position assigned by the Parade Official or their designee. Late arrivals will be placed in the last section of the Parade. **Buses must stay with performers through the Dempster Street and Central Avenue intersection. Performers must turn left to head westbound along Dempster Street and buses must go northbound through the intersection, following the Village signs for bus parking. Buses must wait for performers on at the designated pick-up location as determined by the Village and communicated to the Parade Participant/Performer in advance of the Parade.**
4. **Parade Pace:** Parade Participants/Performers shall not create unreasonable (over 40 feet) gaps which interrupt the flow of the Parade. If the breakdown of a Parade Participant's/Performer's float or vehicle prevents the forward movement of the Parade, said float or vehicle will be removed from the parade route by the Parade Participant/Performer at the nearest intersection, at the Parade Participant's/Performer's expense.
5. **Supervision of Children:** Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied and directly supervised by a responsible adult at all times.
6. **Intoxicants:** Drinking of alcohol or consuming illegal substances while performing under this Contract is not permitted at any time during the Parade or its formation.
7. **Throwing or Discharging Items:** No candy or other objects shall be thrown or discharged from a float or vehicle in any way during the Parade, including water pistols, silly string, confetti, etc.
8. **Float/Vehicle Safety Requirements:** Drivers of all vehicles must present proof of a valid driver's license and insurance covering the float or vehicle upon check-in. All floats with passengers must have sturdy attached horizontal safety railings at a minimum of 18 inches from the base or floor of the float, and railings at intervals of at least 18-inch to a height of 4.5 feet or a wall that is a minimum of 4 feet high, for the safety of passengers. A licensed, qualified driver must operate vehicles towing floats. Drivers must be a minimum of twenty-one years old and be in control of the vehicle at all times. All vehicles shall be insured to the extent required by Illinois law. No vehicle used in the parade may be left unattended at any time. No member of the Parade Participant/Performer on a float shall hang off the float or dangle their feet off the float. Floats must move less than five miles per hour when in the parade or line-up/staging area. Riders may not join the float or any vehicles after the parade has commenced. Handing out items from floats/vehicles is strictly prohibited.
9. **Honor U.S. Flag Etiquette:** When the U.S. flag is displayed on a car, the flagstaff shall be firmly affixed to the chassis or clamped to the right fender. Do not display the U.S. flag lower than any other flag. The U.S. flag may not touch the ground.
10. **Parade Performer Cleanup:** Each Parade Participant/Performer shall clean up any materials or debris left in the staging area or along the parade route by the Parade Participant/Performer. This applies particularly (but not exclusively) to Parade Participants/Performers with animals.
11. **Firearms/Fireworks/Pyrotechnics:** Discharging of firearms or any other exploding ordinances, fireworks, or the use of pyrotechnics is strictly prohibited.

12. **Solicitation of Donations:** Parade Participants/Performers are prohibited from soliciting donations in or around the parade area before or during the Parade, or at any official post-parade events.
13. **Parade Participant/Performer Performances:** All participants are expected to participate in the parade by walking, marching, or performing along the entire route of the parade, except for minimal breaks along the way as designated by the Parade Official or their designee. All musicians participating in the Parade are expected to perform for the full duration and length of the Parade.
14. **Performance During Extreme Weather:** In the event of extreme weather conditions as determined by Parade Official, participants may ride the parade route in their vehicles with the windows open.
15. **Impossibility of Performance:** In the event, any performance is prevented by acts or regulations of public authorities, strike, civil tumult, war, epidemic, interruption or delay of transportation services, act of God or any similar cause beyond the reasonable control of Village and/or Parade Participant/Performer, Village and/or Parade Participant/Performer will be relieved of their respective obligations under the Contract during and/or for such period that the performance is so prevented. The party so relieved of its obligations under this agreement shall give the other party to this agreement prompt written notice of the delay or prevention of performance.

If the Parade Participant/Performer cannot honor their obligation to participate in the parade because of unforeseen circumstances or weather conditions, the Parade Participant/Performer shall make every reasonable effort to contact the On-Site Parade Representative listed herein to make the Village aware of their inability to participate at least four (4) hours prior to the parade. Failure to give notice of cancellation shall be cause for exclusion from future parades.

The Village reserves the right to cancel the parade due to inclement weather by providing written or oral notice to the Parade Participant/Performer at least three (3) hours prior to the Date, Time, and Location of the Performance as set forth in this Agreement. In the event of such cancellation, neither party shall have any further obligation under this Contract with respect to the canceled Performance.

