



Light Up Ohio County, IN - 2021

Residential Outdoor Holiday Decorating Contest & Light Trail Guidelines

Ohio County Tourism, Inc.'s

5th Annual Light Up Ohio County Residential Holiday Decorating Contest & Light Trail

RISING SUN/OHIO COUNTY, IND: Ohio County Tourism, Inc. is sponsoring the Fifth Annual "Light Up Ohio County", a Residential Holiday Decorating Contest and Light Trail. Prize money will be awarded to the Top Three best decorated homes located within the Ohio County limits as deemed by our judges. At least two neighborhood awards will be available and will receive Bragging Rights.

County residents who would like to be included on the drivable light trail but not have their homes judged in the contest are welcome to submit their addresses to the Visitors Center by noon on Tuesday, November 30, 2021 at 4:30 pm. Participants can reside in Rising Sun or further into Ohio County.

There are no fees to enter but pre-registration is required. Applications will be available at the Visitors Center's located at the 217 N. High Street in Rising Sun and on the enjoyrisingsun.com website beginning on or before October 26. Forms can also be requested by e-mailing Ben at beads@enjoyrisingsun.com or Kendal at kendal@enjoyrisingsun.com. Homes are judged on outdoor decorations as viewed from the front of a house only.

A list of entrants' addresses participating on the Trail will be released to the public after judging. Participants are requested to keep their holiday lights/displays in place at least through Saturday, Jan. 1, 2022.

Prize money awarded includes: \$250 for First place; \$175 Second; and \$100 for Third. Two honorable mentions (\$50 each) will be awarded at the judges' discretion. Neighborhood Awards will receive Bragging Rights.

Entry Application Period: Entries will be accepted from 11/2/2021 thru 11/30/2021 at noon. Hand-carried entries are accepted at the Visitors Center from Tues-Fri. from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Sat. from 10 a.m.-4:00 p.m. E-mailed entries are accepted by sending to beads@enjoyrisingsun.com or kendal@enjoyrisingsun.com.

Judging Period: 12/1 & 12/2/2021 (12/3/2021 if needed) from 6-9 p.m.

Winners Announced: On or before: 12/4/2021.

The Shiny & Bright and Holiday Cheer Neighborhood Awards will be presented for the two best decorated streets, sub-divisions, housing units, etc. in Rising Sun/Ohio County.

Only applicants who are in full agreement with the following guidelines are eligible to participate. Please read all rules and instructions. Questions can be directed to the Ohio County Tourism Visitors Center at (812) 438-4933 or by e-mailing Ben at beads@enjoyrisingsun.com or Kendal at kendal@enjoyrisingsun.com.

Pre-registration forms are available at the Visitors Center, downloadable from the tourism website at enjoyrisingsun.com on or before October 26 (under News tab); or requested by e-mail at beads@enjoyrisingsun.com or kendal@enjoyrisingsun.com. Submissions by e-mail or USPO mail must be received no later than Nov. 30, 2021 at noon. Mailed entries should be addressed to PO Box 112, Rising Sun, IN, 47040.

