

City of Hobbs Contact: June 24, 2024

Meghan Mooney, Dir. of Communications 575-391-4169

mmooney@hobbsnm.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Hobbs Hosts Three Days of Fireworks Safe Zone

Following the day of the Independence Day celebration and fireworks show on July 3^{rd} (visit Facebook and Instagram for more information), the City of Hobbs will host its annual Fireworks Safe Zone at the HIAP (Hobbs Industrial Air Park, 5425 Jack Gomez Blvd.) on July $4^{th} - 6^{th}$.

The Safe Zone is an opportunity for citizens to light any type of firework in a safe environment with trained personnel present, as well as away from neighborhoods with consideration for neighbors and their pets. This is an opportunity for everyone to indulge and safely enjoy this time of year. The area will be monitored with City of Hobbs personnel present, including members of the Fire and Police Departments.

SCHEDULE OF SAFE ZONE

- July 4th 8:00 p.m. 12:00 a.m.
- July 5th 8:00 11:00 p.m.
- July 6th 8:00 11:00 p.m.

RESTRICTIONS OF SAFE ZONE

- Gates will be locked outside of the schedule hours
- Fireworks of all kinds and sizes will be allowed regardless if they are legal within Hobbs city limits; no other types of explosive items will be allowed to be lit or blown up
- Participants are expected to dispose of their trash appropriately and to leave their area clean without debris
- No alcohol allowed
- No pets allowed
- Any behavior deemed inappropriate or disrespectful to others present may result in the offender(s) being asked to leave to maintain the health and safety of all

Report illegal fireworks activity to one of the Lea County Fireworks Hotline number below.

(575)433-5004 (575)433-5003 (575)433-5001

The City of Hobbs would like to remind residents and visitors that the majority of Lea and Gaines Counties are in a state of Severe to Moderate Drought status per the National Drought Mitigation Center, causing a majority of these communities to place fireworks bans or restrictions. While current weather conditions make it easy for wildfires to quickly spread, many behaviors and activities around this holiday place life and property at risk in cities as well. More than a quarter of fires reported on the 4th of July are caused by fireworks, showing that proper precautions were not taken and that users' behaviors were not safe. Do not make yourself or your loved ones a statistic. It is the responsibility of us all to keep healthy, well-maintained properties and to monitor each other's activities for a safer community.

All details regarding this event are subject to change or be cancelled due to drought and safety concerns. The area will be monitored by trained and certified professionals of the City of Hobbs Fire Marshal's Office. Continue to follow City of Hobbs on Facebook and Instagram for updates. Any questions regarding this event can be directed to (575)391-8158 or by messaging our social media accounts.

All activities will be pursuant to Hobbs Municipal Code Section 8.12.040.

###