

Rockwood farmers preparing for Parade of Lights

15th year for unique parade of farm equipment

Rockwood farmers are busy preparing their farm machinery for the annual Farmers' Parade of Lights, which will be held this year on Thursday, Dec. 13.

"Our participants are off to a great start again this year. Spectators can expect to see some very exciting floats on the 13th," says Kay Storey, one of the event organizers.

This is the fifteenth year that farmers from the surrounding area converge on the village at seven o'clock in the evening with various pieces of decorated and festively lit farm equipment. The floats vary in size, (some up to 20 feet wide) and shape, depending on what piece of farm equipment is selected by the 21 participants.

"The parade is strictly for fun," says Storey. "There is absolutely no advertising, fundraising or fees associated with it."



"The parade has come a long way since our first year when a number of local farmers got together and drove through town with no set route or legal considerations," says Storey. "We now have an organizing

committee that ensures that the parade occurs in a safe and well organized fashion, complete with police escorts and proper permits." She says the floats themselves have also come a long way, with some of the farmers

starting a month ahead to assemble their many strands (20-40 per float) of Christmas lights and decorations.

"This has turned into a huge event drawing well over 10,000 people from all over Ontario," says Storey. Along with the show of lights, spectators will have the opportunity to view a

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