

NSP Fall Round-Up Parade Rain Policy

Purpose

To ensure the safety of parade participants, volunteers, and spectators while minimizing disruption due to inclement weather.

1. Weather Monitoring

Monitoring Responsibility: The Parade Committee (appointed jointly by the city and the business association) will monitor weather forecasts 72 hours prior to the parade. On parade day, conditions will be closely observed using National Weather Service updates and local meteorological services.

2. Rain vs. Severe Weather

Light Rain: The parade will proceed in light or intermittent rain. Participants should be advised to plan accordingly.

Moderate to Heavy Rain or Severe Conditions: The parade may be delayed, shortened, or cancelled if any of the following conditions exist:

- Lightning within 10 miles will automatically trigger a delay or cancellation.
- High winds exceeding 25mph that create risk for floats, large inflatables, or staging equipment may cause cancellation.
- Flooding along the route
- Tornado warnings
- Hazardous road conditions

Heavy rain alone will not cancel the parade unless it creates unsafe conditions.

3. Decision Timeline

Initial Assessment: 48 hours before event

Final Decision: A final decision on proceeding or canceling will be made no later than **2 hours** prior to parade start time on parade day

Updates will be communicated via the parade website, social media, signage at event site, and email.

4. Possible Outcomes

Proceed as Scheduled – If conditions are safe, the parade will go on as planned.

Delayed Start – If inclement weather is expected to pass quickly, the parade may be delayed up to **30 minutes** before cancellation is considered.

Cancellation – If conditions remain unsafe (severe storms, lightning, flooding, high winds), the parade will be canceled for safety reasons and a public statement will be released immediately.

5. Refunds/Fees

Entry fees are **non-refundable** in the event of cancellation.

6. Decision Authority:

Who Should Decide: Primary Decision-Making Body is the Joint Parade Oversight committee comprised of:

- City Officials (e.g. Parks & Recreation, Emergency Services, Police)
- Business Association Leaders (e.g. Event sponsors, Organizing Committee)

This ensures:

-The City brings safety, liability, and emergency response expertise.

-The Business Association brings stakeholder insight, financial investment, and community engagement.

Final Authority:

The City of North St. Paul has the final authority to cancel based on public safety concerns (e.g. emergency declarations, permit restrictions) but the Business Association will be a key advisor especially for postponement or partial modifications.