



St. George Fire Protection District

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SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO ST. GEORGE; AND HE'S ON A FIRE TRUCK

Every year the St. George Fire Department carries Santa Claus on top of one of its fire engines through the subdivisions that make up the St. George Fire Protection District. It is a tradition that is almost as old as the Department itself.

The effort is split between the first two weekends of December; basically, parading one side of Airline Hwy each weekend. Santa Claus and his helpers will be rolling through subdivisions mostly on the east side (Amite River side) of Airline Hwy and those accessible from Airline, like Briar Place and Woodridge, on the first weekend of December. That's December 1st and 2nd. On December 8th and 9th Santa will be riding through the neighborhoods on the west side (Mississippi River side) of Airline Hwy.

Parades will leave the fire stations at 10:00AM on Saturday and noon Sunday, returning at 5:00PM or dark, whichever comes first, on each weekend.

Go to www.stgeorgefire.com for a listing of which neighborhoods will be paraded on which weekend. If you don't find your neighborhood listed, please check again early next week as a new subdivision list is under construction. Since all units are on-duty fire engines and subject to emergency calls, exact dates and times are not possible to predict. That also means every now and then Santa has to climb down from the engine and become a firefighter again.

The St. George Fire Department will again partner with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. The vehicle following Santa will be collecting food for those in need and NEW unwrapped toys for underprivileged children ages infant to 17 years. They will also accept NEW (still in the box or wrapper) toiletries and grooming aids and supplies for distribution throughout the year.

If you miss Santa's Parade in your neighborhood, there will be barrels at each St. George Fire Station for food and NEW UNWRAPPED toy donations.

Checks made out to St. Vincent de Paul (not the fire department, please) will be gratefully accepted by the volunteers working with us. Because of their wide-ranging affiliations, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul can stretch your dollars farther than you are able.

Finally, but most importantly, parents please keep your children safe. Let's all have fun; safely. Don't approach the fire engine with Santa and don't run alongside or between the vehicles. Please hand all gifts to the volunteers in the vehicles behind Santa's fire truck.

Let's be sure to make these parades a safe and Merry Christmas experience.