

California Department of Water Resources NEWS

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CONTACTS:

- [Rolland Williams, Sr, Chief, Oroville Field Division](#) -- [w] (916) 534-2323
 - [Anita Garcia-Fante, Chief, Office of Water Education](#) -- [w] (916) 653-7431
 - Ron Damberger, Rotary Club of Oroville/Sunrise -- [w] (916) 532-3300
 - Melvin McCray, Oroville Area Chamber of Commerce -- [w] (916) 538-2542
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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 light up the sky over the huge State Water Project reservoir near Oroville in Butte County, starting at 9:30 p.m.

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.

Several thousand 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 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 CREST ROAD WILL CLOSE AT 4:00 P.M.

At 4:00 p.m. on July 4, the main road on the crest of Oroville Dam will be closed to vehicle traffic to allow spectators to assemble for the fireworks display.

TRANSPORTATION

Downtown to Dam and Return

Between 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., shuttle transportation sponsored by the City of Oroville will be available every 15 minutes from downtown Oroville to the Dam. Pickup points will be at the Montgomery Wards' and Municipal Auditorium parking lots, as well as from parking lots A, B, C, D, and from the corner of Huntoon and Arlin Rhine Streets (Arlin Rhine is the river levee road). After the event, shuttle transportation from the dam to downtown Oroville will be provided from the spillway side of the dam.

Kelly Ridge Area to Dam

Between 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., the shuttle transportation sponsored by the City of Oroville will traverse the following route: Dam Crest Road and Canyon Drive to Royal Oaks Drive, Royal Oaks Drive to Kelly Ridge Road, Kelly Ridge Road to Olive Highway, return on Kelly Ridge Road to Hillcrest Avenue, Hillcrest Avenue to Almond Avenue, Almond Avenue to Canyon Drive, and Canyon Drive to Dam Crest Road. Riders will be picked up anywhere along this route. On request, the Kelly Ridge route driver will deliver riders to Bidwell Marina parking lot. At the conclusion of the display, shuttle transportation will return riders to their vehicles along this route.

DAM PARKING LOTS

Before 5:30 p.m., the Lake Oroville Spillway parking lot will be available for use. After 5:30 p.m., shuttle transportation will be made available from the lower parking lot on Oro Dam Boulevard and the upper parking lot on Canyon and Royal Oaks Drives.

Come early and enjoy food and non-alcoholic beverages available for purchase from vendors on the dam.

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

American flags will be mounted 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 operates Oroville Dam, the tallest earthfill dam in the United States.

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 launch facilities are available at Thermalito Afterbay, the North and South Forebays, as well as at Loafer Creek, Spillway, Lime Saddle Marina, and Bidwell Canyon Marina and camping area.

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

LAKE OROVILLE VISITOR CENTER

DWR and DPR jointly operate the Lake Oroville Visitor Center at 917 Kelly Ridge Road, overlooking the lake. The Visitor Center offers exhibits about the construction of the dam during the 1960's, 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 additional information about the fireworks display, you may contact Rolland Williams, Sr., 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](#)