



June 9, 2008

CITY ISSUES TRAFFIC & SAFETY UPDATE FOR JULY 4TH FIREWORKS

WEST CARROLLTON, Ohio – West Carrollton police and fire safety personnel are issuing reminders to residents for the July 4th holiday.

Once visitors enter the low dam area near the Great Miami River to view the fireworks on Friday, July 4, they will be asked to remain in the area until the display is finished or the event is cancelled. The annual fireworks are co-sponsored by the cities of West Carrollton and Moraine.

“Last year, people started to leave because of the rain,” said Leanne Nash, fire prevention officer and EMS coordinator. “The problem is that they have to pass near the ‘hot zone’ when they leave, which is very dangerous,” she said. Nash explained that the hot zone is the area from which the fireworks are shot.

After the event, police will direct all traffic exiting the low dam area left onto N. Alex Road. “This is an effort to better control the traffic in the area,” said Doug Woodard, deputy police chief.

Residents are also reminded that all air-born fireworks are illegal in Ohio. “The only ones that are legal are the four S’s - smoke, snake, snap and sparkle.”

If residents are found to possess illegal fireworks, they can receive a first-degree misdemeanor charge, according to Woodard. “The penalty can range up to a \$1,000 fine and/or six months in jail,” Woodard said.

A portion of the bike path along Hydraulic Road near Alex Road will be closed for firework preparations beginning at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 2 until the morning of Saturday, July 5. The path will be detoured to the road.

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For more information, call **Leanne Nash** at (937) 847-4645 or **Doug Woodard** at (937) 847-4668.