CITY OF GAITHERSBURG
ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH RIO

Thank you for joining us at the 24th Annual
St. Patrick's Day Parade
Saturday, March 14, 2026

READ CAREFULLY AND DISTRIBUTE TO YOUR PARADE UNIT

TIMELINE

7:30am	**Streets close to all vehicles except vehicles with a zone pass driving the parade route**
7:45am	**Load-in for vehicles driving in the parade with a zone pass**
8:30am	**Load-in for marchers walking in the parade**
9:30am	**All units loaded in to staging area**
10am	**Parade step-off**
11:30am	**Parade estimated END time**
1pm	**Streets estimated OPEN time**

Parade Staging Area is located behind Tous les Jours Bakery & Cafe

Review LINEUP CHART for
Staging Zone Color & Lineup Number

NO VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED ON RIO BLVD OR INTO THE STAGING AREA UNLESS THEY ARE DRIVING IN THE PARADE AND HAVE A PRINTED ZONE PASS

LINEUP CHART

WHITE ZONE
Units 1 - 34

1	St. Patrick's Day Parade Banner
2	Seneca Valley High School Navy Junior ROTC
3	Mayor & Council Trolley
4	Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard Team
5	MacMillan United Pipe Band
6	US Coast Guard Auxiliary Division 24, Middle Chesapeake Area
7	Grand Marshal
8	Gaithersburg Student Union + Sports
9	Benjamin Gaither Center
10	Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians
11	Councilmember Sidney Katz, District 3
12	Cub Scout Pack 464
13	Ballet Folclórico AQUI ESTA MI PERU MD
14	Epworth Preschool & Kindergarten
15	Councilmember Dawn Luedtke
16	Learning Disabilities Association of Maryland/ Hangout Hive Social Group for Adults
17	The Royal MEOWMagical Prince Snowflake, The Celebrity Magician Cat, with His 2 Irish/Armenian Mommies!!!
18	Captain Maryland
19	Laurie-Anne Sayles
20	Ring of Kerry Irish Dancers
21	Bob Geier - 1903 Curved Dash Oldsmobile
22	Jim McNulty
23	Bad Mutha Fluffa Pet Grooming, Inc
24	Spark and Buzz Communications
25	District 17 Legislative Team
26	Montgomery County Pog Association
27	Big Blue Swim School- Germantown
28	Congresswoman April McClain Delaney
29	Georgetown Hill Early School
29A	Nancy King MD STATE SEN 39th DISTRICT
30	Diamond Dancerettes
31	Navy Federal Credit Union
32	Andrew Friedson
33	Watkins Mill High School Drumline
34	Peace Action Montgomery

LINEUP CHART

YELLOW ZONE
Units 35 - 58

35	Sheriff Maxwell Uy
36	Montgomery County Renters Alliance
36A	Karla Silvestre for County Council
37	Calluna Flower Truck
38	MyDance Studio
39	Sitting Judges for Montgomery County
40	Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club
41	Kiddie Academy of Gaithersburg
42	Tracy Starr
43	THE FUN BUNCH SOCIAL SUPPORT GROUP
43A	Robin Ficker for Congress
44	Beats & Barre Dance Company
45	Miss Montgomery County Scholarship Organization
46	David Trone for Maryland
47	Tinkus Bolivia USA
48	United Heritage Fire Company
49	Alicia Contreras-Donello
50	One Hour Air Condition & Heating and Benjamin Franklin Plumbing
51	The Traveling Dojo Martial Arts
52	Amar Mukunda
53	Conflict Resolution Center Of Montgomery County
54	The Culkin School of Irish Dance
55	Wali Arif For ALL For Montgomery County Council At-Large
56	District Dance
57	Charm City Ghostbusters
58	Allison Eriksen

LINEUP CHART

GREEN ZONE
Units 59 - 76

59	Cheer Madness LLC
60	Primrose School of Gaithersburg
61	Scott Goldberg for County Council At-Large
62	Girl Scouts 33152
63	Fraternidad Embajadores del Folklore Boliviano
64	Pokemon Characters + Cadillac
65	Will Milam
66	Kreysa Klan
67	Goldfish Swim School
68	Rick F. Mui
69	Cornerstone Productions International Magical Leprechauns
70	Maryland Twisters MoCo
71	Marilyn Pierre For Montgomery County Circuit Court Judge
72	Bella Ballet
73	Girl Scout Troop 33220 and 33118
74	Free State Roller Derby
75	MD Youth Pipe Band
76	Tim Marrone Stilt Walker

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Participant Information and Regulations

PLEASE KEEP THIS INFORMATION FOR YOUR REFERENCE

Interpretation of the following information and regulations is at the discretion of the City of Gaithersburg

CITY CONTACT
Jenna Ashman
240-805-1885
Jenna.ashman@gaithersburgmd.gov

PARADE DATE, LOCATION, HOURS:
Saturday, March 14, 2026
rio
Parade Start Time: 10 a.m.

EVENT DESCRIPTION

The ever-popular City of Gaithersburg St. Patrick's Day Parade returns to the streets of rio on Saturday, March 14, 2026, at 10 a.m. Now in its 24th year, this rain or shine event includes Celtic dancers, equestrian units, clowns, bagpipe bands, an assortment of community groups, and more.