16. **Support Vehicles:** Support vehicles are **not allowed** to follow any group unless prior written consent is given by the Parade Official.
17. **Animals:** Animals are prohibited from the parade unless written consent is given by the Parade Official. Animals allowed in the parade must be kept in control and under the direct supervision of the Parade Participant/Performer at all times.
18. **Breach of Contract:** Upon the breach of any of the terms of this Contract by the Parade Participant/ Performer, the Parade Participant/Performer may be immediately expelled from the parade, disqualified from all or partial compensation, and denied entry in future parades, all at the discretion of the Parade Official, and the Village shall also retain any and all other remedies available to it at law or equity.
19. **Severability:** If any provision of this Contract is determined to be illegal or unenforceable, such provision will be deemed amended to the extent necessary to conform to applicable law or, if it cannot be so amended without materially altering the intention of the parties, it will be deemed stricken and the remainder of the Contract will remain in full force and effect.
20. **Authorization for Use of Photographs/Names/Logos:** The Parade Participant/Performer certifies that it has obtained authority from each of its members, parade participants, volunteers, and guests, and through and by that authority hereby authorizes and grants permission to the Village to use the names, logos, photographs, films, and tapes of the Parade Participant/Performer and any of its members, parade participants, volunteers, and guests for publicity, advertising and commercial promotion, before, during, and after the event, and gives permission to publish or sell or otherwise use or dispose of said photographs, films, or tapes without any further compensation to the Parade Participant/Performer.
21. **Liability Release:** The Parade Participant/Performer and each of its members, parade participants, volunteers, and guests, hereby releases and discharges the Village, its employees, officials, volunteers, and representatives from all known or unknown damages, injuries, losses, judgments and/or claims from any cause whatsoever that may be suffered by any such member, participant, volunteer, or guest to his/her/its person or property as a result of performing or participating in the parade.
22. **Indemnification:** The Parade Participant/Performer and/or each member, participant, volunteer, or guest of the Parade Participant/Performer hereby expressly agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Village, its employees, officials, volunteers, and representatives for any and all liability howsoever incurred or suffered, including reasonable attorney fees and costs, occasioned or resulting from the actions, omissions, or conduct of the Parade Participant/Performer.

23. **Acknowledgement and Assumption of the Risks:** All parties agree that marching and/or performing in a parade requires physical and medical fitness for those activities undertaken, and that risks of participating in parades include, but are not limited to, heart attacks, exhaustion, hypothermia, injuries from animals, slips and falls, injuries from collisions with vehicles, other participants, curbs, poles, injuries from loud sounds from spectators, bands, musicians, vehicles and fire apparatus, etc. The Parade Participant/Performer acknowledges that it will be voluntarily participating in such activities, and that each participant possesses the necessary fitness; and that these activities involve an inherent risk of injury which might result not only from their own fitness, actions, inactions, or negligence, but the actions, inactions, or negligence of others, the conditions of the parade route, the weather, vehicles, animals, and equipment used. This includes any risks not reasonably foreseeable to the Village or the Parade Participant/Performer. The Parade Participant/Performer and each of its members, parade participants, volunteers, and guests knowingly and freely assumes all such risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of the Village or others.
24. **Choice of Law and Venue:** This Contract shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the law of the State of Illinois including the application of any applicable statutes of limitations. Any action, suit, or proceeding brought by any party with respect to, or to enforce the terms of, this Contract shall be brought by such party exclusively in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois. Each party, by his, her, or its execution of this Contract, irrevocably submits to the exclusive jurisdiction and venue of said courts.
25. **Entire Agreement:** This Contract contains the entire agreement and understanding between the Village and the Parade Participant/Performer with respect to the covenants contained herein. It shall not be changed orally but may be amended or modified only by written instrument executed by the parties hereto.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have signed this Contract or caused this Contract to be signed by their duly authorized representatives, and this Contract shall have an effective date, as of the date upon which it is fully executed by both parties.

The Village of Morton Grove

By: _____ Date: _____
 Print Name: _____ Title: _____

The Village identifies its "On-Site Parade Representative" as:

Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Parade Participant/Performer

Print Name of Participating Parade Entry: _____

By: _____ Date: _____
 Print Name: _____ Title: _____

The Parade Participant/Performer hereby identifies its "On-Site Parade Representative" as:

Name: _____ Cell Phone: _____