

Frequently Asked Questions

4th of July Drive-In Fireworks



What does the 4th of July celebration look like this year?

Spokane Indians Baseball Club, City of Spokane Parks & Recreation, Spokane County Parks, Recreation & Golf, and Spokane Public Schools are partnering with several underwriters to bring the community a socially distant 4th of July celebration, offering a geographically dispersed drive-in fireworks experience.

Four separate fireworks displays will be offered across the Spokane area at 10 P.M. on July 4. People are encouraged to watch from their homes if nearby one of the four designated launch sites, or to view the fireworks drive-in style. SWX will also broadcast the fireworks live on television. Tune into 93.7 FM The Mountain beginning at 9:30 P.M. for continuous patriotic music.

In coordination with the Governor's Office and Spokane Regional Health District, the shows will follow [phase 2 guidelines for Drive-In Movie Theaters](#), with additional safety measures beyond requirements (outlined below). City of Spokane Parks & Recreation is reshaping fireworks plans from the cancellation of traditional 4th of July activities at Riverfront Park due to COVID-19.

The shows are made possible by the generous support of underwriters: American On-Site Services, Avista, Bulldog Rooter, Great Clips, Gus Johnson Ford, MultiCare, Numerica Credit Union, The Odom Corporation, Pizza Factory, and STCU. Media partners include KHQ Television, 93.7 FM The Mountain, and The Spokesman-Review.

Where will the fireworks be displayed?

- Dwight Merkel Sports Complex (North)
- Ferris High School (South)
- Avista Stadium (Central)
- Plante's Ferry Sports Stadium (Valley)

What time are the shows?

Fireworks shows will run simultaneously at 10 P.M.

How long will the fireworks shows last?

They will be similar to shows enjoyed at Spokane Indians baseball games -- approximately six minutes long with a finale, at four simultaneous locations in a neighborhood near you! And all free to the community, with thanks to generous underwriters.

What time can I arrive to park?

Parking lots will open at 9 P.M.

Why don't parking lots open sooner?

Opening up the lots one hour prior to the shows focuses on safety by discouraging crowds from gathering in the lots all day amidst COVID-19 safety measures, in alignment with [phase 2 guidelines for Drive-In Movie Theaters](#). One hour provides a window of equal opportunity for people to park, and we will have traffic control and parking attendants to assist with parking.

How many parking spots are available?

Cars will be parked every-other space to foster social distancing, in alignment with phase 2 guidelines for drive-in theaters. Approximately 1,700 spaces will be available between four locations: Avista Stadium (560), Ferris High School (250), Dwight Merkel Sports Complex (550), and Plante's Ferry Sports Stadium (330). Lots are anticipated to fill quickly after opening at 9 P.M., and will close when full. Please have a second or third parking option in mind in case you encounter a full parking lot. Many people will be able to view the fireworks from their nearby homes, and SWX will broadcast the fireworks live on television.

If the lots are full when I arrive, where else can I park?

Prior to the event, consider the area and have a parking plan B and C in mind. Please be respectful of privately-owned parking lots nearby, and if parking on the streets, be courteous to neighbors and obey parking laws. Also keep in mind, SWX will broadcast the fireworks live on television.

Will you have people directing parking?

Each parking lot will be staffed with several licensed security personnel and police officers to position vehicles appropriately, and to ensure the safety and security of attendees within the designated event parking areas throughout the duration of the event.

What COVID-19 precautions are you taking?

In coordination with the Governor's Office and Spokane Regional Health District, [phase 2 guidelines for Drive-In Movie Theaters](#) will be followed during this drive-in fireworks celebration.

In addition, the following protocols and safety measures will be in place above and beyond requirements: hand sanitizer will be provided to all visitors courtesy of Numerica, and on-site security and parking personnel will help maintain distancing. After the event, vehicles will be escorted out of the lots in a timely manner and parking lots will be closed.

COVID-19 protocols for the drive-in fireworks celebration:

1. Parking lots will open 60 minutes prior to the event to discourage pre-event functions
2. Vehicles will be parked every-other space to ensure a minimum of 10' distance between each

3. Guests must remain in their vehicles except to visit the restroom
4. Guests must wear a cloth face covering when leaving the vehicle for any reason, per the statewide mask order issued by the state Secretary of Health
5. Signage will be placed at the entrance outlining social distancing guidelines
6. Security personnel will distribute hand sanitizer
7. Security personnel will also place a flyer under each vehicle's windshield wiper, facing inward, outlining event-specific COVID safety procedures
8. Each parking lot will be staffed with between six and 15 licensed security personnel plus two police officers to direct traffic, position vehicles appropriately, and ensure the safety and security of attendees
9. Event staff and security personnel are required to wear face masks and gloves at all times. Anyone with flu-like symptoms will not be allowed to work the event.
10. Portable restrooms will be available; the number of guests lined up at one time will be limited to further decrease interaction between guests

How does this event meet phase 2 guidelines, isn't it a large gathering?

The [phase 2 guidelines for Drive-In Movie Theaters](#) will be followed during this drive-in fireworks celebration, in coordination with the Governor's Office and Spokane Regional Health District. Additional precautions above and beyond requirements will be taken, including handing out sanitizer, providing security and parking personnel, and closing the lots soon after the fireworks shows end.

Will toilets be available?

Portable toilets with hand sanitizer will be on site, courtesy of American On-Site Services.

Can I watch the fireworks from the adjacent park/greenspace?

Please follow current phase 2 guidelines while enjoying green spaces, including social distancing and CDC recommendations to slow the spread of germs. Keep in mind that parking lots will be closed during the day, and open at 9 P.M. for drive-in viewing.

Do the fireworks shows meet the noise ordinance?

Yes. Spokane County Code 6.12.020, A8 provides an exception to the noise ordinance for "sounds originating from officially sanctioned parades and other public events." City of Spokane Municipal Code 10.08D.040 has an exemption for events that receive a special event permit.

Who is paying for the fireworks and community celebration?

Several generous underwriters are contributing to provide the community a free fireworks celebration: American On-Site Services, Avista, Bulldog Rooter, Great Clips, Gus Johnson Ford, MultiCare, Numerica Credit Union, The Odom Corporation, Pizza Factory, and STCU. Media Partners include KHQ Television, 93.7 FM The Mountain, and The Spokesman-Review.

How will you prevent illegal activity?

Appropriate security personnel and police officers will be on site at each location to ensure the safety and security of attendees within the designated parking areas throughout the duration of the community celebration.

How can I keep my pet calm during fireworks?

View [July safety tips from SCRAPS](#).

Where can I go for more information?

For more information, please visit www.spokaneparks.org/4thofjuly.