



GREENFIELD RECREATION DEPARTMENT

20 Sanderson Street, Greenfield, MA 01301
PHONE (413) 772-1553 ☎ FAX (413) 773-0115
www.greenfieldrecreation.com
christy.moore@greenfield-ma.gov



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Greenfield Recreation Department Announces Cancellation of 2020 Independence Day Fireworks Celebration

Greenfield, MA- May 28, 2020 - Greenfield's Annual Independence Day Fireworks Celebration, which was originally scheduled for July 5, 2020 has been canceled due to the ongoing public health and safety concerns amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mayor Wedegartner said, "We tried hard to come up with a safe plan that worked under the current restrictions around large public gatherings, but were not able to resolve the issues. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the City's goal has been to keep the community healthy and safe. The City is hopeful that 2021 will see a return of the fireworks celebration."

Several uncertainties contributed to the decision to cancel, including the difficulty with adherence to social distancing and current public gathering guidelines. Funding for this year's event was also a challenge, since the event is supported by generous local businesses, community members, and event vendors, many of whom have experienced financial hardships during the pandemic.

"While we are extremely disappointed to have to cancel fireworks this year, our primary concern is the health and safety of our community. This decision was made after very careful consideration, consultation with City department heads, the Mayor, and the Recreation Commission, as well as a review of local communities facing similar challenges. We look forward to the future when we are once again able to come together and celebrate as a community", says Christy Moore, Recreation Director.

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