APPLICATION AND PARTICIPATION

The City welcomes community groups and other organizations to march in the parade. It's a great way to be involved in the community and to get your group or business noticed.

PARADE POLICY FOR POLITICAL CANDIDATES AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES

Candidates and/or their representatives are welcome to participate in the parade. Candidates may meet and greet but are not permitted to use amplifiers, speak from the Viewing Stand, or impede the parade's progress. Candidates and/or their representatives may not post campaign signs or attach stickers to any public property or signage.

PARTICIPANT REGULATIONS

All parade participants must comply with Resolution R-73-05 of the Gaithersburg Mayor and City Council and with the following Parade Rules and Regulations. Note that participation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade by groups or organizations other than City of Gaithersburg officials, departments or committees does not constitute City of Gaithersburg endorsement.

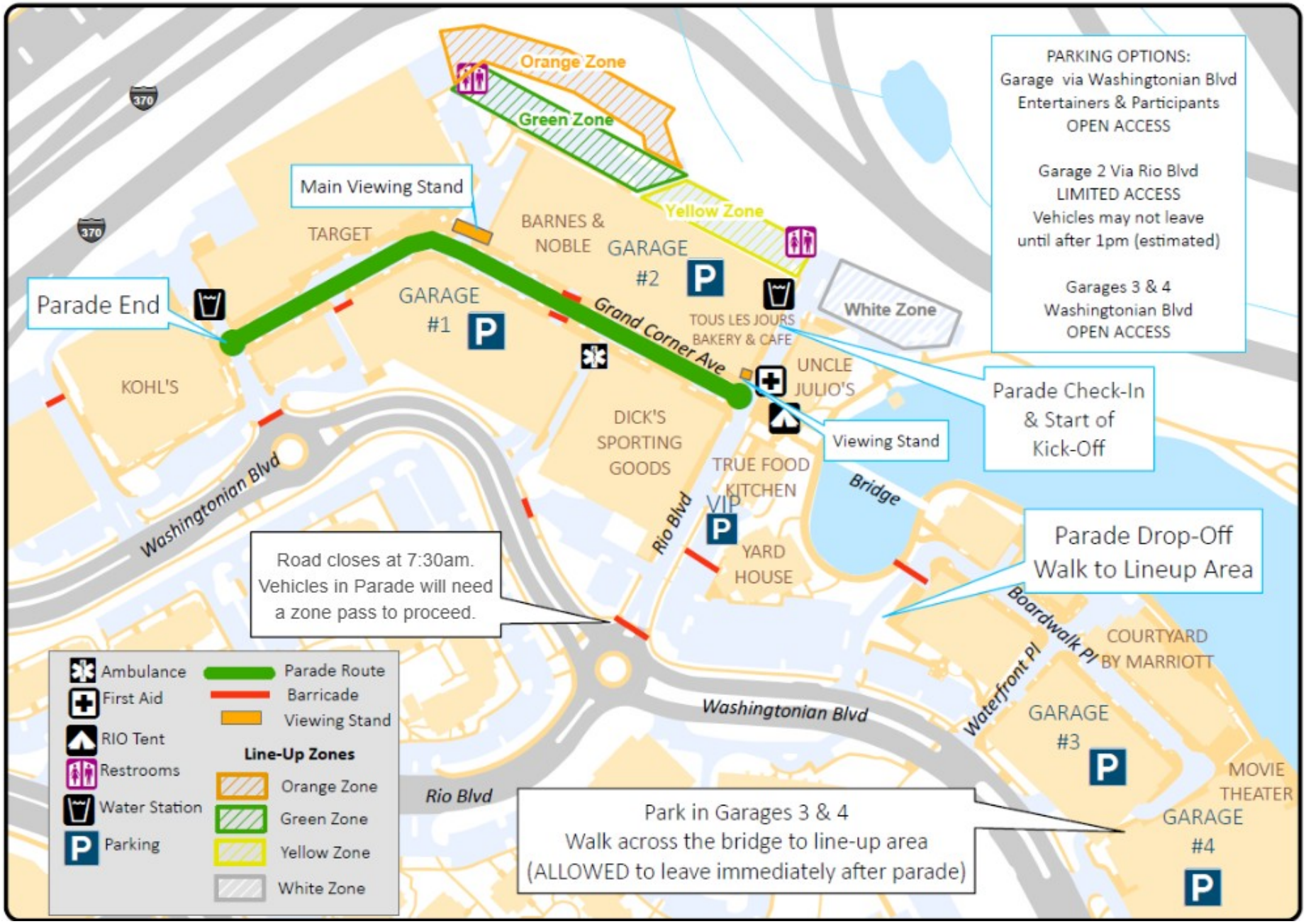
IMPORTANT: For the protection of young parade spectators, DO NOT toss or place candy along the parade route for safety concerns of our children. You may designate responsible individuals to walk along the parade route and directly hand out candy or other free items.

