

Silver City MainStreet Project
PO Box 4068 Silver City, NM 88062
Physical Address 201 N. Hudson St.

36th Annual Lighted Christmas Parade – November 28, 2026
"Retro Holidays"

Entry Application – Due by Wednesday, November 18, 2026

Organization/Business _____
Contact Person: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Phone:_____
Email: _____
Motorized Float: Yes_____ No_____
If no, please explain:_____

Description of your entry, including length. We need this to know where to put you in the lineup on Cooper Street and to advertise who will be in the parade.

_____
_____
_____.

*To keep the magic alive we ask for no Santa entries. We will have one Santa at the end of the parade. He will arrive at the end of the parade on the vintage fire truck.

- **Entry Fee $10**
- **Optional Donation** to support the Silver City MainStreet Project **$_____**
  Total Amount: $_____

Return entry form to: MainStreet office in Murray Ryan Visitor Center between the hours of 9-4 Monday-Saturday, 10-2 on Sunday at 201 N. Hudson, we would love to see you but you can also email to SCMSinfo@silvercitymainstreet.com and then stop by.
or mail to: Silver City MainStreet Project, P.O Box 4068, Silver City, NM 88062

*Applications must be received in the office by Wednesday, November 18th at 3:30 pm.

Assignment Agreement

I, as representative of _____organization or individual, agree:

1. To accept the position assigned to us in the parade by the Lighted Parade Committee.
2. **Candy or other favors will not be distributed in any manner during the parade; we don't want kids to get hurt. (it is very dark and drivers may not be able to see kids near vehicles)**
3. Only Holiday music is permitted to be broadcast. (Please, no sirens)
4. 4 by 4s (ORVs) must enter individually – no groups. Each vehicle must be registered.
5. You will be disqualified from judging if you violate the above rules.
6. Corporation for Downtown Development/Silver City MainStreet and the Town of SilverCity are held harmless and not liable for injuries or damaged properties with respect to our entry.

Signed:_____Date:_____

Entrant Copy (Keep for your information)

Assignment Agreement

I, as representative of the above organization, agree:

1. To accept the position assigned to us in the parade by the Lighted Parade Committee.
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Signed:_____Date:_____

36th Annual Lighted Christmas Parade
Parade Entry Information

The 36th Annual Lighted Christmas Parade will be on **Saturday, November 28, 2025 from 7pm to 8pm**. The deadline for entry applications is Wednesday, November 18th. The Lighted Christmas parade is sponsored by the Silver MainStreet Project and the Town of Silver City.

All entries are judged for awards. Judging happens from the patio at The Hub. Judges consider three criteria in assigning points to the entries: **child appeal**, **lighting**, and **originality**. Entries are judged in three categories: commercial, nonprofit/civic, and individual. Awards are for first, second, and third place in each category along with MainStreet Gift Certificates this year! All Santas will be disqualified from awards.

Parade entries will be assigned a line-up position on the Monday before the parade. You will need to bring your parade entry to your assigned space by 6:00 pm and have all your participants ready to go by 6:30pm.

Rules for Parade entries:

☐ **Candy and other items may not be thrown** from floats or handed out during the parade.
☐ The **height limit for floats is 15 feet** due to overhead wires on Bullard.
☐ All headlights on towing vehicles should be partially covered or dimmed. (Construction paper with slits or colored cellophane paper works well)
☐ Only holiday music may be broadcast. (Please no sirens
☐ All children on floats must be seated.
☐ All entries must be well lit.

For questions or more information, contact Silver City MainStreet Project at (575) 534-1700 or email scmsinfo@silvercitymainstreet.com.

Float Building Tips for the Lighted Christmas Parade

Materials:

- Smaller trailers are generally better – the more float you have, the more lights you'll need. Remember the 15-foot height limit. A small, brightly lit float will have more impact than a large, dark one. Non-float entries are also welcome – cars, service vehicles, bikes, and people are all great if they are well lit.
- Only things that are lit will show up. You can use virtually anything to build your float – just spray it with flat, paint. Cardboard, chicken wire, drywall screws, twist ties, zip-ties, and paper clips all work well.
- Be creative – lights under quilt batting are good for snow, crumpled gold paper with lights under it looks like fire.

Lighting:

- Remember only things that are lit will show. If you have people on your float, you need to have lighting specifically for them. The glow from decorative lights is generally not enough to see faces in the dark. The same goes for signs and any decorative elements that are meant to be seen in their entirety.
- There are three traditional ways to light an entry:
  1. Flood lights can light a scene staged on the float. (Try to position them so that they don't blind the crowd.)
  2. Strings of lights can outline a shape – try poking them through a large sheet of cardboard or fine mesh chicken wire, taping them onto a surface (the tape disappears at night), or attaching them to a three-dimensional frame such as a Christmas tree.
  3. Light a shape internally so that it glows.
- Spectators love to know who designed or sponsored a float, so you should have a sign that is well lit. A cutout sign with backlighting works well. Rope lights or strings of lights taped very close together in the shape of letters can also look nice. Or you can always just put a spotlight on a normal sign.
- All headlights on towing vehicles should be covered with colored cellophane paper or construction paper with a narrow slit in it, to avoid flood lighting the float in front of you.
- Use a lot of lights! LED lights are a great choice because they use 10% of the power of regular lights, meaning you can use a lot more per outlet and per power source. Supplies may be limited, so plan ahead and buy early.

Power:

- All entries must have a self-contained power source. Most entries use generators and the vehicle's plug-in power source. For vehicles without a power source, use the cigarette lighter with an inverter. A 200w inverter is okay, but a 400w inverter is best. The parade lasts an hour. If you're using batteries, you'll need car-sized ones.
- Do not cover your generator with anything. Although your generator may seem loud when you're testing it out, remember that downtown streets are large and crowded during the parade – the crowd won't notice your generator. You may play music if you wish, but no sirens.
- Test your generator, lights, and music before you get to the parade. Be sure the generator is full of gas. Start the generator first; let it run, then plug in the lights – **do not turn on the generator with the lights plugged in!** If your lights dim when the music is on, you have too much load on the circuit.
- Put no more than 3 strands of regular lights for one plug, or up to 40 strands of LED lights.
- Make sure to follow instructions that come with your lights! Too many strings connected together will blow out the tiny fuses in your light strings – these are tough to change normally, but nearly impossible to change on a moving float in the dark in the middle of a parade.
- Non-float Entries can be lit with battery packs, solar lights, or glow sticks.

Judging:

- Judging will be based on three criteria: child appeal, lighting, and originality and happens from the patio at The Hub Plaza

Other:

- Expect the unexpected! Take a small toolbox with you to the parade with a can of black paint, electrical tape, duct tape, spray adhesive, wire, and some extra little bulbs.

The Lighted Christmas Parade is sponsored by Silver City MainStreet Project.

For more information, call 575- 534-1700.