



Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest Grande Day Parade Saturday, June 21, 2025

COME JOIN US AT THE COTTAGE GROVE STRAWBERRY FEST. WE ARE CELEBRATING AND WE WANT YOU TO BE PART OF IT ALL!!!

We will only be accepting 80 units into our parade this year!

We would like to invite you to join us for our wonderful annual Grande Day Parade, scheduled for Saturday, June 21st, 2025. For those of you that are new to our parade, our event continues to grow bigger and better each year and we would like to welcome you aboard. We anticipate having one of the “best” parades ever with **line up beginning at 8:30 a.m. and step off at 10:00 a.m. SHARP!**

Some of the other Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest events will include a carnival, live music, fireworks, softball tournaments, kids pedal tractor pull, top chef contest, pie eating contests, pet show, business expo, and much more.

Included with this letter are the parade application, waiver and agreement forms. Please complete the forms and return them with the application fee by **June 1, 2025**. A \$25.00 late fee will be charged for applications received after June 1, 2025. Refunds will be granted with a written request if received by June 6, 2025. No other refunds will be issued for any reason. **Line-up information will be available approximately 1-2 weeks prior to the parade via our website or email.**

Judging for parade units will take place during the parade. Awards will be given out following the parade at the festival main stage at Kingston Park. Parade awards will be given for Mayor’s Choice, Judge’s Choice, Most Creative (First, Second, and Third Place), Best Royalty Entry and Best Local Entry.

The route will remain the same, lineup is at the Crossroads Church. More information will be available as the festival approaches.

- **Participants are asked not to throw or hand out any type of objects from a float/car into the crowd**, in order to avoid potential injury to parade onlookers and/or children. Walkers are the only participants that may hand out these items. Please be sure that candy is tossed to the curb in order to keep children safe while they retrieve candy.
- **Stopping is not allowed** in the parade at any point unless directed by a parade official. All units are required to maintain forward motion at all times; no maneuvers should slow the parade or cause gaps, please stay approx. 25-30’ from the parade unit in front of you. Please alert anyone walking in your unit that they must keep up with your unit and again absolutely nothing should be thrown from the center of the street or a moving vehicle. **There must be constant forward progress of the parade.**
- **All units** must have responsible adult supervision on/and around the float at all times. Adults **MUST** accompany and supervise children, youth organizations, school groups, or non-profit groups with children participating.

If you have any questions regarding the parade or would like more information regarding Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest, please feel free to contact us directly via email at parade@cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com or visit our website at www.cottagegrovestrawberryfest.com.

Thank you and we hope to see you there!

Scott Shea – Parade Director 651.248.8712

2025 Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest

Parade Application Form

Saturday, June 21, 2025

10:00 AM SHARP!

Rain or Shine

Name of Unit _____

TYPE OF UNIT:

___ Politician (***) ___ Walkers ___ Band ___ Horses/Animals ___ Royalty/Festival

***** Each politician will be required to individually pay this fee, this fee is not charged per political unit.**

___ Other (describe _____)

Parade Unit Size:

Length w/tow _____ ft

Height _____ ft

Width _____ ft

Music:

None _____

Recorded _____

Live/Band _____

of People:

Riding _____

Walking _____

Marching _____

of Vehicles:

Car _____

Truck _____

Trailer _____

Special Needs: _____

Description of Unit: _____

Required information about your unit for our cable TV scripts (i.e. participants, facts about your business, history, distance traveled, royalty names and titles, and information regarding your town's festival, etc.)

Contact Person _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Contact Phone _____ Email _____

Applicants **MUST** enclose a check for \$85.00, Non-profit organizations \$25.00 and include a copy of your NP certificate. Royalty/Ambassador units are free. Animal Units must provide their own cleanup. A \$25.00 late fee will be imposed for ALL entries postmarked after the **JUNE 1, 2025 DEADLINE**. Acceptance of registrations received after the deadline will be at the discretion of the Parade Director. Not responsible for lost or misdirected mail. Incomplete entries will not be accepted. (All units requiring a fee must be approved/ confirmed by the Parade Director)

Please return completed form and payment by June 1, 2025 to:
Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest, Attn: Parade Director, P.O. Box 512, Cottage Grove, MN 55016

Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest Waiver and Agreement

I/we as members and representatives of the undersigned unit/organization have agreed, for our benefit, to participate in the Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest Parade. By doing so, I/we agree to the following requirements:

Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest, Parade Director and other staff, volunteers and members will be held harmless against any misfortunes that may arise. Including but not limited to personal injury to myself or others in my organization, damage or loss of any property belonging to myself or those in my organization.

I/we hereby waive and release any claim we have or may have in the future against the Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest, Parade Director, committee members and volunteers. Furthermore I/we release any claim for any other damage that I/we might sustain, whether or not caused in whole or in part by the negligence of such officers, directors, partners, and volunteers, which occurs during or as a result of our participation in the Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest Parade.

Furthermore, I agree that myself or anyone operating a vehicle in the Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest Parade or in conjunction with the event, have a valid driver's license to drive such a vehicle and is accompanied by the appropriate vehicle and liability insurance.

I/we understand that the pertinent parade line up information will be provided to me/us approximately one-two weeks prior to the event on our websites. I/we understand that if we arrive for line up late that we forfeit our position in the line up and will be placed within the line up at the discretion of the director, at the end, or not at all.

I/we agree that there will be no use of Alcohol, Fireworks, Explosives or any other items that may be considered illegal, dangerous, or inappropriate for a public event. Furthermore, we understand that the Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest Parade Director and his/her representatives are the final authority in decisions of appropriateness and we agree to abide by his/her decisions.

Finally, I/we agree to and will uphold the rules set forth by the Cottage Grove Strawberry Fest Parade Director, including but not limited to, parade units and the laws regarding consumption of alcohol by drivers, passengers, or unit participants during line up, on the parade unit, along the parade route or at the end of the parade.

Please return this signed waiver with your parade application and entry fee.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Parade Entry Name: _____