

Marple Newtown 4th of July Committee

July 10, 2026

Dear Marple Newtown Community,

I would like to take this opportunity to address the cancellation of the 2026 parade. The MN 4th of July Committee was trying everything to still have the parade. We had shortened the route and moved the time. The decision was then made by township officials including the Emergency Management Coordinators that the parade could not be held on the 4th due to excessive heat. Our rain date was the 5th and the heat indices for that day were comparable. Unfortunately, that left us unable to pivot to anything else. The parade is cancelled for this year.

So many factors go into the parade and we are dependent on (and very grateful for) the support and cooperation from many departments and organizations of both townships. If one group isn't on board, the parade cannot happen. To just pick another day for the parade isn't an option. The parade affects many businesses along the route and permitting from PennDOT must be obtained well in advance.

We recognize the countless hours people spent preparing for the parade. We feel the heartbreak along with them. We thank our MN community for showing up and showing out for the parade year after year. Your enthusiasm and parade entries make the event what it is. We know the joy and spirit the parade brings to our community. It's the biggest in Delaware County and we think the best. It's something we can all be proud of.

We were fortunate to have received grants this year. All money from the grants will be used as intended and in the timeframe specified by the grantees. Documentation and receipts must be provided to ensure proper usage. We take this matter seriously. We were able to use some of the funding to purchase new banners that are up along the parade route along with the flags. Our previous banners were quite old and we hope you enjoy this upgrade.

We need to thank all the advertisers in our parade book. Although they could not be handed out down the parade route, we distributed them around the community. We did all we could so that your ad was seen. Huge thanks for your continued support.

Last but not least, I would like to address our committee. The MN 4th of July Committee is made up of some of the best people I know. They are hardworking and community minded. This committee operates like a well oiled machine. I'm so proud to be a part of such an amazing group. While we are still feeling the sting of the disappointment from this year, we are already looking forward to next year. We can't wait to make 251 a huge celebration.

Merrie Staurowsky

Chairman MN 4th of July Committee