

# **"We Just Have to Contact Santa": Godfrey to Offer 18th Annual Free Snowflake Festival**

by Sydney Sinks, News Reporter  
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**GODFREY** - The Village of Godfrey will host their 18th annual completely free Snowflake Festival for community members to get into the holiday spirit.

From 6–8:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 1, 2023, families can enjoy horse-drawn carriage rides, crafts, s'mores, Santa and more at Robert E. Glazebrook Community Park in

Godfrey. The event is free and open to the public. The Godfrey Parks and Recreation Department will also be collecting donations for [Toys for Tots](#).

“It’s just a good time to kind of spread the holiday cheer and get the residents and the surrounding areas involved in our community around Glazebrook,” explained Jordan Gintz, Godfrey’s Recreation Supervisor. “We have Santa come out, we have horse-drawn carriage rides, hot chocolate and cookies, s’mores that you can roast on a fire, all kinds of stuff for the kids to do. We have the Optimist Club come out, and they do a craft with the kids, help them make reindeer food.”

Gintz said this event is “free-flowing” and a good way to close out the year. The Snowflake Festival is a well-loved tradition in Godfrey, especially because it is completely free to attendees. Gintz noted that the Parks and Recreation department is proud to sponsor the event and give families a night to enjoy free holiday fun.

“I think it’s just nice that we are able to offer the event free of charge, allowing the kids to come out, visit Santa, get pictures with him, because a lot of times some kids don’t get to do that,” she said. “So this gives them the opportunity to come out and everybody to just kind of relax and have a good time without having to worry about spending tons of money or anything like that.”

For more information, visit the [official Godfrey Parks and Recreation department webpage](#) or [Facebook page](#). The Parks and Recreation department will also host a Breakfast With Santa event on Dec. 9, 2023. Click [here](#) for more information.

“To get everything ready, we just have to contact Santa,” Gintz added.

# 18TH ANNUAL SNOWFLAKE FESTIVAL



Join us in celebrating the holiday season at Glazebrook Park on Friday, December 1st from 6:00 - 8:30 pm. Get your pictures taken with Santa in the gazebo, take a horse drawn carriage ride, and enjoy some hot cocoa and cookies courtesy of the Godfrey Parks and Recreation Department.

**For those planning to ride the carriage: please bring a blanket for the ride as there will be none supplied at this time.**

In honor of the giving season, we will be accepting new toy items for donation to the United States Marine Corps of Alton Toys for Tots Campaign on the day of the festival and throughout the season at the Godfrey Parks and Recreation office.

- CARRIAGE RIDES
- FREE HOT COCOA AND COOKIES
- MARSHMALLOWS FOR TOASTING  
ON AN OPEN FIRE
- PICTURES WITH SANTA
- CRAFTS: REINDEER FOOD MAKING  
& REINDEER ORNAMENTS



**\*\*For more information please contact Godfrey Parks and Recreation at 618-466-1483\*\***