Beckley Veterans Parade Details

TO: Parade Participants

FROM: American Legion Post 32 / Visit Southern WV / City of Beckley

RE: 2026 VETERANS PARADE & CELEBRATION

American Legion Post 32, Visit Southern WV and the City of Beckley will host the annual Veterans Parade on Wednesday, November 11, 2026, beginning at 11 a.m. Line-up will begin at 9 a.m. at Park Middle School (floats, vehicles) and at 10 a.m. at the Beckley Intermodal Gateway Plaza (bands, walking units & military vehicles). A Memory Walk and Honor Walk section will honor veterans by loved ones walking with a photo, memento, or sign in the parade (line-up with the walking units at BIG).

Floats should have signs on all four sides identifying the group on the float. Awards will be presented for the best overall entries and bands. An Awards Ceremony will occur after the parade at the Beckley Intermodal Gateway. Each party who participates with a float should send a representative to the Ceremony to claim the appropriate trophy. *If you do not pick up your trophy after the parade, please pick up at City Hall, Monday – Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.*

*THE CELEBRATION CONTINUES AFTER THE PARADE:
* 12-1 pm - Marching bands are invited to perform music from their regular pregame or halftime shows on the Beckley Intermodal Gateway after the parade.
* Veterans groups are welcome to set up a booth at the Beckley Intermodal Gateway or at Word Park, 10am-1pm, contact Beckley Events if interested in setting up a booth.
* Veterans (and a spouse or caregiver) are invited to the Veterans Luncheon at the WVU Tech building on Neville Street after the parade. While supplies last.

Please see the attached sheets for parade information and entry form. Please fill out and mail the entry form, at no charge, to Trish Morgan, City of Beckley, P O Box 2515, Beckley, WV 25802 or deliver to 409 South Kanawha Street, Beckley, West Virginia 25801, or fax to 304-256-1816, or email trish.morgan@beckley.gov by November 6, 2026. You will receive your line-up position upon your arrival on the day of the parade - Entries may be grouped by categories.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Beckley Events- 304-256-1776. Thank you for your interest in this community event.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 32 - BECKLEY VETERANS PARADE INFORMATION

PARADE THEME*:* Use the national Veterans Day theme: "250 Years of Freedom – Honoring Those Who Defend It"

PARADE DATE: Wednesday, November 11, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

WEATHER POLICY: If the temperatures are forecasted to be under 30 degrees or heavy rain is expected, the parade will be delayed until later in the day or the following Saturday.

LINE UP: Floats line up at Park Middle School between 9:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Children can arrive between 10:00 am & 10:30 a.m. (drop off in front of City National Bank on Park Ave). All vehicles must enter from Woodlawn Avenue turning onto Park Avenue. Bands, walking units and military vehicles will line up at Beckley Intermodal Gateway between 10:00 & 10:30 a.m. Modern Jeeps line-up at the 3rd Ave McManus Trail Lot between 10:00 and 10:30 am. Classic Cars line-up at City National Bank on Park Ave by 10:30 am.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRY: November 6, 2026.

PARADE ROUTE: Follow Park Avenue, right onto Third Avenue, right onto Neville Street, (military vehicles, walkers & bands at BIG), left onto Heber Street, right onto Main Street, left onto Fayette Street (beside the courthouse), left onto Prince Street, ending at Leslie C. Gates Place.

FLOAT COMPETITION: Floats will be judged during the Parade for use of the theme and originality. The judges' stand will be located on Neville Street.
PLEASE HAVE THE NAME OF YOUR GROUP ON YOUR FLOAT CLEARLY VISIBLE FOR JUDGING ON ALL SIDES.
The **awards** will be presented at the Beckley Intermodal Gateway Plaza to*:*
Overall Entry: 1st Place = $200 & trophy; 2nd Place = $100 & trophy; 3rd = $50 & trophy
Best High School Band = $400 & trophy; Best Middle School Band = $200 & trophy

FLOAT REQUIREMENTS: Float length not to exceed 55 ft.; Float height not to exceed 13 ft.; Float width not to exceed 8 ft.
- All materials must be able to stand up to rain or snow.
- Music on floats is welcome.

EMERGENCY VEHICLES: Please complete an entry form. **NO LOUD SIRENS PERMITTED.** Spectators are unable to hear music from bands and floats. Sirens are amplified when set off between the buildings and hurt children's ears.

ANIMALS: **HORSES MUST BE BAGGED or have clean-up crew**.

SPACING/CANDY: Please keep about 20 feet between you and the group in front of you. Please move your group along so that there is a good flow and no gaps in the parade. Do not stop to perform and create a gap. **DO NOT THROW OBJECTS OR CANDY FROM YOUR FLOAT OR VEHICLE. Do not allow children riding on entries to drop candy beside vehicles.** *Children often run into the street after it & may get hurt.* **If you wish to distribute candy/items, please have someone walk alongside your entry to distribute.**

AMERCIAN LEGION POST 32

BECKLEY VETERANS PARADE ENTRY FORM - 2026

NAME OF ENTRY/GROUP _____ Or

VETERAN _____; Branch of Service_____; War_____

CONTACT PERSON _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

ADDRESS OF REPRESENTATIVE _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

FAX NUMBER _____

TYPE OF UNIT:

__ Veteran __ Veteran Group
__ Walking Unit __ Reenactor
__ Mascot __ School
__ Band __ Dance Team
__ Scout troop
__ Float • Music on float? __ Yes __No
__ Vehicle __ Military Vehicle
__ Emergency Vehicle __ Vintage Fire Truck
__ Classic Car, Truck or Jeep: Year/Make/Model_____
Color_____
__ Animal (Specify) -
__ Other (Specify) -

MARCHING BANDS – Would you like to perform music from your pregame or halftime show after the parade at the Beckley Intermodal Gateway? ___ Yes ___ No

HONOR or MEMORY WALK – to honor veteran loved ones by walking/joining the parade carrying a photo, memento &/or sign of your veteran:
__ Memory Walk honors those veterans in memory; __ Honor Walk honors living veterans.

Please complete and mail the entry form, at no charge, to Trish Morgan, City of Beckley, P O Box 2514, Beckley, WV 25802 or deliver to 409 South Kanawha Street, Beckley, West Virginia 25801, or fax to 304-256-1816, or email trish.morgan@beckley.gov by November 6, 2026.