



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Please **DO NOT** contact the **Evansville Parks & Recreation Department** or **Evansville Convention & Visitors Bureau** with questions regarding **Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights**. If you have questions that are not answered on this page, please contact Carolyn Franklin, Director of Special Events, at 812.437.2607 or CFranklin@evansvillerehab.com.

(Please note the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center will be closed from December 23, 2019 to January 2, 2020. If you need immediate assistance, please email Carolyn Franklin at CFranklin@evansvillerehab.com and she will return your message as soon as possible.)

Questions about carriage rides:

How much do carriage rides cost?

Carriage rides at Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights are CASH OR CHECK ONLY and \$30 per ride (NOT per person) for a standard size carriage that can fit 6 people. The cost includes admission to Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights. Children under 3 are free and permitted to sit on laps. **For example:** A group of 6 adults and 2 children may pay \$30 for a carriage ride IF both children can sit on laps. A larger carriage that can hold up to 9 adults is available on Friday and Saturday nights for \$45 per ride.

Can I reserve a carriage ride?

Carriage rides at Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights are first-come, first-served. We recommend arriving early. Crowds and wait times are typically longest on Friday and Saturday evenings as well as Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. In the event of a crowd the Horseshoe Bend Carriage Co. operates a waiting list and gives an estimated time for your ride so you can plan accordingly.

The carriage rides are weather-permitting only. The Horseshoe Bend Carriage Co. takes extreme care and uses their expert discretion with their horses and equipment. **Rides may not be offered in the event of sprinkles, rain, below freezing temperatures, snow, icy conditions, etc.** Additionally, carriage rides may close early due to weather conditions. **Every**

effort will be made to notify the public in advance if carriage rides will not be available.

The most up-to-date information can be found on the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center's Facebook page at facebook.com/EastersealsRehabCtr

Where do I pay to take a carriage ride?

Carriage ride fees are collected at the carriage ride ticket booth in the Garvin Park parking lot located off of Heidelbach Avenue. Please use the Heidelbach entrance into the lot for carriage rides. Carriage rides are CASH OR CHECK ONLY.

Can I propose during a carriage ride?

Yes! Simply let the driver of the carriage know in advance you plan to propose and they will help you with the details.

Can I buy carriage ride tickets in advance?

Carriage ride gift certificates are available in advance. HOWEVER, **they do not reserve a specific time or day for a carriage ride.** To purchase a carriage ride gift certificate in advance, please stop by the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center at 3701 Bellemeade Ave., Evansville, Indiana 47714 on weekdays between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. To redeem the gift certificate, simply give it to the Horseshoe Bend Carriage Co. official on the night of your ride.

Where do carriage rides go? How long are the rides?

Carriage rides at Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights follow the same flow through Garvin Park as the vehicle traffic. Ride time varies based on the horse's personality, the weather, and other external factors but average around 20 minutes. For more info on the Horseshoe Bend Carriage Co., visit their website at www.horseshoebendcarriageco.com.

Are pets allowed on carriage rides?

Pets are **NOT** allowed in or around the carriages.

Questions about Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights:

When is Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights?

Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights is open nightly from Thanksgiving (Nov. 28, 2019) through New Year's Day (Jan. 1, 2020). Hours are 5p.m.-9p.m. Sun.-Thur. and 5p.m.-10p.m. Fri.-Sat, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The only exception is Dec. 4, when the event is closed to vehicles but open to runners and walkers for the "Bright Lights for Easterseals" 5K

Where is Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights located?

Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights is located in Evansville's Garvin Park adjacent to Bosse Field. Please enter using the North Main Street entrance, underneath the lighted arches.

Where do I pay to drive through Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights?

Admissions fees are paid at the ticket booth located inside the North Main Street entrance to Garvin Park, underneath the lighted arches. This event is CASH ONLY.

How much does it cost?

Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights is CASH ONLY with all proceeds benefiting the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center. Admission is per vehicle and remains the same, affordable price for 2019:

- Up to 6 people: \$7
- 7-14 people: \$10
- 15 or more people: \$25

Do you accept credit cards?

Credit cards are NOT accepted at Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights for admission or carriage rides.

