



“Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular”

A Guide to Independence Day Celebrations 2013
on the DCR Esplanade





Celebrations Timeline

July 3rd

4:00 PM - Oval Opens to Attendees.

7:30 PM - Rehearsal Concert Begins

9:00 PM - Rehearsal Concert Ends

Please Note: There are no fireworks on July 3rd.

July 4th

10:00 AM Oval Entrance Check Point Opens

6:00 PM Local Radio broadcast begins

(WBZ AM 1030 and WCRB 99.5 FM All Classical)

7:00 PM Local Radio Simulcast begins (89.7 WGBH Boston Public Radio)

Local TV Broadcast begins (WBZ-TV)

7:30 PM Concert Begins

9:30 PM Fireworks Begin

10:00 PM Concert and Fireworks End



Text-a-Tip

To report suspicious activity on the Esplanade on July 3 or 4, or to report a tip about criminal activity related to the holiday event, you may **text the keyword Boston4 to 67238**.

Those wishing to report such activity may also call 911 on their cell phone.



What You Can Bring, and What You Can't

To ensure the safety of all visitors to the Esplanade for Independence Day Celebrations, the following rules will be strictly enforced on July 3 and 4. Unless noted below, **no backpacks, shopping bags or similar type containers may be carried onto the Esplanade, and all carried items are subject to inspection.**

Prohibited Items

1. No coolers on wheels.
2. No backpacks.
3. No Firearms, Weapons, Sharp Objects or Fireworks.
4. No glass containers.
5. No Cans.
6. No pre-mixed beverages.
7. All liquids will be carried in sealed clear plastic containers not to exceed 2 liters in size.
8. No grilling, propane tanks or open flames.

Allowed Items

1. Pop up tents/canopies with no sides - maximum size 10' x 10'.
(No tents/canopies allowed on July 3).
2. Blankets or tarps no bigger than 10' x 12'.
3. Folding/beach chairs only.
4. Coolers must be carried in by shoulder strap or single handle (no wheels).
5. All personal items must be carried in clear bags only.
6. After inspection, small clutch bags/purses may be taken into the venue with the clear bag.

IMPORTANT: On July 4 all **allowable items** must be checked and carried through security checkpoints by 4:00 p.m. After 4:00 p.m., nothing will be allowed through the security checkpoints **except chairs, tarps or blankets not to exceed 10' x 12'.** **If you plan to bring any of the allowable items, they must be checked and cleared prior to 4:00 p.m.**



Celebration Access Points

July 3, 2013

Checkpoints on July 3 will be opened at 4:00 p.m. or at a time designated by the Incident Commander.

Oval Access

The Oval is the grass filled area directly in front of the DCR Hatch Memorial Shell. This year, the perimeter is extended and "the Oval" will refer to this grassy area all the way down to the DCR Playspace.

The Oval Checkpoint will be located between the Lagoon's Clarendon footbridge and the Berkley footbridge. Access to the checkpoint can best be accomplished by accessing the Esplanade from Berkeley St. after 3:00 PM. Those arriving to the Esplanade prior to 3:00 PM should use the Dartmouth or Fairfield Street foot bridges over Storrow Drive.

Island /Lagoon Access

The Island and Lagoon are to the left of the DCR Hatch Memorial Shell if you are facing the Hatch; the Island is accessible by bridges over the Lagoon.

There will also be an Island/Lagoon area checkpoint. This checkpoint will be located on the Island/Lagoon by the Clarendon bridge. This checkpoint will also open at 4:00 p.m. on July 3rd, and this checkpoint can be accessed from the Lagoon's Clarendon, Exeter and Fairfield footbridges. Access to the checkpoint can best be accomplished by accessing the Esplanade from Berkeley St. after 3:00 PM. Those arriving to the Esplanade prior to 3:00 PM should use the Dartmouth or Fairfield Street foot bridges over Storrow Drive.

July 4, 2013

Checkpoints on July 4th will be opened at 9:00 a.m. or at a time designated by the Incident Commander.

Oval Access

The Oval Checkpoint will be located between the Lagoon's Clarendon footbridge and the Berkley footbridge. Access to the checkpoint can best be accomplished by accessing the Esplanade from Berkeley St.

Island /Lagoon Access

Access to the Island/Lagoon checkpoints can best be accomplished by using Beacon Street to Clarendon Street or utilizing the Dartmouth or Fairfield Street footbridges over Storrow Drive. Checkpoints will be located at the Clarendon and Exeter Footbridges. The Fairfield Footbridge over the Lagoon will be designated as EXIT Only from the Island over the Lagoon.



