

Antique Tractor Parade Honors Ag Heritage

The Antique Tractor Parade will return to the Clay County Fair at 2 p.m. Saturday, July 11, offering fairgoers a chance to step back in time and celebrate the machines that helped build rural America.

Now in its 13th year, the parade has become a nostalgic highlight for many at the fair. Featuring tractors and equipment from 1972 or older, the event gives participants a chance to run, exhibit and share the vintage equipment that helped shape agriculture in the region.

Drivers may also tow vintage farming equipment behind their tractors, adding even more history and character to the parade route.

All makes and models of tractors and equipment from 1972 or older are welcome to participate. Parade participants are asked to pre-register with Laura Anderson at 701-219-



0735 or Amanda Dunham at 701-388-2007.

Drivers are invited to meet at the Barnesville Bus Garage around 1 p.m. to organize units before the 2 p.m. parade starts. The tractors are expected

to arrive at the Clay County Fairgrounds around 2:30 p.m.

From the bus garage, tractors will turn off Old 52 and travel east along Ninth Avenue SE to Fifth Street SE, where they will turn north. After passing ValleyCare and Rehab, the tractors will make their way west on Fifth Avenue SE, turn north on Front Street, then turn east on First Avenue at the four-way stop before entering the fairgrounds at the southwest corner gate.

Bleachers will be set up on the south side of the Open Class exhibit building, giving spectators a place to watch the line of vintage tractors before

the lineup is replaced by farm implements.

For many fairgoers, the parade brings back memories of tractors once driven by parents, grandparents and neighbors. For younger generations, it offers a glimpse into an era when farming relied on simpler machines, skilled operators and plenty of hard work.

The Antique Tractor Parade remains one of the Clay County Fair's most unique tributes to agriculture and the role it continues to play in the region.



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