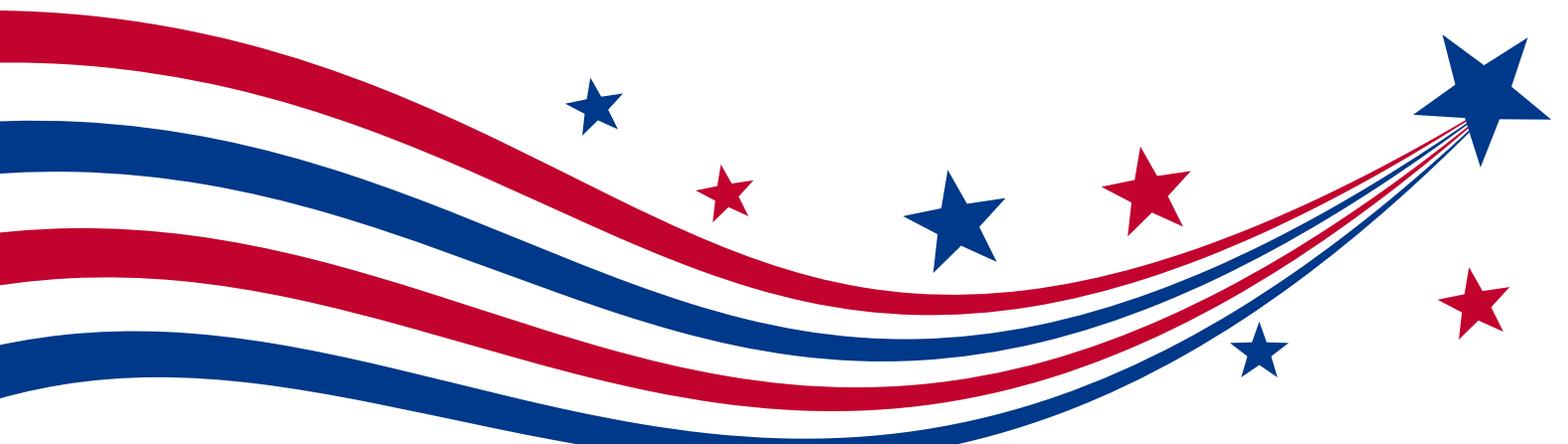
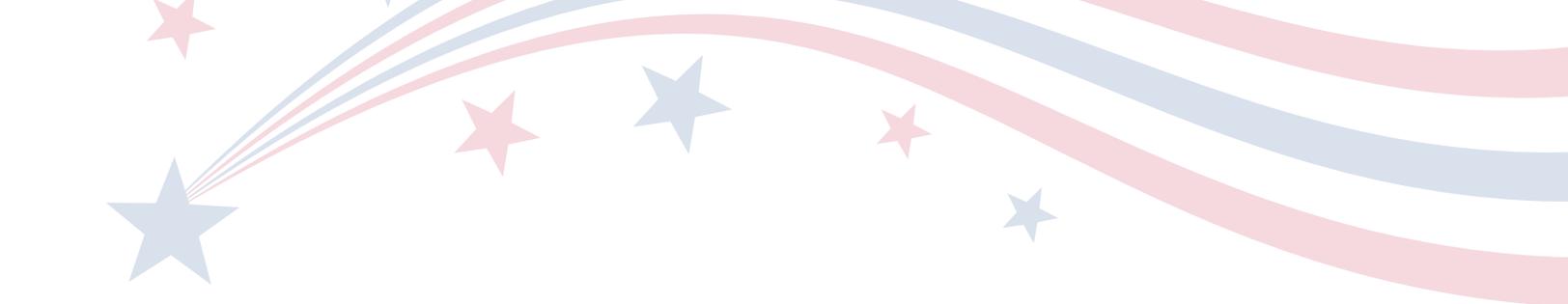


VILLAGE OF SOUTH HOLLAND
2026 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE



PARADE APPLICANT INFORMATION





I. Parade Information

The South Holland Memorial Day Parade will take place on Monday, May 25, 2026, at 11:00 am.

