Community 4th of July Celebration

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 3, 2013

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COMMUNITY 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION

Join us in celebrating our Nation's Independence Day during the annual 4th of July parade and firework display events.

Grab your lawn chair and find your favorite viewing spot along the parade route. The parade begins at 11 a.m. sharp at 1st Avenue South to 8th Street, north to Central Avenue, west to Park Drive and disbands in Margaret Park (north of the Civic Center). Please do not park vehicles on the parade route. It is difficult to locate owners to have them moved.

The "Fireworks Forever Fund," organized by the People's Park & Recreation Foundation, has collected donations throughout the year for this year's fireworks display. Please show your appreciation by donating to the Fireworks Forever Fund during the parade. Donations can also be mailed to Fireworks Forever Fund, c/o People's Park and Recreation Foundation, P.O. Box 2106, Great Falls, MT 59403.

This year's parade theme is "The American Flag, Our Symbol of Strength and Unity." Parade applications can be obtained from Lola Galloway, Ted Nault or Ken Hagler (4th of July Parade Committee), at the Park and Recreation Department or downloaded here. The deadline to submit entries is 5 p.m. on June 18, 2013. The permit fee is

$25.00. If you have any questions regarding participating in the parade please contact Lola Galloway at 727-4963, Ted Nault at 799-2886 or Ken Hagler at 781-6207.

After the parade, cool off at the Electric City Water Park by surfing on the Flow Rider, sliding down the Power Tower Plunge, or just chillin' in the Lazy River. Little ones can enjoy playing in the swimming pools or splashing in the Squirt Zone. There is fun for the entire family at the water park. The Electric City Water Park will be open from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m.

The best viewing of the community fireworks display will be at Elk's-Riverside Park. The community display will begin about 10:15 p.m. from West Bank Park. West Bank Park will be closed all day in order for the pyrotechnics to set up the display. Handicap parking will be available in the Farmers Union Building parking lot located on River Drive. Access to that parking lot will only be at Central Avenue West and River Drive.

Leave your fireworks at home. As in previous years, no fireworks will be allowed in Elk's Riverside Park. People will be asked to return their fireworks to their vehicles or they will be confiscated. The fireworks ordinance will be enforced.

The ordinance states that:

PERMISSIBLE FIREWORKS ARE . . .

- Only allowed on July 2, 3 and 4 from 8 a.m. to midnight.
- Only for use on private property and are not allowed in parks, on streets, cul-de-sacs, or public parking lots. Fireworks are messy and cause a lot of debris. Be sure to pick up the litter.

Pursuant to State statute, Sky Rockets, Roman Candles and Bottle Rockets are not "permissible fireworks."

FINES ARE STEEP . . .

- 1st Offense $100
- 2nd Offense $200
- 3rd Offense $300
- 4th Offense ……..... $1000

Don't have your Independence Day celebration spoiled with fines and upset neighbors. This law will be enforced. Follow the law, have fun and stay safe.

GENERAL FIREWORKS SAFETY RULES

- Follow label directions and use common sense.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Do not alter fireworks. Not only are altered fireworks dangerous, they can be classified as illegal.
- Never carry fireworks in pockets or shoot them in metal or glass containers.
- If an item does not work, leave it alone. Do not try to relight it. Pour water on it.
- A responsible adult should always closely supervise all fireworks activities.
- Always clean up used fireworks when finished.
- Injury and fires can result from not using a solid flat level surface.
- Have a bucket of water or a water hose nearby.
- Buy only from reliable fireworks outlets.

GREAT FALLS FIREWORKS RULES

All family or consumer fireworks (1.4g) except stick rockets and roman candles are allowed to be discharged in the City between 8 a.m. and midnight, July 2, 3 and 4. County locations are not restricted. However, noise and litter ordinances still apply. Children seven and younger must have a supervising adult within 10 feet and control the application of flame or other means to discharge the firework. It is illegal to leave debris from discharged fireworks

on public places or property not owned by the individual discharging the fireworks. Fireworks may not be discharged in any city park, or on any public sidewalk, street, public right-of-way, publicly-owned parking lot or alley.

STREET CLOSURES SPECIFIC TO THE 4th OF JULY

- River Drive, between 1st Avenue North and 6th Street North will be closed at 7 a.m. on Thursday, July 4th. Anyone with a vehicle parked in that vicinity will be asked to move it.
- Central Avenue and 1st Avenue South between Park Drive and 8th Street will be closed the morning of July 4th in order to set up for the parade.
- 3rd Avenue South between 2nd Street and River Drive will also be closed the morning of July 4th for parade staging purposes.

4th OF JULY TIME TABLE

- 4th of July Parade
  - Thursday, July 4, at 11 a.m.
  - Downtown Great Falls
  - Free and open to the public.
  - For more information contact Lola Galloway at 727-4963, Ted Nault at 799-2886 or Ken Hagler at 781-6207.
- Electric City Water Park – 100 River Drive South
  - Thursday, July 4, at 11 a.m.
  - Great opportunity to cool off on a hot day.
  - Regular fees will be in place.
  - Closes at 6:00 p.m.
- Community Fireworks Display
  - Thursday, July 4, 10:15 p.m.
  - Launched from West Bank Park with the best viewing at Elk's-Riverside Park.

Supporting Documents

Press Release - Community 4th of July Celebration (302 KB) (PDF)

Web Links

Parade Entry Form

Source URL (retrieved on *07/22/2014 - 11:49am*):
http://www.greatfallsmt.net/community/community-4th-july-celebration