DCR Traffic & Access Restrictions



[The Department of Conservation and Recreation \(DCR\)](#) will close portions of Storrow Drive in Boston, Memorial Drive in Cambridge, the Longfellow Bridge and the Massachusetts Avenue Bridge to accommodate spectators expected for the [July 4th Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular](#) at the [DCR Hatch Memorial Shell](#). Additionally, over the course of the events, DCR will open and close areas of the Esplanade section of the Charles River Reservation to bikers and pedestrians for event preparation, the events and their cleanup. Clean-up of the area will begin 30 minutes after the last firework on July 4. All roadways will remain closed until the clean-up is complete, which is expected to be Friday morning, July 5.

Please read the complete list of the vehicular traffic, parking and other access restriction details below:

Wednesday, July 3, 2013

12:01 AM: .NO parking on Mugar Way until 8:00 AM on July 5. All vehicles shall be removed.

6:00 AM: The right lane of Storrow Drive westbound will be closed to allow for event related permitted activity from the Longfellow Bridge to the Fiedler Footbridge. Vehicular traffic will continue eastbound on all lanes and west bound on Storrow Drive left lane until noon.

7:30 AM: The enhanced security area of the Esplanade between Community Boating and Dartmouth Street, including the Hatch Memorial Shell and the Oval, shall close to all pedestrians and cyclists. Park users will be detoured off the Esplanade at the Dartmouth Street Footbridge and the Community Footbridge at Charles Circle. The Fiedler Footbridge from Beacon Street to the Esplanade will also close at this time.

12:00 PM: Storrow Drive East and West closes from Charles Street Circle to the Bowker Overpass (just past the Mass. Ave Bridge, connecting to Charlesgate and the Fenway), until July 5. Mugar Way at Beacon Street closes to vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Berkley Street at Beacon St closes to vehicular traffic. Pedestrians will be directed to Berkley Street for entrance to the Esplanade.

4pm: Oval opens to Rehearsal Concert attendees

Attendees may NOT bring tents/canopies on July 3.

- 7:30 PM** Pops Rehearsal Concert Begins at Hatch Memorial Shell
- 9:00 PM** Concert ends. Oval again closes to public for cleanup and preparation for the next day's events.
- There are no fireworks during the July 3rd's rehearsal Concert.

Thursday, July 4, 2013: Independence Day

- 12:01 AM:** No parking will be allowed on Memorial Drive (either side) from #450 Memorial Drive to the Longfellow Bridge; #1 Memorial Drive; Cambridge Parkway; Riverside Boat Club and Magazine Beach/Pool, AND #1 Land Blvd.
- 7:00 AM:** Closure of Storrow Drive extends: no access to Storrow Drive (east and westbound) will be allowed between Leverett Circle and Bowker Overpass. The Storrow Drive exit ramp (Liberty Tunnel) from the Tip O'Neil Tunnel shall be closed to all traffic except emergency vehicles. Traffic will be allowed to travel on Msgr. O'Brien Highway to Cambridge and Martha Road to Boston.
- The Community Footbridge at Charles Street Circle to the Esplanade shall be closed.
- Mugar Way at Beacon Street shall be closed to all pedestrian traffic. Pedestrians wishing to enter the Esplanade will be directed down Beacon Street to Berkeley Street for entry.
- 10:00 AM:** The right lane of the Charles River Dam Road and Craigie Draw Bridge shall be closed from Museum Way to Leverett Circle. This lane will be designed for emergency vehicles and event staff.
- 3:00 PM:** No access to Storrow Drive westbound from the Bowker Overpass at Kenmore Square and no access to Storrow Drive westbound from the Beacon St. on-ramp under the Bowker overpass.
- 4:00 PM:** Memorial Drive will close eastbound and westbound between the BU Bridge and the Longfellow Bridge. All side streets in the City of Cambridge leading to Memorial Drive will close. This includes: Main Street from Third Street to the Longfellow Bridge; Ames Street from Main Street to Memorial Drive; Wadsworth and Amherst Streets; Land Boulevard from Binney Street to Longfellow Bridge; Hayward Street; Carlton Street; Charlotte's Way; and Dock Street. Vehicle access to One Memorial Drive will be allowed by permit only.

- 4:00 PM:** No access to the Harvard (aka Mass. Ave.) Bridge for vehicles or pedestrians from Beacon Street in Boston to Vassar Street in Cambridge. Vassar Street in Cambridge will close from Mass. Ave. to Memorial Drive. Local resident access will be allowed.
- The Longfellow Bridge will close outbound (Boston to Cambridge) to all pedestrian and vehicular traffic. The inbound side (from Cambridge to Boston) will remain open to pedestrians and cyclists.
- 6:00 PM:** Local Radio broadcast of the event begins (WBZ AM 1030)
- 7:00 PM:** Local television broadcast begins (WBZ-TV).
- Simulcast begins (WGBH Radio 88.7 FM)
- 7:30 PM:** Concert begins.
- 9:30 PM:** Fireworks begin.
- 10:00 PM:** Concert and fireworks end.
- 9:15 PM:** Third Street in Cambridge becomes one way from Main Street to the Msgr. O'Brien Highway. The Craigie Draw Bridge (at Leverett Circle) will remain in the down position for two hours until vehicle traffic subsides. Smaller boats that can pass under the bridge while the bridge is in the down position will be allowed to pass downstream to the Charles River Dam locks.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

