



From Seattle Pride and the entire Seattle LGBTQ community, its supporters, sponsors, advocates, and allies -- thank you for your participation and support of the Seattle Pride Parade!

This packet contains information for contingents numbered **93 to 115**, which will be lining up on 4th Avenue between **Madison and Marion Streets**. Following along with these instructions will ensure a smooth, orderly staging process for you and for the rest of the contingents in the parade.

The attached diagram represents an approximate boundary for your staging location. Note that this location may change slightly, based on conditions encountered during the morning of the parade. Please ensure your participants are aware of your general footprint location in the staging area so they can find you without any problem. The parade staff will be wearing shirts with the Seattle Pride logo, as shown below, and will be able to help you with staging and registration.



Instructions:

- **Your staging window is from 11:30am to 12:30pm**, though volunteers can stage you as early as 8:00am. Please have vehicles arrive at your staging zone as early as possible within (or before!) the staging window. Pedestrians are welcome to arrive at any point of the staging window, especially if the group's leader has already checked in.
- Vehicles and floats entered in the parade must arrive together, no later than the staging window above. Due to the nature of the staging process for more than 250 groups and the overriding policy of ensuring a safe staging environment, there is no provision for variation from this requirement. Arrival outside the specified window risks your vehicles not being a part of the parade. Every accommodation possible will be made to position your vehicles, but no guarantee of participation can be made without complying with this requirement.
- If your vehicles are approaching the staging area via I-5 northbound or southbound, we recommend using the James St. exit. [Please be aware that the Union St. off-ramp on I-5 southbound will be closed to all traffic, starting at 9:00am.
- Plan for your vehicle(s) to approach 4th Avenue along **Marion Street** (one-way, headed west to east, so you'll want to approach from the Elliott Bay side). You will be met by the volunteer staff, who will verify registration information. Please have the following documents ready for review for EACH vehicle:
 - The driver's license for the operator of the vehicle.
 - The insurance documents for the vehicle and operator. If the vehicle is rented, the operator must present rental documents indicating that liability insurance was accepted. Government vehicles are exempt from the insurance requirement, as liability requirements have been verified. The operator(s) of those vehicles **MUST** be government employees and must show valid identification.
 - The current registration for the vehicle. If the vehicle is rented, the rental document must be presented. Government vehicles are exempt from this requirement.
- Once checked in, drivers will be given a placard to place behind the windshield, indicating that this is a registered parade vehicle. Volunteers will also distribute a set of dis-assembly instructions to each driver, containing helpful information regarding procedures at the end of the parade route. Your vehicle(s) will then be escorted to your assigned staging spot.
- Vehicle operators must remain with the vehicle. If the vehicle operator needs to depart the immediate area for ANY reason, a temporary operator must be assigned to remain with the vehicle. Ensure the keys to the vehicle are available to the temporary operator.

- Pedestrian-only groups require only one representative to check in at the closest registration tent. To minimize confusion and chaos during the staging process, Seattle Pride requests that large groups not form near the registration tents. Your credentials will be verified, and you will be escorted to your assigned staging location. Only the group leader need be present at check-in of pedestrian groups; all other participants may proceed directly to the staging location for your group.
- Once staged, your group may make preparations and indulge in the revelry of the event. Note that, while staging, the following activities are not permitted:
 - No open flames are permitted anywhere in the staging area or parade route.
 - The selling of merchandise or services is not permitted in the staging area.
 - Testing of audio and visual systems is permitted for a short period of time. Please be respectful of the groups around you and minimize the volume and duration of your testing.
 - Illegal substances of any kind are not permitted. Sale, transfer, or distribution of any illegal substance will be immediately referred to SPD, and violators will be removed from the area.
 - The use of alcohol and other intoxicating substances is not permitted along the parade route.
 - Animals must always be on a leash or kenneled. Note that there is no acceptable area for animals to relieve themselves near the parade route and staging area; Seattle Pride recommends that animals and their companions plan accordingly for this necessary activity.
 - Report the presence of protesters and protest activity to the Parade staff immediately. Do not engage any protester in any activity for any reason. Protesters will be referred to the Seattle Police Department for disposition.
 - Vehicles may not be run for more than a few minutes, until required to move forward along the parade route. Do not idle your vehicle in the staging area. Please be mindful of the state of your vehicle's battery, and do not drain your battery while testing vehicle-powered equipment.
- The staging area and staff have no provision, other than volunteer effort, to assist in the erection or repair of any float. Please bring all tools, supplies, and foreseeable equipment necessary to make your group parade-ready. Welding, soldering, and other hot work is considered an open flame and is not permitted in the staging area, regardless of the qualification of the operator. Electric power is not available in the staging area; if the use of electricity is required, please plan to provide a small generator for this purpose.

- Flammable liquids and gases are not permitted in the staging area or along the parade route. The use of helium and compressed air is permitted for inflation of such float appliances. Bottles of compressed gases must always be secured to a rigid structure (a vehicle is acceptable) at all times.

Now that that's out of the way, let me thank you again. You've chosen to be part of a legacy of pride and activism that stretches back forty-five years and further. That you've chosen to do this means something and will continue to carry meaning far down the path. Thank you!

Marc Ackerman, Parade Director
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P.S. First parade? Here are some tips...

1. You'll be standing around in the staging area. Until we develop teleportation, we'll have to accept it. We've decreased the time cushion to try and cut back on downtime, but we'll always need to budget extra time for surprises and mishaps. Wear comfortable shoes.
2. The number-one danger on parade day is sunburn. Unless your outfit is a lead-lined body stocking (and that only happened once), pack sunscreen.
3. Your staging footprint on the diagram is a pretty good guess of where vehicles will need to be situated for staging to work. Have a volunteer take you to your spot, then park and relax. Pedestrians, on the other hand, won't have any trouble making it back to their group if they mingle with the other contingents. Make friends!
4. Please be conscious of the comfort of those around you. We all want to dance and party, but be careful blasting music in the staging area. Other groups can't necessarily move to a location where the volume is more comfortable for them, and groups with animals should be treated with special care.
5. Colin Sheehan, Will Oberst and their staging team are there to help you. If someone's wearing a Pride t-shirt, let them know what you need. Even if they can't help, they might know someone who can.