Parade Route: South Park Avenue from 170th St to North Entrance of Veterans Memorial Park. (See map on page 6.)

II. Application Information

Application Deadline: Applications must be received by no later than Friday, May 1, 2026. Applications can be submitted via:

- Online: southholland.org/memorialday
- Mail: Village of South Holland, 16226 Wausau Ave, South Holland, IL 60473
- In Person: Village Hall, 16226 Wausau Ave, South Holland, Ill.

Selection Criteria: Applications submitted by the deadline date will be reviewed and selected to participate based on the following criteria:

- Completion of the application and submission by deadline date.
- Representative of a category listed in Section III.
- Contributes to the entertainment value of the parade.
- Entries with decorative floats will be prioritized.

Note: Parade is limited to 50 entries. The deadline to submit is May 1, 2026, or until spots are filled.

Notification: Applicants will be notified via email of the panel's decision by no later than Tuesday, May 5, 2026.

A mandatory parade meeting will be held via Zoom on Thursday, May 14, 2026, at 1:00 pm. The meeting link will be sent via email before our meeting.

The Village of South Holland reserves the right to reject or accept any parade unit for any reason whatsoever, and to determine participation based on suitability for the occasion. All decisions are final.





III. Participant Categories

- **Float unit:** A “float” refers to a display that is towed by a separate vehicle, or self-propelled, and which is decorated to show a unified theme.
- **Businesses:** For-profit business entries are limited to registered South Holland businesses or members of the South Holland Business Association.
- **Civic, youth sports, non-profit or community group:** These groups are comprised of citizens with common interests who volunteer their services to fill a community need or whose primary audience is education and enriching the lives of the community.
- **Color guard or drill unit:** These units deploy on foot and may perform routines based on military drill.
- **Cultural organization:** These groups reflect a cultural theme or program.
- **Church or religious organization:** These groups represent a local registered church or religious organization.
- **Dance, pom-pom or cheer unit:** These groups execute routines and may carry flags or pom-poms. Their movements are also based in dance and may contain gymnastics.
- **Marching band or drum line:** These are organized units that deploy on foot, play live music, and perform with it.
- **Veterans’ organization:** A post or organization of past or present members of the United States Armed Forces, or group who offer benefits or services to those served in the Armed Forces.
- **Elected officials:** Current elected officials may participate. Individuals who are not elected officials and are candidates for office may not participate.

The Village of South Holland may invite entertainers to participate in the parade. These entries are not eligible for parade awards.





IV. Criteria, Rules and Code of Conduct:

1. All entries must incorporate a Memorial Day (red, white, and blue) theme. Any entries that arrive without this theme will not be permitted to participate in the parade.
 2. Political parties/candidates are not allowed in the parade. Only current elected officials may participate.
 3. For-profit business entries are limited to registered South Holland businesses or members of the South Holland Business Association.
 4. Vehicle entries are limited to 5 vehicles per organization, unless otherwise authorized by the Village.
 5. If an entry holds up the parade and stops for too long along the parade route, they will be removed from the parade by the South Holland Police Department.
 6. Units with sound must maintain a set sound level of 85 decibels at 50 feet, so as not to interfere with other units. This setting will be monitored with a meter. Sound must be lowered when asked.
 7. No foul language should be used over the P.A. systems or in song lyrics.
 8. Entries are not permitted to use drones in the parade or in the lineup area.
 9. Each entry must display a banner or sign that signifies the beginning of their procession. The banner or sign must list the entrant's organization.
 10. Throwing of candy from a moving vehicle is not permitted.
 11. Entrants are to keep moving along the parade route as much as possible to avoid necessary gaps. A 1.5-car length is recommended.
 12. There will be zero tolerance for the use of alcohol by any participant in the lineup area or during the parade.
 13. Please respect the residents and their property along the parade route.
 14. Please pick up after yourself.
 15. Only persons with a valid driver's license are permitted to operate or assist in the operation of motorized vehicles. All non-motorized entries (foot traffic, bikes, wagons, etc.) must be under control at all times and able to keep up with the pace of the parade. Weaving, swerving and irresponsible driving are strictly prohibited.
 16. City officials or police officers reserve the right to remove any parade participant at any time for failure to follow any criteria, rules and code of conduct or unsafe acts.
 17. The applicant is responsible for the conduct of all its participants and agrees to notify ALL participants of these rules and regulations.
 18. Select groups may be present at Village's invitation.
- 



