



## Dogtown Irish Festival



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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Plans Being Finalized for Saint Patrick's Day in Dogtown!

**St. Louis** --Preparations are moving ahead for the big upcoming Saint Patrick's Day celebration in the Dogtown (Clayton-Tamm) on March 17. Those planning to attend the big event in the old South Saint Louis neighborhood on the saint's feast day should be prepared for a few changes and increased security.

For one, Ancient Order of Hibernians Saint Patrick's Day Parade, now in its 36<sup>th</sup> year (34 years in Dogtown), will step off at **11:00 AM**, a change from last year's start time. Parade organizers felt an earlier start time would make for a more family friendly event. But as in years past, the Hibernians promise this year's parade will be as grand as ever, with over 100 colorful floats featuring Irish Family Clans and salutes to Irish heritage, history, faith, and culture.

The second annual Dogtown Irish Festival is a joint effort of Dogtown United, a group community and businesses leaders, and the Hibernians. The purpose of the festival is to highlight the unique spirit and celebrated history of the Dogtown neighborhood. The Festival kicks off at the conclusion of the Hibernian Parade.

The festival will feature food and drink from numerous vendors, and there will be a Merchant Village on Clayton just east of Tamm with Irish shirts, jewelry, and organizers promise much

more. The festival stage, located at Clayton @ Wise by the gazebo, will feature live music from Rusty Nail from 1pm to 5pm.

All outside sales will cease at 6:00 PM and business establishments on Tamm will close at 8:00 PM.

### **INCREASED SECURITY AND TRAFFIC CONTROL**

Those attending the parade and festival will also see increased security from previous years.

Those entering the festival/parade area will be required to go thorough checkpoints. Festival Organizers has contacted for over 75 security guards from Contemporary Services Corporation (CSC) distributed between 25 entry/exit areas and along the parade route. Security will be operational between 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM to enforce festival policies, direct traffic, marshal the route, and protect street closures. A list of checkpoints is listed below.

No Parking along the parade route will be enforced promptly at 6:00 AM on the morning of the 17<sup>th</sup>. The parade route will be locked down to public traffic at 8:00 AM. All are strongly advised to avoid driving near the parade route after 8:00 AM due to traffic congestion. When possible, please consider carpooling, using a cab, or arranging a drop-off as parking in Dogtown will be **extremely limited**.

### **STREETS WILL BE CLOSED THROUGHOUT THE NEIGHBORHOOD FOR LONGER THAN IN YEARS PRIOR.**

- **All of Tamm Avenue and all cross streets one block off in both directions will be closed until 6:00PM, with the exception of Oakland, which will open after the parade.**
- **At 6:00PM, Tamm from West Park to Manchester, and all cross streets in between, will reopen, but Tamm north of West Park to Oakland will will remain closed until 10:00PM. All cross streets in that region will remain closed until 10:00PM as well.**

**These closures will allow for a more thorough cleaning than has occurred in years prior.**

Many cross streets off Tamm will be designated “**NO PARKING**” areas starting Friday, March 15 at 9:00AM. There will be signs posted in 50’ sections off of Tamm at various cross streets indicating these areas. A map is also available at <https://dogtownunited.org/st-patricks-day-2/>. These areas are for equipment staging in advance of the event.

To prevent unauthorized vehicles from accessing the parade route and festival area, heavy barricades will be placed on most of the streets intersecting with the parade route along Tamm. These streets will remain blocked until cleaning is finished and they are reopened. Potentially as late as 10:00PM

When departing the festival area, please be advised that east/west traffic through the festival area will be limited on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Manchester will remain open throughout the day. Otherwise, if you are parked to the west of Tamm, please depart the neighborhood heading west toward McCausland or Skinker. If you are parked east of Tamm, please depart heading east toward Hampton.

### **NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL ALLOWED**

**As in prior years, coolers and backpacks are prohibited from the festival area. Any and all outside alcohol and glass containers are also prohibited. Anyone found by security staff with these items will be turned away. An exception will be made for families with young children to bring a backpack or small cooler for childcare purposes. All bags and personal belongings are subject to search by security staff.**

Festival organizers also want to remind those attending St. Patrick’s Day festivities on March 17 that the Dogtown/Clayton Tamm neighborhood is a residential area and that everyone should be respectful of both local residents and their property.

Trespassing can be punishable by up to one year in jail and/or a significant fine. Vandalism can result in \$250.00 to \$500.00 fine and/or 90 days in jail. Also illegally parked vehicles will be ticketed and towed.

