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## **July 3 and Independence Day Fireworks, Events at The Lakefront and in The Parks**

Milwaukee, WI (June 24, 2014) – Independence Day celebrations kick off with the Fireworks Kite Festival and the US Bank July 3 Fireworks lighting up the sky over Milwaukee County’s lakefront. Community celebrations will take place in many of the Milwaukee County Parks on the following day, Friday, July 4.

### **July 3: Fireworks Kite Festival**

As thousands of residents and visitors head to The Lakefront on July 3 for the fireworks, the free kite festival at Veterans Park will keep young and old occupied and entertained. The Kite Society of Wisconsin in conjunction with Gift of Wings, US Bank, and the Milwaukee County Parks will sponsor the kite festival. Giant kites of Yves LaForest will be featured. The festival is a “fun fly,” where everyone is welcome to bring a kite to participate. Kites will also be available for sale at the festival. The fun fly will run from 11 a.m.-6:30 p.m. and from 7:30-9:25 p.m. A large area of Veterans Park will be designated especially for kite-flyers—and the area offers a great view of the fireworks too. For more information visit <http://giftofwings.com/>

### **July 3: U.S. Bank Fireworks**

At 9:30 p.m., over 20,000 shells controlled by a state-of-the-art electronic system, will be launched from two barges on Lake Michigan, off the shore of Veterans Park. Veterans Park and Juneau Park offer prime seating for the event. The fireworks will not be rescheduled in the event of severe weather.

For more information on the U.S. Bank July 3 Fireworks, visit U.S. Bancorp on the web at <https://www.usbank.com/community/sponsorship/events.html#Wisconsin>

### **July 3: Watching the Fireworks from a Boat**

All transient slip rentals at McKinley Marina are currently booked. Restricted boating areas on Lake Michigan will be enforced during the fireworks. For information on any transient cancellations, call the marina at (414) 273-5224.

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### **July 3: Traffic, Parking, & Rules**

Parking operations along the lakefront begin July 3 at 6 a.m. RV parking is also available. Many residents and visitors come to the lakefront early for nearby parking and plan to spend the day in the park, not leaving until the fireworks are finished and crowds have thinned.

Visitors arriving later in the day are reminded that, at some point, North Lincoln Memorial Drive will close to vehicular traffic, and dropping off passengers will not be allowed. The event organizer suggests parking further west of the lakefront and taking a downtown bus to the event. For bus route information, visit [www.ridemcts.com](http://www.ridemcts.com).

Event-goers are reminded to pack out what they pack in. For additional rules, visit <http://county.milwaukee.gov/July4thRegulations22493.htm>

### **July 4: Community Celebrations in the Parks**

Several Milwaukee County Parks will host community celebrations presented by local municipalities.

The City of Milwaukee Fourth of July Commission presents a range of celebrations—from traditional bike and buggy parades to day-long celebrations with live music (such as Humboldt Park’s “An Evening with Elvis.”) Celebrations will be at the following parks—all have fireworks unless noted: Alcott, 3751 S. 97 St. (ground-display fireworks); Gordon, 2828 N. Humboldt Blvd.; Humboldt, 3000 S. Howell Ave.; Jackson, 3500 W. Forest Home Ave.; King, 1531 W. Vliet St. (no fireworks); Lake, 3233 E. Kenwood Blvd.; Lincoln, 1301 W. Hampton Ave.; Mitchell, 2200 W. Pierce St.; Noyes, 8235 W. Good Hope Rd.; Sherman, 3000 N. Sherman Blvd. (no fireworks); Washington, 1859 N. 40 St.; and Wilson, 1601 W. Howard Ave. For more information, visit <http://city.milwaukee.gov/July4th#.U6miu5RdWSp>

This year the City of South Milwaukee is promoting “A Bigger, Better July 4th” at Grant Park’s Picnic Areas 5 and 6. The community event features the Mayor’s Picnic, with free hot dogs, chips, ice cream, and a soda or water, sponsored by TASC Services, a local commercial cleaning company, and, to every child’s delight, bouncy houses sponsored by Max A. Sass & Sons Funeral and Cremation Services. Grant Park is located at 100 E. Hawthorne Ave. For more information on the parade, games, and fireworks, visit <http://smwi.org/celebrations-events/>

The Village of Hales Corners celebration begins at Hales Corners Park, 5765 S New Berlin Road, with the Firecracker Four Run. A children’s parade, antique car show, fire station and Ben Hunt Cabin open houses, pie judging, bed races, “The Big Parade,” and a 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter performance by the UW Marching Band will take place in the village. Visitors will return to the park for “Red, White, and Brew,” live music from 4:30-11 p.m. and fireworks at dusk. For more information on the day’s schedule, visit <http://www.halescornerspark.com>

The City of Cudahy will kick off the celebration at noon with a parade leading to Sheridan Park, 4800 S. Lake Drive. The theme of the celebration is the Sheridan Park Centennial. Afternoon and evening events include the rededication of the Patrick Cudahy statue, performances by the Cudahy cheer teams and pom-poms, a magic and illusion show, musical entertainment by the Cudahy High School Jazz Combo, and Six Pack. The evening ends with fireworks. For more information, visit <http://cudahy-wi.gov/>

### **July 4: Personal Event Picnics**

Picnic permits are not issued for the Fourth of July; picnic site use is on a first-come, first-served basis. Parks open at sunrise. For more information, visit <http://county.milwaukee.gov/Picnic9058.htm>

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