1. Forward motion of a parade unit must be always maintained. All performances must be conducted while moving forward to prevent large gaps from appearing in the parade.
2. Participants may NOT stop to perform at the Reviewing Stand without prior approval from the City of Gaithersburg.
3. All units MUST be visually interesting (colorful and lively).
4. SMOKING OR VAPING ON CITY PROPERTY AND DURING CITY-SPONSORED EVENTS IS PROHIBITED.
5. Prohibited Vehicles: (1) 14 wheelers and over, (2) mobile billboards, (3) box trucks and trailers.
6. Participants agree to arrive at the times and locations designated in their participant documents provided by e-mail prior to the parade. Registered participants agree to notify parade organizers in advance if they are no longer able to participate.
7. No food items or drinks may be sold by any vendor except for approved food vendors pre-authorized by rio and the Montgomery County Health Department.
8. Prohibited items include alcoholic beverages, skateboards, roller blades, bicycles, and weapons (real or facsimile).

9. City staff members reserve the right to require participants to remove unacceptable or inappropriate items and may relocate or remove any participant who does not comply with the parade regulations, is uncooperative with event staff, or is disruptive to the parade. Disruption is defined as disturbing other participants, interfering with event programming, behaving aggressively toward event attendees or staff, damaging property, or engaging in behavior that threatens the safety of others.
10. City staff members reserve the right to deem ineligible for participation in future events any vendor who does not comply with the parade regulations, is uncooperative with event staff, or is disruptive to the parade

ANIMALS IN THE PARADE

1. Horses, dogs or any other wild or domestic animals may not be brought to or included in the parade without the prior written approval of the City of Gaithersburg. City Code Sec. 15A prohibits the riding of horses without the permission of the City Manager/designee.
2. Animals in the parade must be listed on the parade entry application, have up-to-date vaccinations, be in good medical health, and be able to cope with crowds, loud noises, balloons, flags, sudden movements, and other animals.
3. All animal units must comply with City, State and Federal ordinances and/or laws, including but not limited to City Code Chapters 4 and 15A. A valid Rabies certificate, other vaccinations applicable to a type of animal, and licenses must be available for inspection at the parade upon request by City staff and/or Animal Control or Police Officers.
4. **All** pets must be under a handler's control at ALL times. No unsafe animals will be permitted.
5. Only animals under the strict leash or bridle of a qualified animal handler will be permitted in the parade. The identified animal handler and his/her parade unit sponsor will bear full responsibility for any and all damages and injuries resulting from negligence or act of God incidents involving the animal in question.
6. No aggressive animals or females that are in season are permitted.
7. Entries with animals must have designated "waste pick-up people" or "pooper scoopers" following closely behind, with appropriate clean-up equipment including a shovel and bucket/wagon to collect waste from all animals on the street. Entries without this designated person will not be allowed to participate in the parade. Violators of this rule will be removed from the parade and may be fined.
8. A certificate of general liability with a minimum of $1,000,000 covering any bodily injury and property damage caused by the animals in the parade may be required.



St Patrick's Day Parade PARTICIPANT MAP

City of Gaithersburg Parks Recreation and Culture | 506 South Frederick Avenue Gaithersburg, MD 20877 | (301)-258-6350 | www.gaithersburgmd.gov

north

The City of Gaithersburg makes no warranty, express or implied, for the completeness and accuracy of the information depicted on this map. All rights reserved.

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PARADE PARKING

(SEE MAPS)

Parking Garage #1 (via Washingtonian Blvd)

Entertainers and Participants
Can leave after the parade.

Parking Garage #2 (via Rio Blvd) enter before 7:30 a.m.

Participants are **required to remain on-site until the authorities officially reopen the streets**, with an estimated reopening time of 1 p.m. Law enforcement personnel will implement measures to ensure safety, as this location is part of the designated parade route.

Parking Garage #3 (via Waterfront Way)

Participants are permitted to **exit after the completion of the parade**. After parking, access to the lineup area can be obtained by proceeding to Boardwalk Place and crossing the bridge.

Parking Garage #4 (via Washingtonian Blvd):

Past the Movie Theater

Participants are permitted to **exit after the completion of the parade**. After parking, access to the lineup area can be obtained by proceeding to Boardwalk Place and crossing the bridge.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PLEASE - SHARE WITH YOUR UNIT
BEFORE AND DAY OF THE PARADE

- To maintain a continuous procession and prevent intervals between units **refrain from stopping on the parade route**.
- Units intending to perform are allotted **a maximum duration of thirty seconds** in front of the reviewing stands.
- The consumption of **alcoholic beverages is prohibited** in the lineup area and along the parade route.
- City staff will enforce regulations and help with inquiries.

Units will receive one warning. If a second occurrence takes place on the day of the parade, your Unit may lose the opportunity to participate in next year's parade.

Severe Weather

Although the event is held RAIN OR SHINE, the City makes all weather-related decisions based on the safety of participants and spectators.

Cancellations will be announced by noon the Friday before the parade.

Inclement Weather

visit the City of Gaithersburg website gaithersburgMD.gov

Thank you for your contributions to the success of the 23rd Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Questions Contact – Jenna Ashman
City of Gaithersburg - 301-258-6350