

## Patriot's Day Parade – April 19, 2025

<b>CONTACTS :</b> <b>Concord250</b> <b>Parade</b> <b>Committee</b>	<a href="mailto:250celebration@concordma.gov">250celebration@concordma.gov</a> (Central E-Mail) John Arena III: 978-821-2296 Susan McCrory: 508-561-4119
<b>PARKING</b>	Concord-Carlisle High School – 500 Walden Street <b>No parking or drop-offs</b> will be permitted in the parade assembly area or within the parade route. All vehicles must access the CCHS parking location by turning onto Walden Street at the Rte. 2 Intersection. This will be the <b>ONLY</b> option as hard road closures will be in effect. If you are traveling east bound on Rte. 2, please note you will be required to turn around at Exit 125 and enter Walden Street via the west bound lanes with a right-hand turn. All left turning lanes on Route Two will be closed.
<b>ROAD CLOSING:</b>	Thoreau, Everett and Stow Streets will be closed to all traffic -- including participant drop-offs. Streets comprising the Parade Route will be closed to vehicular traffic. <b>Hard Road Closures will remain in place until after the conclusion of the Parade.</b>
<b>FORMATION:</b>	Unit Commanders are asked to <b>check in</b> at the Emerson Field welcome table, located near the Concord Armory (91 Everett Street) <b>between 7:00 - 7:45 am</b> and then proceed to their parade position. The Committee is solely responsible for the Order. Division Commanders and Ambassadors cannot authorize changes. Step-off is at <b>8:30 am SHARP! Units are expected to be in formation at their line up location at 8:00 am. Units with approved Vehicles must have the vehicle in its line up location by 7:30 am at the latest. A map showing check-in and muster locations is included.</b>
<b>TRAIL MARCHES:</b>	Units joining at Minute Man National Park will be responsible for obtaining their own parade permits from the Concord Police Department and/or the National Park. Trail marching units not joining in the assembly area are asked to notify the Committee of their unit's insertion point at the North Bridge Area. Units may not join the parade at other points except by advance Committee approval.
<b>PARADE ROUTE:</b>	The parade route is approximately 3.5 miles. See detailed information on attached Map.

REVIEWING AREA:	The Reviewing Area is located in front of Town Hall in Monument Square, and the parade will pass directly in front of the reviewing stand on the return trip through Town. Units are expected to render a salute on the return segment. Some members of the First Division will be invited to sit on the reviewing stand.
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LUNCH:	Unit members and invited guests who completed the Lunch Form will receive a prepared complimentary “grab and go” lunch at the conclusion of the parade. <b>Families of participants are not eligible for Lunch</b>
FIRST AID:	Ask your Division Commander or a Parade Ambassador for any First Aid needs. Concord Emergency Management will have teams available to assist in an emergency. The Parade Committee is in radio contact with Public Safety.
FIRING:	<b>NO UNAUTHORIZED FIRING !!! NO EXCEPTIONS.</b> There shall be no discharging of weapons at any time during Concord's Patriot's Day activities except by designated units at designated times.
CEREMONIES / MANEUVERS:	No unauthorized ceremonies or maneuvers will be permitted at any time during Concord's Patriot's Day activities.
VEHICLES:	Motorized Vehicles are permitted in the parade, but only with proper documentation and advance approval from the Parade Committee.
WATER STATION:	The committee is finalizing plans for a water station available for parade participants at the corner of Lowell Road and Liberty Street, which is approximately the half-way point for marchers.

#### PARADE ROUTE AND PROCEDURES

PARADE ROUTE~ The parade route is approximately 3.5 miles. From the assembly area at **Thoreau Street, Emerson Field and Everett Street**, the parade will proceed down Thoreau street. Units will turn right on to Sudbury Road then bear right onto Main Street. At the Flag Pole at the top of Concord Center, turn left onto Monument Square and proceed onto Lowell Road and a right turn on Liberty Street, entering the Buttrick Hillside of the National Park through the designated area. **All music shall stop once on Liberty Street.**

Music may resume once the Bridge Ceremony is completed, as units march through the National Park and across the North Bridge.

