

2017 Virginia's Veterans Parade

Assembly, Staging and Parking Procedures for Registered Participants

1. Staging Process:

- a. A week prior to the parade, check our website www.virginiasveteransparade.org to find your pre-assigned assembly area location and "order of march".
- b. On the morning of the parade, report directly to your assigned assembly area.
- c. At the assigned assembly area, parade volunteers will guide you to your staging position and provide your unit with a banner number to be carried in the parade.
- d. All participants must be in their respective assigned location no later than 10:00am.
- e. Movement to "ready line" will start at 10:30am.
- f. Parade will commence promptly at 11:00am.

2. Assembly Areas:

Assembly Area Williamson

(From Williamson Rd./Elm Ave. to Williamson Rd./Church Ave.)

Assembly Area Bullitt

(From Bullitt Ave./Williamson Rd. to Bullitt Ave./Jefferson St.)

Assembly Area Franklin

(From Franklin Rd./Williamson Rd. to Franklin Rd./Jefferson St.)

Assembly Area Church

(From Church Ave./Williamson Rd. to Church Ave./Jefferson St.)

Assembly Area Williamson: We recommend you travel from Elm Ave., turn right into south Jefferson St., then turn right onto Franklin Rd. Unload participants on Franklin Rd. After unloading your passengers, buses should proceed directly across Williamson Rd. and turn right onto 3rd street. Buses are to park on 3rd street or in the Lloyd Electric Company parking lot. For vehicles participating in the parade, just simply turn right onto Williamson Rd.

Assembly Area Bullitt: We recommend you travel from Elm Ave., turn right onto south Jefferson St. Buses should stop in front of the Roanoke City Library to unload participants on Bullitt Ave. After unloading your passengers, buses should proceed down Jefferson St., turn right onto Franklin Rd, cross Williamson Rd. and turn right onto 3rd street. Buses are to park along 3rd street or in the Lloyd Electric Company parking lot.

Assembly Area Franklin: We recommend you travel from Elm Ave to south Jefferson St. and turn right onto Franklin Rd. Unload participants on Franklin Rd. After unloading your passengers, buses should proceed directly across Williamson Rd. and turn right onto 3rd street. Buses are to park along 3rd street or in the Lloyd Electric Company parking lot. For vehicles

participating in the parade, simply follow the instruction of parade volunteers to guide you in your respective position.

Assembly Area Church: For buses carrying marching units, we recommend you travel from Elm Ave to south Jefferson St. and turn right onto Franklin Rd. Unload participants on Franklin Rd. After unloading your passengers, buses should proceed directly across Williamson Rd. and turn right onto 3rd street. Buses are to park along 3rd street or in the Lloyd Electric Company parking lot. For vehicles participating in the parade, proceed down south Jefferson St. and turn right onto Church Ave and follow the instruction of parade volunteers to guide you in your respective position.

3. Free Parking:

- a. City Parking Garage on Williamson Rd. (Cars)
- b. Parking lot at Lloyd Electric Company (Buses)
- c. 3rd street – in front of Lloyd Electric Company (Buses)
- d. Bullitt Ave – across from Elmwood Park (Buses)
- e. Parking lot in front of Meridium Building (Buses)
- f. Norfolk Ave. – behind the Taubman Art Museum (Cars)
- g. Roanoke Civic Center lot – on Williamson Rd. (Buses)

4. General Information:

Please Respect our Veterans: The Virginia Veterans parade honors U.S. military Veterans of all ethnicities, religious beliefs (including none), cultural heritages and sexual preferences. All have defended our country under the U.S. Flag. We ask that you and your group respect our Veterans by refraining from making political statements or displaying any and all political signs or banners or any flags other than the U.S. Flag or POW/MIA flags.

Television Broadcast: Prior to the parade, please ensure appropriate facts and history concerning your group has been provided to the parade committee. This is very important for parade television broadcast personnel who will be describing your unit as it passes by the television cameras.

Information Center is located at Elmwood Park amphitheater. You do not need to come to the Information Center to register your group – Go directly to your assigned assembly area and volunteers there will verify your attendance and provide each unit with a banner number that correlate to your unit.

Lost and Found is co-located in the Information Center at Elmwood Park amphitheater.

Porto-Potties & Restroom Locations:

- a. Corner of Williamson Rd. and Church Ave.
- b. Corner of Williamson Rd. and Franklin Rd.
- c. Elmwood Park (on Williamson Rd.)
- d. Restrooms also available at Elmwood Park and Market Building

Traffic Flow Instructions:

- a. Please note that there is construction on I-581 so use caution if/when traveling these roads and allow extra time for potential delays
- b. If your unit travels from I-581, take Exit-6 to and turn right on Elm Ave. If your buses want to unload passengers near your assembly area then proceed to south Jefferson St (the second stoplight on Elm Ave). If you decide to go directly to the parking lots then you must turn right onto Williamson Rd (the first stoplight on Elm Ave) and another right on Franklin
- c. All parade vehicles must come from south Jefferson St. and turn right to the appropriate assembly area to unload participants or line up for the parade
- d. No parade vehicles should approach from south of Williamson Rd., as it will be difficult to turn around into the assembly area
- e. All buses unload your participants as quickly (and safely) as possible, then move out to your designated parking area to free up space for the next group. If buses unload passengers at parking lots, please cross Williamson Rd carefully to your assigned assembly area
- f. We request that large groups report to the assembly area as a single unit to avoid line-up disruption
- g. While marching in the parade, please try to maintain a distance of 30-35 feet (about 3 car lengths) between your group and the group that is directly ahead of you
- h. Participants drivers must stay with their vehicles and ready to move out NLT 10:30am
- i. **Once your unit fully passes the reviewing stands and has completed the parade, volunteers will be on-hand to collect the banner number previously provided to you. Please proceed and turn right onto south Williamson Rd. and keep moving to your parking area or move off the road to ensure a smooth flow of the parade formation to the end**

5. Time Line:

- a. 8:00am – 10:00am Line up
- b. 10:30am Initiate movement to “READY LINE” (Elm Ave/Jefferson St.)
- c. 11:00am Parade Start (first marching unit “move out!”)