

75TH ANNUAL
Dogwood Festival
A Camdenon Area Chamber of Commerce Event  *Vintage Vibes*TM

Friends,

On **Saturday, April 25, 2026**, the 75th Annual Dogwood Festival Parade **will begin at 10:00 AM**. The theme of this year's festival is *"Vintage Vibes"*.

Float participants should decorate their entries and include a way of highlighting the products and services their business/organization provides to our community. Entries (other than equestrian and special vehicles (ie go-karts) are asked to decorate for the parade. Parade participation does require an entry fee to be paid, unless otherwise noted within the registration form or if a business has agreed to be a major Sponsor to the Dogwood Festival. All of the equestrians are being handled by the Lazy Lopers 4H Club, please see Form A- Equestrian Entry Application & Release of Liability for specific details and procedures.

Please **note the deadline for registration is Monday, April 13, 2026**. All parade participants must be pre-registered. Parade assembly numbers are sent out and the parade announcement script is written several days before the parade therefore, while parade entries received after April 13, 2026 may be allowed in the parade (if space is available), please know those entries will be lined up at the end following the last pre-registered unit. Also, no announcement will be made over the public address system for late entries.

Be part of this fun annual community celebration. Questions on the parade may be directed to the Camdenon Area Chamber of Commerce at 573-346-2227 or go to the Chamber's website at www.CamdentonChamber.com/dogwood-festival/.

Sincerely,

Dogwood Festival Planning Committee

2026 Dogwood Festival Parade - Rules and Regulations

1. **Do not throw:** candy, beads, coupons, flyers, etc, from your vehicle or float. Children scrambling for candy and other items risk serious injury and no treat is worth endangering someone's life. You may have someone walk next to the crowd hand out items. If you choose to ignore this rule and throw items, and someone is injured, you could be held liable for all costs involved in that injury.
2. No open flames or cooking will be permitted on any parade entries.
3. Entries or floats that are operating a generator or any type of running equipment will be required to have at least one 5-pound ABC fire extinguisher to be carried in an easily accessible, easy-to-reach, designated location on the entry or float. Open flame displays, Roman candles, fireworks, and other similar items are prohibited on all entries in the parade.
4. Firecrackers, snapping pops, projectiles, spray foam, simulated gunfire, or other similar items may not be used. **Liquid items [bubbles, foam, water guns, water balloons, etc.] cannot be disbursed from float or moving vehicles into crowds or onto road areas.**
5. **One or more spotters need to be located on every trailer/float at all times** during the parade to immediately communicate with the driver of the tow vehicle.
6. No unmanned aerial device or drone will be allowed along the parade route.
7. **Keep within 20-30 feet of the entry in front of you.** Do not pause during the parade except to maintain proper distance, or during an emergency. Ensure all parade participants understand the need to keep up with the entry in front of yours. **For those pulling trailers, please walk behind the trailer for safety purposes.**
8. The Camdenton Area Chamber of Commerce, Camdenton R-III School District, the City of Camdenton, Dogwood Festival Committee, Lazy Lopers 4H, their agents, volunteers, and employees will not be held responsible for any personal injury or property loss, theft or damage. **These rules apply to everyone in your entry. Be sure to communicate these rules to everyone in your entry. One copy is attached, additional copies can be provided during check-in if requested.**
9. Alcoholic beverages, drugs and firearms are **not** allowed on school grounds by federal law—nor are these items allowed in the parade. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE **CAMDENTON SCHOOL CAMPUS IS SMOKE FREE—NO SMOKING ON SCHOOL PROPERTY.**
10. All equestrians' participants MUST remain in the designated area prior to the parade. Equestrians will **NOT** be allowed in and around spectators during the parade line-up. **The designated area for equestrians will be located on the school campus at the bus barn located off of South Business 5. Check-in will be handled by a Lazy Lopers 4H representative. Equestrian submissions have to be as a group, no individual equestrian submissions will be accepted.**
11. No excessive speeds or reckless driving that might injure someone crossing the parade route or watching the parade from the curb.
12. **Designated Parade Participant Drop-Off-** any individual participating in parade entry being dropped off on campus MUST be dropped off in the Hawthorne Elementary side parking lot (behind Dogwood Elementary) e; no vehicles will be permitted into the parade staging area for drop off. Please ensure all parents of minors are notified of this rule. Groups MUST have a designated group representative at the drop off location at all times.
13. Groups who wish to "perform" must plan and execute their performance while moving. Performers shall keep up with the pace of the parade and the vehicles in the parade.
14. If you experience a mechanical breakdown, try to pull off to the side and signal the parade entrants behind you to go on. For safety purposes, if equestrians become unruly they must be removed from the parade and away from spectators. Owner will be responsible for withdrawing from the parade if the need arises.
15. The Parade Entry Form must be received by Monday, April 13, 2026 to be placed in the parade and have their announcement read as they pass the reviewing stand. Late entries will be accepted if space is still available, however, they must line up at the end of the parade following the last scheduled unit and the announcer will not be able to read any description of the entry.
16. This is a family-oriented event. Any materials for display or distribution are subject to the approval of the Dogwood Committee representatives. Any materials deemed inappropriate or offensive, in the sole discretion of the Dogwood Committee and its representatives, shall be removed from the Parade. If you are uncertain as the appropriateness of any materials or displays, please submit them to the Dogwood Committee before the Parade for approval.