V. Day of Parade Assembly Information

Entries will assemble in the Thornwood High School parking lot, located at 17101 South Park Ave.

- All entries must be present and in position no later than 10:30 am. An entry arriving after 10:30 am will be placed at the end of the parade.
- Music volume should be kept low in the lineup area prior to the parade.
- All entrants will be recognized by numbered signs at the staging area. You will be assigned a number before the day of the parade. Please give that number to all participants in your party so they know where to go.
- Entries with vehicles must have someone present with a key at all times in the event the vehicle must be moved.
- Know how you will get to Thornwood High School the morning of the parade and coordinate meet-up points with family, friends, and parents of children in your entry.
- The parade will end at the parking lot of First Reformed Church, just off South Park Ave. (Floats are NOT permitted to stop on South Park Ave to drop off participants. All drop-offs must take place in the First Reformed Church parking lot.)

VI. Parade Awards

Parade winners will be selected based on criteria including, but not limited to formation/alignment, appearance/costumes, overall performance, props/equipment, originality, and sound.

Applicants will be notified via email within two weeks of parade if their group won a prize. Award prize will be sent via Village of South Holland within a month of the parade.

Award Categories:

Best Walking Unit	\$50
Best Motor Unit	\$50
Best Marching Band	\$100
Best Professional Float	\$100
Best Amateur Float	\$100
Most Patriotic	\$150
Mayor's Trophy (Overall Best Unit)	\$200



2026 Memorial Day Parade Route

First Reformed Church
End-of-Parade Drop-off Zone

FINISH

Veterans Memorial Park

E. 160th Pl.

E. 162nd Street

E. 166th St.

South Park Ave.

