Oakridge-Westfir 73rd Annual Tree Planting Festival
Grand Parade Application

When: Saturday, May 2, 2026, Parade Start: **11 am**, Parade Staging at the High School - **9:30 - 10:30 am**

Parade Route: Staging starts at the Oakridge High School, 47994 W. 1st Street, Oakridge, Oregon. The parade will be escorted by the Oakridge Police Department and head east on E. 1st Street towards uptown Oakridge and then end at the intersection of 1st and Beech Street. Parade participants may then depart the area by continuing east on 1st Street, south on Beach Street, or may return to the High School by turning right (south) on Beech Street and then right (west) on Commercial Street. Parade participants are not allowed to exit the 1st Street parade route early, as all of the side streets between the high school and Beech Street will be closed during the parade.

Application Deadline: Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at 4 pm

Application Details: Pick up and drop off applications at Oakridge City Hall (48218 E. 1st Street) Monday to Thursday, 8 am to 4 pm, ***or*** print and email a scanned copy to Vanessa Tharp at president@owtreeplantingfestival.org with the subject line: "**Parade 2026**." We will send off the Parade Order on Fri. May 1, 2026 - Please assume that your application has been received & check your email on Friday. May 1 for the Parade Order or at Check in on Saturday Morning - May 2!

Questions: Call or ideally text Vanessa Tharp at 541-913-0762 or email her at president@owtreeplantingfestival.org

The following parade rules (as per TPF policies and Oakridge City Ordinance 942) will be enforced to make the parade a fun and safe experience for the community and participants:

- Parade entry is FREE, unless a political group, which is required to pay $25. The details are below on payment methods. An optional and suggested $10-25 donation can be made by any entry to participate in the parade and can be given to Vanessa as TPF President on the day of, or sent to Banner Bank, or paid online via PayPal to Oakridge-Westfir Treeplanting Festival @TreePlantingFestival. All collected donations will go to the Tree Planting Account to offset event costs.
- Drivers must have a valid driver's license number, car insurance, and adhere to all traffic laws and parade rules.
- Drivers may not deviate from the parade route at any time and must finish the entire parade route.
- An "entry" may be the following: Car, truck, flatbed, float, side by side, off-road vehicles, scooter, golf cart, walkers, bikers, horses, commercial vehicle, bus, or other safe and creative entry with TPF staff permission.
- Use appropriate and proper signage to identify sponsors for entry if needed.
- Floats may not exceed 10 ft in width or 13.5ft. In height, trailers may be larger.
- Entries may use sound amplifications or musical purposes, but may not address the audience/community with speeches or campaigning, and may not be louder than 80-90 decibels.
- Entries can be historical, business, non-profits, representing the community, or for fun or education - as long as they are in good taste as deemed by the Parade Chair and Oakridge Police Department.
- All entries with horses/pets must have someone to follow and clean up.
- Get creative and have fun with your entry - balloons, banners, decoration, giveaways, SWAG, coupons, costumes, and more are all encouraged!
- **No items, including candy, may be thrown *from vehicles*** (as per Ordinance 942). Items and candy may only be *handed out* by walkers during the parade. Please plan ahead to have walkers help hand out candy on your behalf.

OAKRIDGE - WESTFIR 2026 TREE PLANTING FESTIVAL GRAND PARADE APPLICATION

Name of Entry Lead, Organization, Sponsor or Group: _____

Additional Contact Names: _____

Contact Email: _____ Cell Phone Number: _____

Estimated length of float/entry/vehicles in feet: _____

Detailed description of entry (Example: log truck, walkers with a sign, trailer decorated, side by side ATV, mountain bikes, golf carts, 1952 Chevy, etc:)

_____

_____

If Motorized Entry - Number of Vehicles: _____Type of Vehicle(s): Year/Make/Model/Owner:

_____

We will email out the parade line-up and staging plans on Fri. May 1 and have listed Saturday Morning.

Optional: Title of Entry: _____

Is Music Part of the Entry? (Circle One) Yes No Political Entry? (Circle One) Yes No

REQUIRED EVENT WAIVER:

I/we hereby waive and release any and all rights/claims of any nature that I/we may have against the Tree Planting Festival grand parade, their employees, officers, volunteers, contractors, agents, assigns, licensees and cooperating entries for and against any and all injuries and damages of any nature which I/we may suffer while taking part in any activities connected with this event as a whole. This release shall be binding upon my/ours heirs, executors, and/or assigns. Entries must observe all applicable rules and regulations. TPF staff, volunteers, and/or the Oakridge Police Department reserve the right to remove participants from the parade at any time if they are not obeying the parade rules and regulations or are refusing to follow instructions from the police or parade officials or prevent from future parade activity. All entries must be in their assigned positions on time in order to participate. I/we have read and agree to abide by all Grand Parade Guidelines and will adhere to all safety rules, laws, and directions from the Tree Planting Festival, volunteers, and City of Oakridge Police Department - keeping safety as our first priority.

Name:_____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Driver's Insurance Company/Policy: _____

Sponsor/Business/Organization: _____

Next Steps:

1. Return the completed form and event waiver to Oakridge City Hall *or* Vanessa Tharp by Wednesday, April 29, 2026
    a. $25 political campaign fees or any donations must be paid in advance by check to: “Oakridge-Westfir Tree Planting Festival % C.F.A” mailed to: PO Box 67, Oakridge, OR 97463 or https://bit.ly/donatetotpf
2. Expect email confirmation for your Saturday morning placement (you get assigned a number/order); these will be sent by Fri., May 1st, or you can ask when you check in at the High School on Saturday Morning! Arrive between 9:30 and 10:15 am to get in order - be mindful that street closings will happen and there may be detours.