



City of Missoula
Police Department
Press Release

For immediate release

Date: March 15, 2013

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St. Patrick's Parade and Weekend Bring Street Closures

This weekend's events will begin Saturday morning with the annual Run for the Luck of It sponsored by Run Wild Missoula. There will be 5K and 7-mile races that will start on Pine Street. Please be aware of runners/walkers in the downtown area, Scott Street and Rodgers Street toward the Missoula Cemetery. Please see Run Wild Missoula's website for more details.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade will also be on Saturday starting at noon. This year there is a Street closure change that will also affect the Homecoming Parade this fall. The change will consist of closing Broadway at Woody Street (Woody will remain open), then east to Washington Street. The closure will allow parade floats to line up along Broadway and one block north on Higgins Avenue to Spruce Street. The route will be the same as usual with the parade going south on Higgins. This closure will allow east/west traffic on Spruce Street and Alder Street. In the past, the closure of Higgins to the public art XXX's at the north end of the street has created a gridlock in downtown Missoula by hampering traffic flow from east to west.

The parade floats will begin setting up at 10 a.m., and Broadway will be closed beginning at approximately 11 a.m. Drivers who park on Broadway may not be able to get out until the floats are clear.

On Sunday, the Irish Studies Program will hold its annual St. Patrick's Festival in the 100 block of West Pine Street. The event starts at 10 a.m. and will end at 1 a.m.

As usual for St. Patrick's Day, we encourage those who have had too much to drink to have a designated driver. There will be additional patrols in the downtown area and additional DUI patrols. Missoula will be very busy with both the University of Montana Lady Griz and Griz hosting the Big Sky Basketball Tournament. Please be aware of pedestrians in the downtown area, as this event will bring tournament fans town, and many will visit downtown. Have fun, be safe and go Griz.