(Please sign here - applicant has read and will abide by these rules)

Signature _____ Print Name: _____

2026 Dogwood Festival Parade Application
10 AM, Saturday, April 25, 2026
Theme – “Vintage Vibes”

Name of Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ e-mail: _____

Description of Entry: _____

Check Category:

✕	Category	Fee	✕	Category	Fee
	Equestrian [Rules and Set Up Handled by Lazy Lopers 4H Club] Registration & designated area located the Bus Barn, S Hwy 5	\$0		Business Float/Entry Camdenton Chamber Member	\$50
	Non-Profit/Club	\$0		Business Float/Entry Non-Chamber Member	\$70
	Marching Band	\$0		Political Entry	\$70

To help us know how much space to allot in the parade staging area, please complete the following:

Number of Vehicles _____ **[Limit 4 for Business/Organization entry; Limit 2 for Political Entry]**

Number of participants/walkers with entry: _____

Total length of Vehicle/Trailer/Float _____ **(Not to exceed 12' wide X 35' long)**

Car Clubs _____ **[Limit 10 per entry]**

Please give information the announcer can use when your group moves past the reviewing stand. Suggestions are the history of the organization, number of people involved, location, etc. What you write here is what the announcer will say about your parade entry over the public address system as your group passes the reviewing stand.

Please limit your remarks to no more than 30 words.

APPLICATION DEADLINE – APRIL 13, 2026

I have read and understand the rules and regulations on parade participation and agree to abide by them. I also will be responsible for disseminating the rules to any person(s) associated with our parade entry. I am aware that we are not to throw candy onto the street or at participants from the float.

Signature Date

Mail or drop off completed application with applicable fees (payable to the Camdenton Area Chamber of Commerce) to:
Camdenton Area Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 1375, Camdenton, MO 65020

FORM A - Equestrian Entry Application & Release of Liability

2026 Dogwood Festival Parade - Theme "Vintage Vibes"

NAME: _____ HORSE NAME: _____

PARTICIPANT: _____ PHONE: (_____) _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

I hereby release the Dogwood Festival Committee (hereinafter referred to as the Committee), and the Camdenton Area Chamber of Commerce (hereinafter referred to as the Chamber), and the City of Camdenton (hereinafter referred to as the City), and the County of Camden, (hereinafter referred to as the County), and the Camdenton R-III School District (hereinafter referred to as the School), and the Lazy Lopers 4H, from all liability for any act of negligence or want of ordinary care on the part of the Committee, and/or the Chamber, and/or the City, and/or the County, and/or the School, and/or the Lazy Lopers 4H or any of its agents.

