



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Holiday Lights Contest rules announced

PARMA, Ohio - The City of Parma has announced rules for its 2014 Holiday Lights Contest.

The contest has steadily gained in popularity, and this year, rules give Parma residents complete say over nominations and voting.

"We have a lot of residents who are very proud of their property," Mayor Tim DeGeeter said. "In the summer, people can see well-kept yards and gardens. This contest gives people a chance to show off their properties in the winter as well. It's a chance to have fun and get in the holiday spirit."

Official rules of the contest are:

1. Beginning Dec. 1, until Dec. 15, any home in the Parma City limits can be nominated by any person. Nominations can be sent by e-mail to HolidayLights@cityofparma-oh.gov, by U.S. mail to Holiday Lights Contest, 6611 Ridge Road, Parma, OH, 44129 or dropped into a ballot box at City Hall.
2. On Dec. 17, the top two vote-getters in each of Parma's nine wards, plus the next 12-highest nominated properties regardless of ward – 30 houses in all - will be announced as finalists. Those addresses will be made available on the City's Facebook page, Twitter, the City's website and posted in City Hall and the Donna Smallwood Activities Center.
3. From Dec. 17 through Dec. 28, votes can be cast for any of those 30 nominated properties. Votes can be cast by e-mail to HolidayLights@cityofparma-oh.gov, by U.S. mail to Holiday Lights Contest, 6611 Ridge Road, Parma, OH, 44129 or dropped into the ballot box at City Hall.

FULL NAME AND ADDRESS must accompany every vote. Votes that do not contain name and address information will be invalid and WILL NOT BE COUNTED.

4. Voters may vote for more than one property, but not for the same property twice - one vote per property per person.

5. Winners – an overall Grand Prize Winner, second place and third place, and winners in each Ward – will be announced on Dec. 31st.

"This contest has shown that Parma has a lot of residents who really like to get into the festive spirit," Mayor DeGeeter said. "We are looking forward to going out and looking at all the holiday lights this year."