

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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## News Release

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### Elephant Butte Lake State Park Geared Up for Independence Day!

ELEPHANT BUTTE, NM –Elephant Butte Lake State Park is gearing up for Independence Day. This year the park will be hosting the fireworks show over the water on June 30th beginning at approximately 9:00 p.m. There is plenty of beach and visitors can get close to the water's edge to enjoy the fireworks display. Entrance fees to observe the fireworks will be waived during the evening of the display, all other fees apply.

"We are expecting to have another great Independence Day at Elephant Butte Lake State Park," said Harold Zuni, Boating Manager. "Water levels this year are comparable to last year which means there is still plenty of water for all visitors to enjoy."

State Park officials want to remind everyone that state wide fire restrictions are in effect and that open fires are only allowed within 100 feet of the water's edge within the park. Due to extremely dry conditions fireworks are prohibited and strictly enforced.

The Marina del Sur and Rock Canyon boat ramps are open and ready for use. However, due to low water levels, the Monticello and Dam Site boat ramps remain closed.

Park visitors are asked to participate in protecting our state parks and natural resources by taking an active role in the Elephant Butte Lake State Park Recycling Program. Visitors will be provided with **Blue** recycle bags for plastics and aluminum. Recycling may be dropped off at check stations or designated recycling dumpsters located throughout the park. Remember to think **Green** and use **Blue** for recycling.

State Park officials remind boaters to always wear a lifejacket when out on the water and to be aware of weather conditions. State law requires that you wear a lifejacket when on a canoe, kayak, or raft and that all children 12 years old and younger wear a lifejacket while on the deck of a moving vessel. The State Parks Division offers free boating safety classes around the state and on-line throughout the year.

Celebrate New Mexico's Centennial at YOUR state parks; for more information, call 888-NMPARKS or visit [www.nmparks.com](http://www.nmparks.com).



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*Short Trips, Long Memories: Your Best Recreation Value Close to Home*

*The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.*