Do you accept checks?

Checks are NOT accepted for entrance fees to Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights. However, if you would like to make an additional donation in the form of a check, you may do so at the ticket booth. Checks are accepted for carriage rides.

When and where is "Photos with Santa" sponsored by Jim Back, CFP®-Financial Advisor Edward Jones? How much does it cost?

"Photos with Santa" are available the first three Tuesdays in December: December 3, December 10, and December 17. Santa will be underneath the large tent located in the Bosse Field parking lot off of Heidelberg Avenue at Garvin Park. He will be there from 5p.m.-9p.m. Bring your camera and take your own photos with Santa to get your best holiday memory. Please use the Heidelberg Avenue entrance into the parking lot. Cost to meet Santa and take a photo is \$5 per person. Ritzy's ice cream will also be available for \$2 and hot chocolate is \$1. All proceeds benefit the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center.

When is the Romain GMC "Polar Bear Express" and where do passengers board? How much does it cost?

The "Polar Bear Express" operates from 5p.m.-9p.m. on the first four Mondays in December: December 2, December 9, December 16, and December 23. Guests of Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights can ride on the Romain GMC "Polar Bear Express" with Santa Claus! Santa will read a custom story about the amazing light displays and will provide a small treat for each child. The

party bus limousine and driver are provided by SUV Limousine. Passengers can board the party bus in the Bosse Field parking lot near the entrance to Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights. Cost is \$5 per person. Please use the Heidelbach Avenue entrance into the parking lot. All proceeds from "Polar Bear Express" benefit the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center.

Do you offer ticket discounts?

Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights is a fundraiser for the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center, which provides therapy for more than 5,100 local people with disabilities. There are no ticket discounts or coupons for individual tickets.

Can I buy tickets for Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights in advance? How?

Advance tickets are available at all G.D. Ritzy's locations in Evansville. Advance tickets are also available at the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center located at 3701 Bellemeade Ave. M-F 8am-5pm. Advance tickets purchased may be purchased by cash or check.

Can I buy quantities of tickets for Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights? How?

Quantities of tickets (starting at 50 tickets) are available in advance for a reduced cost. These make excellent stocking stuffers for employees or family and friends! Please contact Carolyn Franklin, Director of Special Events, at 812-437-2607 or email CFranklin@evansvillerehab.com.

Who runs Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights?

Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights is a local event organized by the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center. The event is set up and taken down each year by dozens of volunteers from **IBEW Local 16** (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers), **Teamsters Local 215**, the Southwestern Indiana chapter of **NECA** (National Electrical Contractors Association), and **Electrical JATC** (the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee). **An estimated 3,500 hours will be donated by these and other community volunteers to Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights this year.**

Why is it called "Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights"?

Ritzy's is the generous main sponsor of this event. Other major sponsors for 2019 are **IBEW Local 16, NECA, Teamsters Local 215, Electrical JATC, ABC 25/CW 7, Evansville Living, Lamar Advertising, Macaroni Kid Evansville, 104.1 WIKY, HOT96, 93.5 The Lloyd, and 107.5 WABX.**

What if the weather is bad?

Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights is a rain or shine event. In the event of extreme bad weather such as ice, a decision to close will be made prior to the event's opening time and posted on the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center's social media pages and reported to local media outlets. Please use caution when driving through the park on evenings where snow may cover the ground and stay inside your vehicle at all times.

Is Garvin Park open to the public when Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights is open?

Technically, yes. Garvin Park is a public park; HOWEVER, we strongly discourage walkers, runners, joggers, etc. from being in the park at night during Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights due to safety concerns. The Easterseals Rehabilitation Center and exhibit sponsors will not be held responsible for accidents from failure to follow these precautions.

Is my ticket good for multiple trips through the park?

No. One ticket is good for one trip through Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights. All proceeds from ticket sales benefit the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center to help provide therapy for local adults and children with disabilities.

Is there a way for me to get updates about Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights?

Yes! Please visit www.eastersealsrehabcenter.com for more information on the event and follow the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center on Facebook at www.facebook.com/EastersealsRehabCtr for the most up-to-date information about the event.