

Christmas Village Decorating Contest

The Christmas Village Decorating Contest allows individuals, families, organizations, schools, churches, businesses, and community groups to participate in decorating one of the Christmas Village houses for the holiday season.

The houses, which are small sheds generously loaned by Oakcrest Farms, may be decorated using any materials, themes, or creative ideas that celebrate the spirit of the holidays.

General Rules for All Participants

Safety First

- No fire hazards are permitted.
- All decorations must be flame-retardant whenever possible.
- All lights must be UL-approved and in good working condition.
- Extension cords must be rated for outdoor use.
- All displays must operate on a timer.
- Display operating hours are **4:00 PM – 9:00 PM daily**.

Respect for Property

- Use only removable adhesives such as painter's tape or removable putty.
- Nails, tacks, staples, screws, or other materials that could damage walls, doors, or structures are prohibited.

Access Requirements

- Doors, windows, and walkways must remain fully functional and unobstructed at all times.

Interior Decorating

Participants are welcome to decorate the inside of the village houses as well. Please remember:

- Decorations will only be viewed through windows or open doorways.
- Visitors will not be permitted to enter the buildings during operating hours.

Timeline

- All decorating must be completed by **Thursday, December 3, 2026, at 4:00 PM.**
- No exceptions will be granted.

Family-Friendly Content

- Displays must be appropriate for audiences of all ages.
- Violent, lewd, explicit, or otherwise inappropriate content is prohibited.

Offensive Content

- Displays containing discriminatory, derogatory, offensive, or political themes are prohibited.

Discretionary Clause

- City officials reserve the right to determine what constitutes inappropriate content or unsafe displays. All decisions made by event officials are final.

Removal Deadline

- All decorations must be removed by 4pm, January 10, 2027

To register for the contest, please complete the form below and the waiver agreement. Email your completed form to dpoore@harringtondelaware.gov

For questions, please contact our offices, 302-398-3530 or email dpoore@harringtondelaware.gov

Christmas Village Decorating Contest Registration Form

Please complete this registration form to participate in the Christmas Village Decorating Contest. All decorations must comply with contest rules and guidelines established by the City of Harrington.

Participant Information

Individual / Group / Business Name:	
Contact Person:	
Mailing Address:	
City / State / Zip:	
Phone Number:	
Email Address:	

Display Information

Theme / Title of Display:	
Brief Description of Decorations:	
Electrical Needs (if any):	
Preferred Village House Number (optional):	

Participant Agreement

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to follow all contest rules and guidelines for the Christmas Village Decorating Contest. I understand that all displays must remain family-friendly, safe, and respectful of public

property. I further understand that City officials reserve the right to require modifications or removal of any display deemed unsafe or inappropriate.

Participant Signature:		Date:	
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Decorations Deadline: Thursday, December 3, 2026 at 4:00 PM
Display Hours: 4:00 PM – 9:00 PM Daily
Removal Deadline: Sunday, January 10, 2027 at 4:00 PM

Christmas Village Decorating Contest Liability Waiver and Release Agreement

Event: Christmas Village Decorating Contest
Location: City of Harrington Christmas Marketplace
Event Dates: December 2026

By signing this Liability Waiver and Release Agreement, the undersigned participant(s) acknowledge and agree to the following terms and conditions regarding participation in the Christmas Village Decorating Contest.

Participant Information

Individual / Group / Business Name:	
Contact Person:	
Mailing Address:	
City / State / Zip:	
Phone Number:	
Email Address:	

Waiver and Release

I/We understand that participation in the Christmas Village Decorating Contest involves the use of decorations, electrical lighting, tools, ladders, and other materials that may involve certain risks.

I/We voluntarily assume all risks associated with participation in this event, including but not limited to property damage, personal injury, accidents, or loss arising from setup, decorating activities, maintenance, or removal of decorations.

In consideration for being permitted to participate in the Christmas Village Decorating Contest, I/we hereby release, waive, discharge, and hold harmless the City of Harrington, its elected officials, employees, volunteers, sponsors, partners, and event organizers from any and all liability, claims, demands, actions, or causes of action arising out of or related to participation in this event.

- Follow all contest rules and safety requirements.
- Use only safe and properly functioning electrical equipment.
- Ensure all decorations are family-friendly and appropriate for public viewing.
- Avoid damaging any structures or property provided for the event.

- Remove all decorations and materials by the deadline established by the City.

I/We understand that the City of Harrington reserves the right to require modification or removal of any display deemed unsafe, offensive, inappropriate, or in violation of contest rules.

I/We acknowledge that participation is voluntary and that the City of Harrington does not provide insurance coverage for participants, displays, decorations, tools, equipment, or personal property.

Photo and Media Release

I/We grant permission to the City of Harrington to photograph and/or video record the decorated display and participants for promotional, marketing, social media, website, and public relations purposes without compensation.

Signature Section

Participant Signature:	
Printed Name:	
Date:	
Organization / Business Name (if applicable):	
Authorized Representative Title:	

Office Use Only

Date Received:	
Village House Assigned:	
Approved By:	