July 4 Disability/Handicap Parking: Disability/Handicap parking will be available at the Charles Circle LAZ Parking Lot, next to Massachusetts Eye & Ear Hospital, starting at 10:00 AM on July 4, 2012. Mass. only vehicles with valid disability/handicap placards/plates will be allowed to access the parking lot. Parking in this lot will be available on a first come, first serve basis. The lot will close once the lot is full; when the designated disability/handicap area at the Hatch Memorial Shell (Esplanade) is full; or 6:00 PM; whichever occurs first. The MBTA Shuttle Vans (The Ride) will cease operation when the disability/handicap area is full or at 6:00 PM, whichever comes first. Vans for the return trip will stage on the Storrow Drive Tunnel Eastbound ramp. When the area is safe for movement of disability/handicap patrons, patrons will be escorted across Storrow Drive to the staged vans (approximately 10:30pm).

Clean-Up: Clean-up and sanitation operations will begin 30 minutes after the last firework. All roadways will remain closed until sanitation and labor crews are safely off the roadway and DCR's incident commander has determined the roadway is safe to reopen. There will be a concerted effort to open the bridges and roadways in the following order: Mass Ave. Bridge, Longfellow Bridge, Memorial Drive, Storrow Drive, Bowker Overpass, Charlesgate Area, and

Charles Circle. The DCR anticipates all bridges and roadways will be open by 6:00 AM on July 5.

Discourage viewing areas: The viewing of fireworks from Interstate 93 is strongly discouraged and dangerous. There will be State Troopers assigned to this area to strictly enforce “No Stopping.”

All Media and Media Vehicles must be credentialed by B4 Productions at the Esplanade

Massachusetts State Police and DCR officials may adjust times of closures in order to ensure public safety.



Boating Advisory: Independence Day Celebrations for Boaters on the Charles River

WHAT: [The Department of Conservation and Recreation \(DCR\)](#) and the [Massachusetts State Police Marine Unit](#) have issued the following rules for boaters interested in attending the [Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular](#) by way of the Charles River on Independence Day, July 4, 2013.

RULES FOR BOATERS:

- Boaters must stay 100 feet from shore.
- Boaters must stay 1,000 feet from barges.
- The Craigie Bridge by the Museum of Science will not be open until 12:01 AM, MIDNIGHT, July 5th – after the fireworks display. Only vessels requiring less than 12 feet vertical clearance will be allowed to proceed under the closed bridge and transit east of the Longfellow Bridge until this time. Vessels over 12 feet in height cannot clear Drawbridge.
- Boats will not be able to anchor within “restricted areas,” around barges or along the shoreline between Massachusetts Ave and Longfellow Bridges. No docks on the Boston side will be accessible to the public between the Mass Ave and Longfellow Bridges.
- Vessels **UNDER 13** feet (vt. ht.) anchored in the **BLUE ZONE** (Mass Ave. side of barge.) no vessels over 13’ be anchored in this area Vessels **OVER 13 feet**, anchored in the **RED ZONE** (Longfellow side of barge, under 13’ not precluded from this area.
- Transit channels will be shut down at the commencement of the Boston Fourth of July celebration activities. Enforcement of the transit channel will be strictly enforced. Massachusetts State Police will monitor Channel 16, and enforce all restrictions.
- The lagoon area on the Boston side of the river will be closed to ALL boat traffic from July 2nd to July 5th. No boats or dinghies will be allowed to enter into, transit through, or anchor in the lagoon area during this time period.

- All docks, including: Union Boat House, Hatch Shell and the River Dock, will be closed to the public from July 2nd to July 5th. The Gloucester Street dock west of the lagoon will also be closed.
- **No dinghies, PWC, kayaks, canoes, or any other small vessel will be allowed to deploy from anchored vessels or permitted access to shore. Violation of this security zone will result in arrest.**
- No restrooms and/or trash receptacles will be available to individuals on the water.
- Due to tidal conditions, longer wait times than normal may occur to pass downriver through the New Charles River Dam.
- The Charles River is a “No Discharge Area.” Discharge of boat sewage or other waste is prohibited. Designated pump-out facilities are located at The Charles River Yacht Club (Cambridge, right by MIT) and the Watertown Yacht Club.

WHEN: **Tuesday, July 2, through Friday, July 5**

WHERE: **Charles River Dam Locks and River**
 From Locks to Mass Ave Bridge
 Charles River Reservation

dcrr

Massachusetts



DCR Hatch Shell & Esplanade

500

Feet



