



Town of Sharpsburg
106 East Main Street
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<http://sharpsburgmd.com/>

February 17, 2026

Greetings!

The Sharpsburg Memorial Day Committee is pleased to invite your organization to participate in the 159th Sharpsburg Memorial Day Parade. **This year's theme commemorates "America's 250th: Honoring the Sacrifices that Birthed Our Nation."** The parade will be held on **Saturday, May 23, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.**

Parade participants not involved in the morning ceremony should plan to report to the Sharpsburg Elementary School parking lot and check in with the Parade Marshal no later than 1:00 p.m. Participants will be provided with their staging number by email two weeks prior to the event and **should be prepared to present this information to the Parade Marshal upon arrival.** All walking units will be staged on the grounds of Sharpsburg Elementary School, regardless of parade placement. A site map will be included to indicate the location of Parade Marshals and vehicular staging areas, as well as drop off and parking locations for walking units.

Please be advised that traffic usually travels slowly through town, so please allow your group enough time to arrive and check in. Keep in mind that Main Street will be closed through town from approximately 10:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. for the morning ceremony, so remain alert for alternating traffic patterns as you arrive.

If you are interested in participating, please complete the second page of this form and return by email to **townofsharpsburg@comcast.net**, with "Memorial Day Parade" in the subject line, or mail to the address listed above. If you have any questions, please call Town Hall at (301) 432-4428. Submissions must be received by **April 15, 2026.**

Thank you for your support of this historical event. We look forward to seeing you there!

Regards,

Jacob Martz
Vice Mayor & Memorial Day Committee Chairman

2026 Memorial Day Parade Participation RSVP Form

Please print your name/name of organization exactly how you would like it to appear in the Sharpsburg Memorial Day Commemoration Program Book

Please provide the name of participating unit just as you would like it to be announced during the parade on the following line. This is also how it will appear in the Memorial Day Commemoration Program Book:

Unit/Organization Name: _____

Point of Contact Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email (this is how you will receive your staging information): _____

My group will be (please select one):

Walking only Combination walking and riding Everyone is riding in a vehicle or float

Will your unit be playing music during the parade? (please circle one) Yes No

Number and type of vehicle(s): _____

****How many spaces will your vehicle(s) and/or float(s) require for staging? (one space = 25 ft.) _____****

The Sharpsburg Memorial Day Parade is held for the purpose of honoring our nation's fallen military members.

By submitting this RSVP form, you hereby agree to appear and conduct yourself appropriately for a family-friendly event. All participant conduct is subject to applicable laws, and all participants are expected to participate courteously and with the safety and enjoyment of all and the efficient execution of the parade in mind. Decorations, signage and imagery, public displays, and music associated with all entries must be free of illegality, violence, obscenity, vulgarity and profanity.

Failure to abide by this guideline may result with participation being disallowed and/or ineligibility to participate in future Town events. The Town reserves the right to limit the number and type(s) of entries to ensure the parade culminates within the allotted time, and to protect public safety.

Important Reminders:

- Participants should plan to arrive no later than 1:00 p.m.
- Participants will be provided with their staging number prior to parade day. **Please have this information handy when checking in with the Parade Marshal.**
- All participants who will be walking/marching in the parade as a member of either a Walking or Combination Unit **must be dropped off/park at Sharpsburg Bible Church.**
- All walking units will then be staged at Sharpsburg Elementary School.
- Political organizations are asked to devote their display to the theme of the parade.
- Elected Officials may place a sign indicating their identity but are also strongly encouraged to incorporate parade themes.
- Distribution of literature is prohibited.
- Participants **shall not** use emergency sirens during the parade. Please remember that local emergency units participating in the parade are **active units**; as such, the use of emergency sirens is reserved strictly for them and shall be used only in the event of an actual emergency during the parade. **If an emergency siren is activated during the parade, participants are advised to allow for the passage of responding vehicles.**