

California Department of Water Resources NEWS

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Free Giant July 4th Fireworks Display Will Light Up Lake Oroville

A major, free fireworks display the night of July 4 will illuminate Lake Oroville. Almost 30 minutes of fireworks will explode over the huge State Water Project reservoir near Oroville in Butte County, starting at 9:30 pm.

The event is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Oroville, Sunrise, in cooperation with the Department of Water Resources, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and local businesses.

As many as 10,000 spectators are expected to view the spectacular fireworks from various vantage points around the lake, which has 167 miles of shoreline and a surface area greater than 15,000 acres.

"This July 4th fireworks display celebrates Independence Day and draws attention to Lake Oroville's many summer recreation attractions," said Rolland Williams Sr., of DWR.

Pyrotechnic rockets are set to explode about 600 feet over the lake. Fireworks will be reflected on the surface of the lake, second largest reservoir in California.

Dam Road Will Close at 4 pm

At 4 pm on July 4, the main road on Oroville Dam will close to vehicle traffic so spectators can assemble to watch the fireworks.

Shuttle transportation to and from the dam will be available from the lower parking lot, on Oroville Dam Boulevard, and the upper parking lot, at Canyon and Royal Oak Drives.

Food and non-alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase from vendors on the dam.

Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs. No private fireworks will be allowed. Security will be provided.

American flags will be posted on the light fixtures atop the dam crest for July 4. Dam lights will be turned off during the fireworks for maximum viewing effect, then relit.

Located about 75 miles north of Sacramento, Lake Oroville is easily reached via State Highway 70.

Lake Oroville is the key Northern California storage reservoir in the State Water Project, storing up to 3.5 million acre-feet of water. DWR operates the State Water Project and runs Oroville Dam, the tallest dam in the United States.

Recreation at Lake Oroville

Lake Oroville offers a full range of recreational attractions, including fishing, boating, camping, hiking and riding. Anglers can fish for trout, salmon, bass and catfish.

The Department of Parks and Recreation operates the Lake Oroville State Recreation area, which offers campsites and boat ramp facilities.

Boat ramps are available at Thermalito Afterbay, North and South Forebay, and at Loafer Creek, Spillway, Bidwell Canyon and Lime Saddle camping areas.

For information on visiting the recreation area, call (916) 538-2200. For campground reservations, call MISTIX at 1-800-444-7275.

Lake Oroville Visitors Center

DWR and DPR jointly operate the Lake Oroville Visitors Center at 917 Kelly Ridge Road, overlooking the lake. The Visitors Center offers exhibits about the dam's construction during the 1960s, the historic legacy of the Oroville region, more than 20 films to watch free of charge, access to easy walking nature trails, and a spectacular view of the lake from atop a 46-foot tall viewing tower.

For more information about the fireworks display, call Rolland Williams in Oroville at (916) 534-2323.

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and

water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs. The State Water Project provides water to two-thirds of California's population.

For more on-line information, see [Find DWR Info](#) or return to the [DWR California Water Page](#)