

## PLAN AHEAD & ENJOY JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> 2015 EVENTS SAFELY

Plan ahead to enjoy the 39<sup>th</sup> year of the H-E-B Austin Symphony July 4<sup>th</sup> Concert & Fireworks on Vic Mathias Shores, presented by AT&T U-verse and the City of Austin. Come on out and enjoy the patriotic music of the Austin Symphony and a spectacular fireworks show over Lady Bird Lake. The concert starts at 8:30 p.m.

When attending the July 4<sup>th</sup> Concert and Fireworks show, please keep a few things in mind to help make it a fun, safe event.

- Stay hydrated. Austin/Travis County EMS recommends you wear sunscreen and/or hats to help with protection from the elements.
- Don't bring glass, Styrofoam or alcohol
- Food and beverage vendors will be on site
- Smoking is prohibited
- Grilling is prohibited at the event site
- Swimming in Lady Bird Lake is prohibited
- A flashlight is suggested if you are biking, or taking the hike and bike trail
- Personal umbrellas and folding chairs with attached canopies are allowed
- E-Z Up style or pop-up canopies/tents are discouraged due to the number of people at the event
- Drones are prohibited at the event
- Pets are not allowed (cannons and fireworks create severe stress for animals)
  - **Pet owners:** More pets are lost during Fourth of July festivities than any other time of year. Please prepare your pets now for the upcoming fireworks. If you lose your pet, check with the [Austin Animal Center](#).

### Parkland and Road Closures

The event will significantly affect area traffic conditions and public recreational use of the park during event hours. Road closures and/or lane reductions are associated with this event start at 10 am, and may precede actual event start times. **Street Closure**

**Information:** <http://www.austintexas.gov/citystage>.

Lady Bird Lake will be closed to all watercraft between 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., from 1<sup>st</sup> Street to the railroad trestle bridge.

The north shore of the hike and bike trail will close on July 4<sup>th</sup> at approximately 8 a.m. until 10:30 p.m. for public safety and installation of the fireworks. Trail users should take the Cesar Chavez south curb line trail and sidewalk between Shoal Creek and 1<sup>st</sup> Street area.

### Transportation and Parking

**Cap Metro Trip Planner:** <http://www.capmetro.org/> - find out how to get there by bus!

City of **Austin Trail Directory** - <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/trail-directory>

Get information on **Biking in Austin**. <http://www.austintexas.gov/department/bicycle>

**Non-park and Other Street Closure Information:** <http://www.austintexas.gov/citystage>.

It suggested that attendees park north of the event site, or bike to the event using the hike and bike trail which connects from various areas of the City. [Downtown Parking Map](#)

If you park south of Lady Bird Lake, expect delays of 45 minutes or more in area parking lots/garages. Neighborhood no-parking restrictions will be in effect south of the event site.

One Texas Center and the Palmer Events Center Garage are open for parking first-come first-served, a fee to park will be charged.

TxDOT Lot – east of Riverside and Congress is open for parking

Parking is prohibited on and along Cesar Chavez, and on all parkland.

### **Austin Police Department**

The Austin Police Department, along with 22 other area law enforcement agencies, will conduct an Arrive Alive Central Texas traffic safety initiative for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. It will run from 6 p.m. Friday, July 3, 2015 to 6 p.m. Sunday, July 5, 2015.

In addition to Arrive Alive, APD will also conduct a No Refusal initiative for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July from 9 p.m. Friday, July 3, 2015 to 5 a.m. Sunday, July 5, 2015.

During the 2014, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Independence Day weekend, 82 crashes occurred in Austin, resulting in two serious injuries and one death. During the same operational period, 72 people were arrested for DWI.

APD is focused on saving lives on the streets and highways of Austin and making Austin roadways safe for everyone through education and enforcement.

***For more event information, [click here](#).***

***The Austin Fire Department reminds you that fireworks are illegal within the City limits. Call 3-1-1 to report illegal fireworks. [Click here to learn more](#).***

***July 4th travel at Austin's airport - arrive early, leave fireworks at home. [Click here for helpful travel tips from Austin-Bergstrom International Airport](#).***