



Safety Tips for Dutch Dogs on Parade

1. **Plan for “down time.”** On parade day, you will line up by 1:30 p.m. and will probably not begin walking for quite a while. You might want to bring a toy or other distraction for your pooch!
2. **Take water.** The weather in Michigan in May could be hot, cold, rainy, etc. If it’s warm, you should plan to bring water for yourself and your dog. Some dogs enjoy a spray bottle for “spritzing.”
3. **Protect the feet.** Beware of potentially hot pavement and take precautions. Also, with a 1.5-mile parade route, make sure that you wear comfortable foot gear as well.
4. **Dress properly.** Wearing layers will allow you to be prepared for any weather conditions that may arise. Remember, rain could mean slippery roads and a slippery leash so gloves could be a good idea.
5. **Arrange for pick-up.** Remember that the parade ends around Van Raalte Avenue and 11th Street. Arrange for a ride if your pup can’t make the 1.5-mile walk back to your parked car.
6. **Beware other dogs and parade animals.** If your dog does not behave well around other animals, and large crowds, this might not be the experience for you.