**Members of the Concord Independent Battery and the Honored Citizen Carriage will turn right at the Colonial Inn and proceed up Monument Street for the Ceremony. All other units and divisions continue down Lowell Rd to Liberty St. Special consideration may be made for the entire First Division to turn right at the Colonial Inn if weather is inclement.**

The parade will halt on the Buttrick Mansion side of the Minuteman Statue. When the first division is in place, the North Bridge Ceremony will commence.

At the conclusion of the Bridge Ceremony, the parade will resume and turn right onto Monument Street and thence to Monument Square, left through Monument Square (proceeding directly in front of the Town House & Reviewing Stand), straight onto Lexington Road, and right onto Heywood Meadow, at which time Units may enter into Parade Rest. Committee members and Division Commanders will guide units to the area where lunch is served in front of the Concord Armory.

Musical Units are encouraged to play while crossing the North Bridge and throughout the return march to Concord Center. Some musical units will pause at the Reviewing Stand to play a selection.

**ALTERNATIVE ROUTE~ In the event of serious flooding near the North Bridge, the parade will proceed down Liberty Street to Monument Street, and then on to the passageway leading to the North Bridge. In this circumstance, the parade will not cross the Bridge.**

**At the path entrance to the North Bridge, the parade will halt and a designated party of individuals and units will be dispatched to the North Bridge for a brief ceremony. Immediately after the ceremony, the designated party will return to its place in the line of march, and the parade will continue down Monument Street to Monument Square past the reviewing area, and thence to Lexington Road and proceed to the dispersal area.**

REVIEWING AREA~ The Reviewing Area will be on parade left on Monument Square, in front of the Concord Town House. The Parade will halt briefly to allow the Honored Citizen(s), Marshal, Local/State/Federal Officials & Dignitaries to take their places on the reviewing stand. At the assembly area, Honored guests and dignitaries will be offered an opportunity to sit on the reviewing stand.

**DISTANCE BETWEEN UNITS~ Units should maintain a distance of 30 - 50 feet and divisions a distance of NOT MORE THAN 70 feet.** We ask for your cooperation so as to not fragment the parade. Unit Commanders not abiding by this request will be reminded by Division Commanders and may not be invited to return in subsequent years.

PLAYING OF MUSIC~ In order to facilitate communication of Parade Officials, we request units to refrain from playing music during the parade formation. Any necessary tuning of instruments is allowed. Musical units are encouraged to play throughout the parade, with the exception of Liberty Street and during the North Bridge Ceremony.

PASSING IN REVIEW~ All military units should pass the reviewing stand rendering proper salute in accordance with their units respective Drill and Ceremonies procedures. Leaders of other non-musical groups should command "Eyes Left" when they reach a point of six paces from the reviewing stand. The single file closest to the reviewing stand should continue to face ahead, but all other files and elements should turn their faces to the reviewing stand. The leaders of the unit and any appropriate subordinates may choose to render some form of salute (hat removed and held across chest, etc.)

FLAGS~ If the unit carries the National colors, then all other banners, flags, and guidons should be lowered when passing "in review". If the National colors are not carried, then a salute can be accomplished with the unit guidon or banner being raised high from the carrying position and then lowering until the staff is parallel to the ground. When the leader has passed six paces beyond the reviewing stand, they end their salute, face the front, give the command, "Ready, FRONT" and continue the march.

SPECIAL MANEUVERS~ Marching Units MAY NOT perform any maneuvers which will cause the parade to cease movement at the reviewing stand unless prior notification is given and APPROVAL is secured by the Concord250 Parade Committee.

### **NORTH BRIDGE CEREMONY**

PARTICIPANTS~ Emcees, Parade Marshal, Trumpeter, Clergy, Dignitaries & Officials, Concord Independent Battery, Concord & Acton Minute Men and the Middlesex County Volunteers.

**Please be mindful the length of the ceremony is estimated at 45 minutes, at which time all units in Divisions Two, Three, Four, Five and Six are at Parade Rest.**