2021 LIGHT UP OHIO COUNTY GUIDELINES:

1. Participation is open to all residences within the boundaries of the Ohio County, IN, limits.
2. There are no entry fees to participate but pre-registration is required.
3. Pre-registration forms must be received at the Visitors Center no later than Noon on Tuesday, Nov 30, 2021. Non-judged entries must also fill out a registration form. E-mail to Ben at beads@enjoyrisingsun.com or Kendal at kendal@enjoyrisingsun.com, or mail by USPS at Ohio County Tourism, PO Box 112, Rising Sun, IN, 47040.
4. Employees and/or current board members of the Tourism Commission are not eligible to participate.
5. The contest is for exterior decorations only, although judges will consider window decorations that are visible from the street.
6. Judging will be based on “curb appeal” as viewed from the street. Only decorations located on the street side of the property will be judged. The exception will be for corner lots that will be judged from both streets. Judges *will not* enter a property to view back or side yards.
7. All participants must agree to the following:
 - (A) A list of participants’ addresses (judged and non-judged) will be made available to the public so others may view entries and winners.
 - (B) One or more photos of entrants decorated exteriors may be posted on the tourism website and/or social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Photos of homes and addresses may also appear in the newspaper or other media outlets for promotional purposes.
 - (C) Participants will not be compensated for any kind for said postings or publications.
8. Judging criteria includes:
 - (A) Unique design and creative use of lights and decorations
 - (B) Story line or theme (optional)
 - (C) Display and placement of decorations, animated objects, etc.
 - (D) Overall presentation
9. Judging will take place from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, 12/01/2021. Depending on weather and number of entries, judging may be postponed/continued at the same times on Thursday, 12/02/2021 and/or Friday, 12/03/2021. Judging will be completed no later than 9:00 p.m. on Friday, 12/03/2021.
10. Judged participants should ensure that all lights, animations, and decorations are in place and activated during the judging periods on all nights. Judging takes place only at night.
11. Light Up Ohio County participant signs will be available to each judged entrant at the Visitors Center after a completed entry form is received. If e-mailed, you may pick-up your sign during normal Visitors Center hours from Tues. thru Fri. from 10:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. or on Sat. from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Participants can keep their signs at the close of the contest.
12. Prize money awarded for winning judged entries includes: First place, \$250; Second place, \$175; and Third place, \$100. No more than two Honorable Mentions (\$50 each) will be awarded at the judges’ discretion. Neighborhood Awards are bragging rights only.
13. Winners of the judged portion of the light trail will be notified by telephone and/or e-mail on or before Sunday, 12/05/2021 at 6 p.m.
14. The contest is to be fun and to showcase the beauty of the season through holiday decorations across Rising Sun/Ohio County. Not all judged participants can be winners. Good sportsmanship is appreciated!
15. The Light Up Ohio County Residential Outdoor Holiday Decorating Contest and Light Trail is sponsored by the Ohio County Tourism, Inc. Participants agree to hold Tourism and their sponsors/staff/board members/volunteers harmless from any accidents, injuries, loss, and/or theft.
16. Get Creative, Be Festive, and Have Fun!!

Staff Use Only _____



Light Up Ohio County, IN 2021

Pre-registration Form-Submission Deadline is Nov. 30, 2021 at Noon

Residents who live within in the Ohio County, Indiana, limits are eligible to participate. By submitting a pre-registration form, participants have read and agreed to all the guidelines. Participants can sign up for the Holiday Light Trail but not be judged. Please return this registration form between November 2-30, 2021 at noon to 217 N. High Street in Rising Sun. E-mail entries accepted to beads@enjoyrisingsun.com or kendal@enjoyrisingsun.com; or mail to: Ohio County Tourism, PO Box 112, Rising Sun, IN, 47040.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Daytime phone # _____ Evening phone # _____

E-mail address: _____

Judging will take place from 6-9 p.m. on Wednesday, 12/1/2021. Depending on weather and number entries, judging may continue at the same times on Thursday, 12/2 or Friday, 12/3. All judging should be completed no later than 9 p.m. on 12/03/2021.

1. If applicable, what is the theme of your display: _____

2. Name(s) of person(s) who worked on your display: _____

3. How many lights (a guestimate will do) are in your display? _____

4. Are there any special features and/or background information about your display that you would like to share?

By signing this form, I agree to all the stated guidelines for the Light Up Ohio County Residential Outdoor Holiday Decorating Contest. After judging, addresses of the participants will be distributed for public viewing.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Pre-registration forms must be received at the Visitors Center no later than Noon on Tuesday, November 30, 2021.

___ I do not want to participate in the judged portion of the Light Up Ohio County Residential Holiday Decorating Contest but want my home to be added to the light trail.