In consideration of my participation in events organized or sponsored by I waive, release, and discharge the Committee, the Chamber, the City, the County, the 4H, and the School, their directors, officers, agents and members, their representatives, heirs, executors and assigns from any and all claims of liability for injury or damage to myself, my animals or my property arising out of my participation. This agreement is binding upon my executors, heirs and assigns.

I agree that I will indemnify and hold harmless the Committee, and/or the Chamber, and/or the City, and/or the County, and/or the School, and/or the 4H, their officers, directors, members and agents against all claims, demands, and causes of action, including court costs and actual attorney fees, arising from any proceeding or lawsuits brought by or prosecuted for my benefit, in which this release is upheld.

Rules and Regulations

1. Will provide a copy of a Negative Coggins test in accordance with State Laws and dated within 1 year with parade application submission
2. No Stud Horses permitted.
3. Entry participants MUST be part of an organized group; individual equestrian submissions will not be permitted unless approved by event management in advance.
4. Arrive at the Camdenton School Campus in time to be ready for line up at the start time of 10AM on Parade Day (April 25,2026). The designated area for equestrians will be located on the school campus at the bus barn located off of South Business 5, Check in will be handled by a Dogwood Festival Equine Volunteer/ Lazy Lopers 4H Club Representative.
5. All equestrians' participants MUST remain in the designated area prior to the parade. Equestrians will NOT be allowed in and around spectators during the parade line-up.
6. Require all equines to be presented in advance of the parade with proof of current negative Coggins test in accordance with state laws.
7. Require all participants to have signed a liability waiver prior to parade day.
8. Request that only well-seasoned horses who have been desensitized to crowds, flags, traffic, whistles, and other parade noises and sights participate.
9. Recommend participants have group or personal liability policies that cover their participation in parades.
10. Only allow one rider per horse.
11. Require equine participants to provide muck collectors and to pick up their own manure.
12. Require equine participants to provide sidewalkers. These should not be the same people as banner carriers and muck collectors. Recommended number of side walkers: One per every four mounted or led horses, one per every carriage or cart, and one per every two horses in a multi-horse hitch.
13. Do not throw candy, beads, coupons, flyers, etc., from your Equine. Children scrambling for candy and other items risk serious injury and no treat is worth endangering someone's life. You may have someone walk next to the crowd hand out items. If you choose to ignore this rule and throw items, and someone is injured, you could be held liable for all costs involved in that injury.
14. Keep up with whoever is in front of you during the parade.
15. Alcoholic beverages, drugs and firearms are not allowed on school grounds by federal law—nor are these items allowed in the parade. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CAMDENTON SCHOOL CAMPUS IS SMOKE FREE-NO SMOKING ON SCHOOL PROPERTY.
16. The Camdenton Area Chamber of Commerce, Camdenton R-III School District, the City of Camdenton, Dogwood Festival Committee, County of Camden, Lazy Lopers 4-H Club, their agents, and employees will not be held responsible for any personal injury or property loss, theft or damage. These rules apply to everyone in your entry. Be sure to communicate these rules to everyone in your entry.

The Equine Entry Form must be received by deadline of Monday, April 13,2026 to be placed in the parade.

MINORS DO NOT SIGN BELOW ON SIGNATURE LINE - PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN MUST COMPLETE THIS SECTION

I, the undersigned parent or guardian of the above participant, in consideration of the minor's participation in the event, agree that the terms and conditions of this Release of Liability and specifically including but not limited to the indemnity set forth above, shall be binding as to damage or injury to my minor, any animals or property involved belonging to the minor arising out of his or her participation.

I acknowledge that I have read this Release of Liability, Rules & Regulations and know and understand the contents.

PRINT NAME: _____ SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____