



BERKELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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July 4th Celebration In The City of Berkeley

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Berkeley, California (Friday, June 29, 2007) - The City of Berkeley will be hosting a FREE Pyrotechnics display in the Marina on July 4th at 9:00pm. The city will close the Marina to vehicular traffic as parking lots fill up. This usually occurs around 7:00 PM.

- University Avenue will be closed from West Frontage Road to the Marina at this time. Pedestrians will have access to these roadways throughout the event.
- Access from I-80 into the City of Berkeley will be closed from University Avenue and from Gilman Street during the fireworks display
- Access to the fishing pier will be closed to pedestrians at approximately 5:00 PM in preparation of the show.
- Marina vehicular traffic will be held for approximately 45 minutes to an hour and a half following the fireworks display in order to allow pedestrians to safely leave the event.

The Berkeley Police Department (BPD) and Berkeley Fire Department (BFD) wish to remind the community that ALL fireworks are illegal in the City of Berkeley. The Police Department has already started receiving calls regarding the illegal use of fireworks in our City. "Safe and Sane" type fireworks including "Sparklers " are also prohibited and pose a potential dangerous fire hazard. Between 2003-2005, in the City of Berkeley there were 5 structure and outdoor fires caused by fireworks. An average of 7 people are killed annually directly related to fireworks in California.

You can help keep our community safe by:

- Not using any type of fireworks
- Calling the police to report use of fireworks by others
- Reducing fuel sources - keep grass and vegetation maintained
- Have fire extinguishers and garden hoses ready

BPD will have extra officers working on the 4th of July, and will be arresting and citing violators. Possession of M-80's, M-1000's and Rocket type fireworks is a felony. BPD has started a campaign to educate the community on the dangers of fireworks and is targeting the neighborhoods that have been consistently violating the law.

To notify BPD about illegal fireworks use, call 981-5900, or 981-5911 via cell phone. If you have question concerning the possession or use of fireworks, please call our Community Services Bureau at 981-5806

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