Begin Parade Line-up Here

START

E. 170th St.

Parade Participant Entrance

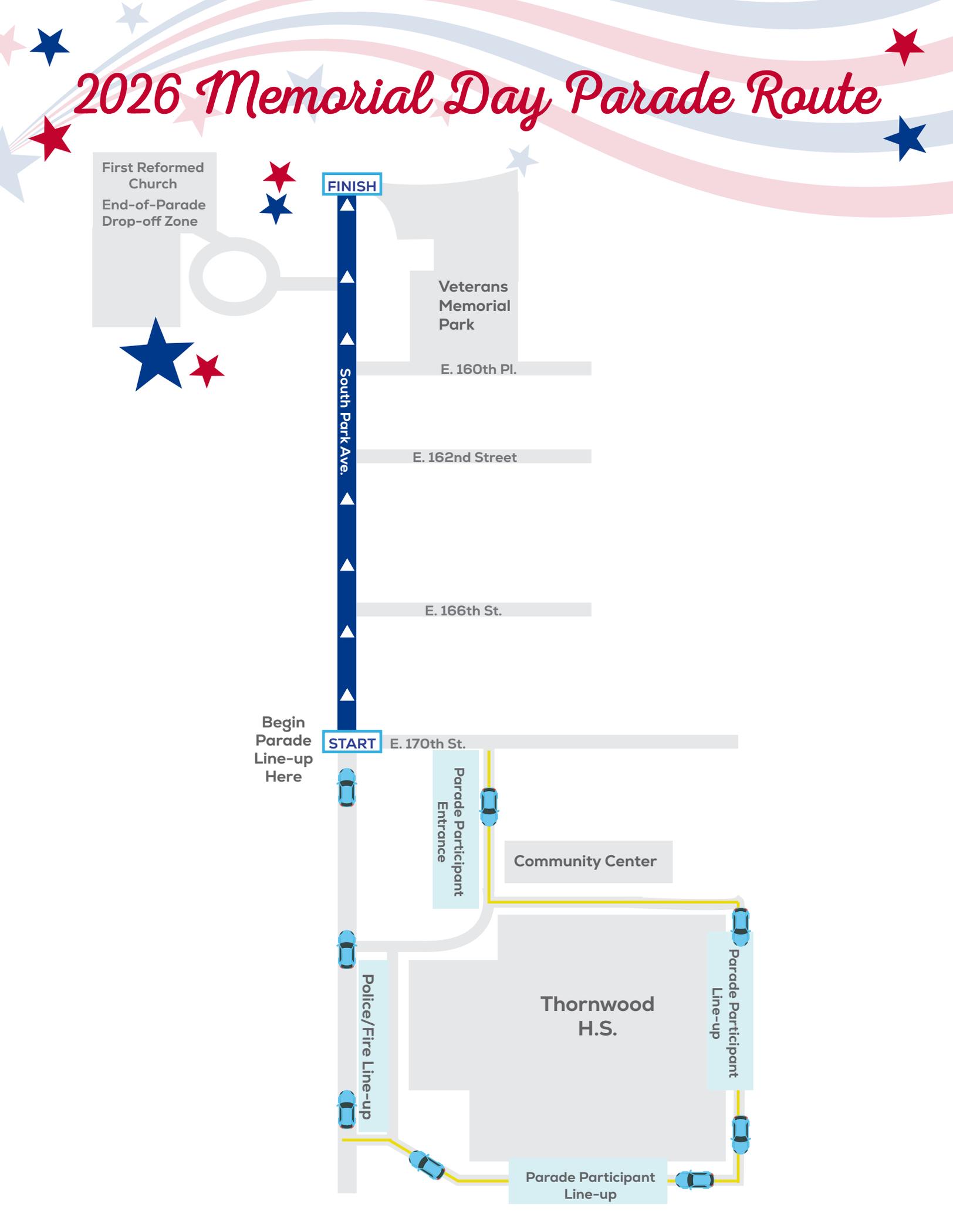
Community Center

Thornwood H.S.

Parade Participant Line-up

Police/Fire Line-up

Parade Participant Line-up



2026 Memorial Day Parade Application

Organization Name: _____

Organization Address (if applicable): _____

Contact Name: _____

Day-of-Contact Cell Phone: _____

Contact Email: _____

Contact Address: _____

Parade Unit Category (select all that apply to your group):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business | <input type="checkbox"/> Civic, youth sports, non-profit or community group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Color guard or drill unit | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church or religious organization | <input type="checkbox"/> Dance, pom-pom or cheer unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching band or drum line | <input type="checkbox"/> Veterans' organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elected official | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Type of Entry:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Float | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking Unit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle | <input type="checkbox"/> Band |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

Number of persons in unit: _____ Type of vehicle(s) (sedan, SUV, truck, etc.) _____

Number of vehicles: _____ Will you be playing music? Yes No

Does your organization require any special accommodations? _____

Emcee narrative: *(This will be read by the emcee as you pass by the judges' table. Please write this the way you would like it to read the day of the parade. Description should not exceed 50 words. Village reserves the right to edit narratives.)* **If more space is needed, write on back of this form or email to events@southholland.org.**

I have read and understand the information, criteria, rules and code of conduct contained in this document. I understand that if any participant in my party violates the standards contained in this document, our entry will be removed from the South Holland Memorial Day Parade.

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

