



South Louisiana Chapter

# Safety Tips for Mardi Gras 2008

## LAWS . . .

### ON THE STREET . . .

#### Prohibited

- Open containers of glass or metal not permitted.
- Public laws prohibit spraying Silly String or throwing objects at or near parades.
- Animals prohibited within 150 feet of parade route.
- No open flame heating or cooking devices on public rights-of-ways.
- It is unlawful to ride on or use skates, skateboards, roller blades, bicycle within fifty (50) feet of parade route (Jefferson Parish).

#### Barricades

- Stay behind all barricades and cables.
- Do not move, cross, tamper, stand or sit on barricades

### PARKING . . .

- All normal parking regulations apply.
- Observe all Special Event parking signs along route.
- It is unlawful to park along any parade route within the first (15) feet of curb, or as posted.

### SPECTATORS . . .

- Do not throw anything at floats or riders.
- Do not climb trees.
- Obey all laws pertaining to indecent exposure.

#### Ladders, Chairs, Ice Chests

- Do not fasten or chain ladders to public property, and light standards, utility poles, and/or to each other.
- Do not place any ladders, chairs, ice chests, i.e., in intersections or between curbs.
- Do not place ladders closer to curb than the height of ladder.

#### Stands or Structures

- Outside the CBD: for news media, carnival clubs, or by special permit.
- Inside the CBD: by special permit.
- Do not erect fences around public property.
- Stands and structures in New Orleans must be authorized by city Director of Safety & Permits

#### Beads & Throws:

- Do not throw, cast, or propel any substance from any window, door, balcony or roof onto any public place, street, sidewalk, or median within French Quarter.

## SAFETY TIPS . . .

#### Driving

- Plan your route, leave early, and be sure to include alternate routes.
- Be extra careful driving or walking near parades and parade routes.
- Drive carefully, watch out for **drunk** pedestrians.

#### Home Security

Unoccupied homes and parked automobiles are tempting targets for burglars during the Mardi Gras Season, especially during parade time.

- Take measures to secure personal property, specifically locking doors and windows to the house and garage.
- It is a good idea to leave lights and a radio on.
- Inform reliable neighbors of a planned absence and request that they report to the police any suspicious person(s) or suspicious activity.
- Personal property, including clothing, should not be left in unattended vehicles.

#### Beads & Throws

- Be alert for beads and trinkets thrown during parade.
- Wear sunglasses during the day to protect your eyes from the sun and throws.
- Keep all beads, small trinkets, and plastic bags out of reach of children.

#### Parade Units: Horses, Floats, Vehicles, Bands

- Do not hang from floats or vehicles in the parade.
- Do not encourage the crowd to run alongside floats for throws.
- Never reach under a float for a throw.
- Do not approach the horses in the parade unless the rider indicates that it is okay.
- Do not approach a float or other vehicle until it comes to a complete stop.
- Respect the directions of band and marching unit chaperones, as well as the police.

#### Personal Safety

- Piggybacking is dangerous.
- Drink responsibly, do not become a **smashed** pedestrian.

#### Lost & Found

- Do not leave children unattended.
- Decide in advance on a meeting place in case anyone gets lost in a group.
- Consult police for directions to lost child stations.

Courtesy of National Safety Council, South Louisiana Chapter

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