



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 27, 2018

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Navy Pier Celebrates Independence Day with Free Live Music and Signature Fireworks Display

Festivities include special performances by Local Motive, Concrete Roots and Marina City at Miller Lite Beer Garden, followed by iconic Aon Summer Fireworks Presented by Miller Lite;

Guests encouraged to arrive early to avoid anticipated Pier closure due to capacity

CHICAGO – Navy Pier, Chicago’s top Fourth of July destination, is set to host a spectacular Independence Day celebration, complete with live music in the *Miller Lite Beer Garden* and the Pier’s signature *Aon Summer Fireworks Presented by Miller Lite* on Wednesday, July 4. As the city’s only lakefront fireworks show, Navy Pier will be at the center of the city’s Fourth of July celebration, with a special 15-minute fireworks display synchronized to patriotic music.

Navy Pier will open to the public at 10 a.m., offering guests the opportunity to jump start their holiday festivities along the lakefront. Guests are encouraged to take advantage of the many different activities and experiences on the Pier throughout the day – from the diverse dining, retail and entertainment options within the newly renovated *Fifth Third Bank Family Pavilion*, to the iconic *Centennial Wheel* and other popular attractions in Pier Park. Navy Pier’s boating partners will also offer cruises throughout the day and during the fireworks display for an unparalleled viewing experience.

In the evening, guests can catch live music performances at the *Miller Lite Beer Garden* by Local Motive (5 p.m. to 6 p.m.), Concrete Roots (6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.) and Marina City (8 p.m. to 9 p.m.) ahead of the *Aon Summer Fireworks Presented by Miller Lite* at 9:30 p.m.

As in the past, large crowds are expected at Navy Pier on July 4. The Pier anticipates closing its gates no later than 7:30 p.m. (closure may take place earlier, the time is ultimately determined in coordination with the on-site Chicago Fire Department marshal). Guests are encouraged to plan their visit accordingly and arrive early. It is also recommended that guests visit Navy Pier’s website for capacity related updates on the Fourth of July. Those with tickets to boat cruises, Chicago Shakespeare Theater performances and/or other ticketed events will be granted access to the Pier despite closure, but should plan to arrive hours ahead of event start time to ensure timely access.

Guests driving to the Pier may park in one of Navy Pier’s on-site parking garages for a special flat rate of \$39 on July 4. The parking garages are expected to reach capacity quickly, so early arrival is encouraged. In addition, ride share services will be disabled upon Pier closure as no pedestrian or vehicular traffic will be permitted on the North Dock. Guests using ride share services will be required to walk west on Grand Avenue or Illinois Street for pick up. It is highly recommended to take public transportation or to park at one of the Pier’s three partner parking garages at a discounted rate of \$15, with validation which can be obtained from Navy Pier’s Guest Services Kiosk at the Pier’s front entrance:

- **Grand Plaza Self Park** (540 N. State Street)

- **Ogden Plaza Self Park** (300 E. North Water Street)
- **Millennium Lakeside Garage** (5 S. Columbus Street)

The safety and security of Navy Pier guests, partners and staff is always a top priority. During major events and all throughout the year, the Pier exhibits an abundance of caution and enforces heightened security measures for the safety, welfare and comfort of all who visit. The Pier provides multiple and visible layers of security that cover the entire property. In addition to Navy Pier security assigned by Allied Universal Security, the Pier will have presence from the Chicago Police Department, K9 officers, off-duty officers and additional private security. Pier-wide surveillance is also administered 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

To ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all, Navy Pier will enforce the following policies and procedures on Independence Day:

- Security check points will be established at all entrances, exits and other locations throughout the Pier. All guests are subject to security wandering upon entering the premises.
- All bags and vehicles are subject to inspection. Large bags and backpacks are strongly discouraged.
- As always, coolers, bikes, skateboards, rollerblades and skate shoes are not allowed at Navy Pier.
- Outside alcohol is prohibited.
- No pets or animals will be permitted, with the exception of service animals.
- Upon closure, re-entry is not permitted. If guests leave Navy Pier after gates have closed, access back to the Pier is not guaranteed. It is recommended that all parties remain together.
- No parking, stopping or loitering will be permitted along the streets adjacent to Navy Pier, including Streeter Drive, Grand Avenue and Illinois Street.
- Navy Pier's youth escort policy will be in effect on July 4. Per policy, guests under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. The parent or legal guardian is responsible for the safety and conduct of minor guests in their party. Guests 18 years and older may be asked to present a valid driver's license, state ID or military ID upon entering Pier grounds.

As always, Navy Pier asks that guests be vigilant of their surroundings. *Remember: If You See Something, Say Something.* To report a concern, contact Navy Pier Security by finding the nearest security officer and/or calling (312) 595-5060. In the event of an emergency, immediately contact Chicago authorities by dialing 911.

For more information and updates regarding parking garage or Pier closure throughout the Fourth of July celebration, please visit the [Navy Pier website](#), download the Navy Pier app for Android or iOS, or follow Navy Pier on Twitter (@NavyPier) for instant updates.

About Navy Pier

Located on Lake Michigan, Navy Pier is one of the top-attended nonprofit cultural destinations in the Midwest, stretching more than six city blocks and welcoming more than 9 million guests annually. Originally opened in 1916 as a shipping and recreation facility, this Chicago landmark showcases more than 50 acres of parks, restaurants, attractions, retail shops, sightseeing and dining cruise boats, exposition facilities and more. In 2018, Navy Pier continues to usher in its second century with ongoing pier-wide redevelopment efforts – including the *Fifth Third Bank Family Pavilion*, *Peoples Energy Welcome Pavilion*, 220-room hotel and more – in addition to free, year-round arts and cultural programming designed to inspire, educate and connect communities across the city and globe. For more information, visit www.navypier.org or download the free Navy Pier app for Android and iOS device users.

Navy Pier Mission Statement

Navy Pier is the People's Pier, Chicago's lakefront treasure, welcoming all and offering dynamic and eclectic experiences through partnerships and programs that inspire discovery and wonder.