Festival organizers urge all attendees to drink responsibly and drink plenty of water. Please help out the local residents by putting your refuse into a nearby trash bin or recycling bin which will be deployed throughout the area.

**Location of Checkpoints:**

Wells and Government Traffic Circle

Oakland (due west of Tamm Overpass)

Oakland (at Turtle Park Lot entrance)

Oakland and Graham

Oakland and Hampton

Berthold and Art Hill

Berthold and Graham

Berthold and Clayton

Clayton and Art Hill

Graham and West Park

Gregg and Wade

Gregg and Lloyd

Gregg and alley between Lloyd and Clayton and Graham

Wise and Childress

Victoria and Graham

Alley and Childress (west side of route, opposite and south of Victoria

West Park and Childress

West Park and Graham

Nashville and Childress

Wade and Childress

Wade and Gregg

Villa and Childress

Wade and Gregg

Alley and Childress (west side of route, between Villa and Lloyd)

Lloyd and Childress)

Lloyd and Gregg

Brockschmidt Place and Childress

Dyson and Gregg

Tamm and Manchester

**Street Closures:**

Wells Government/Tamm Overpass-Closed from **6:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

Tamm Overpass Wells/Oakland-Closed **from 6:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

Oakland Childress Graham - Closed from **6:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

Art Hill Clayton/Oakland-Closed from **6:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

Tamm Oakland/West Park-Closed from **6:00 AM to 10:00 PM**

Tamm West Park/Manchester-Closed from **6:00 AM to 6:00 PM**

Berthold Childress/Graham-Closed from **6:00 AM to 10:00 PM**

Clayton Childress / Graham-Closed from **6:00 AM to 10:00 PM**

Wise Childress/Tamm-Closed from **6:00 AM to 10:00 PM**

Victoria Tamm/Graham-Closed from **6:00 AM to 10:00 PM**

West Park Childress/Graham-Closed from **6:00 AM 6:00 PM**

Nashville Childress/Tamm-Closed from **6:00 AM to 6:00 PM**

Wade Childress/Gregg-Closed from **6:00 AM to 6:00 PM**

Lloyd Childress/Gregg-Closed from **6:00 AM to 6:00 PM**

Brockschmidt Childress/Tamm-Closed from **6:00 AM to 6:00 PM**

Dyson Tamm/Gregg - Closed from **6:00 AM to 6:00 PM**

**No Parking Areas:**

Childress (West Side) Brockshmidt /Oakland **March 17-12 AM to 6 PM**

Graham (East Side) Oakland/Manchester-**March 17-12 AM to 6PM**

Berthold (50 Ft' off of Tamm in both directions on both sides for equipment staging) **March 15-8AM to Mar 17-10 PM**

Clayton (50 Ft' off of Tamm in both directions on both sides for equipment staging) **March 15-8 AM to Mar 17- 10 PM**

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Lloyd (50 Ft' off of Tamm in both directions on both sides for equipment staging)) **March 15 – 8 AM to Mar 17-10 PM**

Brockschmidt (50 Ft' off of Tamm in both directions on both sides for equipment staging) **March 15 – 8 AM to Mar 17-10 PM**

Dyson (50 Ft' off of Tamm in both directions on both sides for equipment staging) **March 15 – 8 AM to Mar 17-10 PM.**

**ALL CLOSED STREETS ARE NO PARKING DURING EVENT**

**About Dogtown United**

*Dogtown United, a non-profit organization that seeks to bring together the broader Dogtown community to create a strong, safe and vibrant neighborhood. Dogtown United seeks to represent local residents and business owners to better coordinate efforts with the Hibernians and improve the operations and efficiency of all events taking place in that historic neighborhood on March 17.*

*For more information on the Dogtown United, visit their website: <https://dogtownunited.org> or contact Festival Organizer Colin O'Brien at 314-474-8548 (cell) or via email [cobriendogtown@gmail.com](mailto:cobriendogtown@gmail.com)*

**The Ancient Order of Hibernians**

*The Ancient Order of Hibernians is an Irish Catholic fraternal organization that seeks to promote Irish heritage, history, culture and faith. It also does charitable work in both the United States and Ireland.*

For information on the Ancient Order of Hibernians, or the 2018 AOH Saint Patrick's Day Parade, visit the Hibernian website at <http://www.stlhibernians.com/> or contact Parade Chairman Dennis Pogue via e-mail [cptdpogue@gmail.com](mailto:cptdpogue@gmail.com)