



6 Annual Golf Cart Parades That Provide Fun for the Whole Town

BY KATRINA ROBINSON

Golf cart parades are just one way to have a blast with your golf cart! Golf cart enthusiasts across the nation take place in various parades for a wide range of holidays and events from Christmas and Halloween to celebrating their favorite political candidate.

Read on for some of the best golf cart parades that happen in the USA.

1. WINTER GARDEN, FLORIDA

Every year, the residents of Winter Garden put their Santa hats on and decorate their golf carts in all things Christmas. While the COVID-19 pandemic made some question whether or not there would be a Winter Garden Christmas Golf Cart Parade in 2020, residents weren't willing to let the Coronavirus spoil their fun. On Sunday, December 13, participants hung Christmas decorations and lights on their golf carts—a life-sized Grinch even made an appearance—and started their drive beginning at Dr. Bradford Memorial Park and traveling



down Winter Garden streets for all to see. 2020's parade was longer than previous years; maybe with the pandemic going on, the residents of Winter Garden figured everyone could use a little more Christmas cheer. Awards were handed out for categories including Best Mask, Best Cart, and Most Lights. This

year's parade's profits went to the West Orange Junior Service League.

2. CONWAY, SOUTH CAROLINA

In 2020 in Conway, South Carolina, around Halloween, golf cart owners bought tickets to enter the 1st Annual Halloween Golf Cart Parade. Conway Downtown Alive presented the first annual parade—with hopes that it will be the first of many—and partially since COVID-19 restrictions limited the number of golf carts that could participate, registration filled up quickly. At 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 31, golf carts lined



up, decorated in their best fall and Halloween garb, and the owners didn't show up in plain clothes—oh no! They dressed up in festive Halloween costumes to match their carts before parading them down Conway's streets, starting at the Conway Public Safety Building on 9th Avenue and ending at Elm Street. Spectators were welcomed to view the event but were asked to adhere to social distancing recommendations so this golf cart parade could be a safe endeavor for everyone. Awards were presented to the most decked-out carts. Overall, this was a great start to an annual tradition that will hopefully take place for years to come.

3. OZONA, FLORIDA

Each year, Ozona residents gather together to celebrate the holidays and their golf carts during the Annual Holiday Golf Cart Parade. While in previous years, various off-road vehicles



have joined the parade, recently the town has requested that only "true" golf carts register and take part. Over the many years the parade has taken place, it has become a favorite event of Ozona residents; in recent years, over one hundred golf carts were paraded down the town's streets. Carts check in around Molly Goodhead's and the Ozona Pig; the parade starts promptly at 6:00 p.m. and travels throughout Ozona so the largest number of residents can view the various holiday-themed golf carts. First-, second-, and third-place awards are handed out at the end of the parade.

4. CAROLINA BEACH, NORTH CAROLINA

The Island Men, Inc., a nonprofit group that aims to raise money for various charities, had the brilliant idea of holding a golf cart parade in 2020—and the result was fun for all! The Halloween-themed golf cart parade welcomed cart owners and their friends and family members in the area, asking that they do their best at dressing up their golf carts—and dressing themselves up in costumes as well! The parade traveled through Carolina Beach neighborhoods so residents could enjoy the fun from their front yards. This was done not only to distinguish this golf cart parade from other similar parades



but also to follow pandemic safety protocols. All participants wore masks, the line-up was socially distanced, and the golf carts were asked to maintain a safe distance throughout the parade. The money that was raised went toward local charities that are really having a tough time with this pandemic. [to] provide them with some additional monies by the end of the year." The Island Men Vice President Bob Lewis said. Some of the organizations that were given money included Marth's Kitchen, Ocean Care, and the Federal Point Help Center. The parade took place on Saturday, October 24, and we hope it won't be the last one that parades down the streets of Carolina Beach.

5. MANHATTAN BEACH, CALIFORNIA

2020 was a memorable year for all—mostly for not-so-great reasons. However, the residents of Manhattan Beach, California, have a great reason to remember last year, as it was the first year that the town held a Halloween Golf Cart Parade. The first annual parade was a huge success; over 40 golf carts lined up and paraded through the streets, each one decorated to celebrate the Halloween season. The inaugural event was



the brainchild of local resident and golf cart enthusiast Shawn Giaconi, who stated, "Some carts were extremely impressive and went all out and every person was dressed in costume!" And don't worry—this won't be the last time a Halloween golf cart parade takes place in this Californian town. Giaconi confirmed that she will host the parade every year. "It's exciting to know a new tradition has been made," she said. The Manhattan Beach Golf Cart Crew, a group started by Giaconi, will inform residents and fellow golf cart enthusiasts of upcoming events such as golf cart drive-in movie nights and other golf cart parades.

6. NEDERLAND, CALIFORNIA

Every holiday season, Nederland-area golf cart owners get out their shiniest and most fun Christmas decorations and go to work making their carts as festive as possible. The parade hands out awards every year, and the competition is stiff! Golf cart enthusiast Nancy Resendez reported that some of her



friends participated in 2020's holiday parade, but that didn't mean she was going to take it easy on them . . . she wanted that trophy! The parade raised money for the Nederland Economic Development Corporation and was the third annual Christmas parade the town has enjoyed. This past year's Christmas parade featured a COVID Santa and mask with signs saying, "2020, CO, CO, CO, COVID away!" Talk about looking on the bright side of this global pandemic!

Golf cart parades are a great way for cart lovers to celebrate their shared passion for golf carts—while being safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. The above parades are just a few that occur throughout the country; there are plenty of other parades that take place . . . possibly in your town! And if your town doesn't currently have a golf cart parade, maybe it's time to start one. What are you waiting for?

