

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

To: Ames Media  
From: Young Professional of Ames  
Date: June 28, 2017  
Re: Ames 2017 Fireworks to Take Place July 3rd

**Ames Fireworks on July 3rd!**

AMES, Iowa—The Young Professionals of Ames, in partnership with the Ames Convention & Visitors Bureau, The City of Ames, Ames Chamber of Commerce, and Iowa State University, is excited to present the Ames 2017 Fireworks.

The Ames fireworks display will begin at dusk on Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>. The fireworks will be launched from the Iowa State University lot G7 and will be visible from the surrounding stadium lots.

Reiman Gardens will be a prime spot to view the fireworks and will be free to enter after 6pm on July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The Young Professionals of Ames are soliciting donations to help support the event. Donations will be collected onsite again this year and the funds raised will support Young Professionals of Ames' future fireworks efforts and youth programming in the community.

The July 3<sup>rd</sup> date was chosen with careful consideration and planning to ensure the best quality fireworks display for the Ames community. In case of rain the fireworks display will be moved to July 5<sup>th</sup>.

Due to generous funding from the City of Ames and Iowa State University, this year YPA is pleased to offer portable restrooms, police officers and traffic safety officers onsite to make the event run more efficiently for the public. As well as a designated area along South 4<sup>th</sup> Street for food trucks and other amenities.

Spectators should be aware of local restrictions regarding personal fireworks. Recent State of Iowa legislation legalizing fireworks allows municipalities to opt out by creating local ordinances within city limits. The City of Ames enacted an ordinance in 1987 banning the use of fireworks within city limits, which means local restrictions are already in place.

"Section 17.6 of the Ames Municipal Code bans shooting off or exploding fireworks without a permit," said Assistant City Attorney Mark Lambert. "So that means people outside of – but not within – Ames city limits can start lighting their fuses. But we can certainly enjoy watching them."

The new State of Iowa legislation allows fireworks sales from June 1 to July 8, and from December 10 through January 3. It is illegal to sell fireworks to minors, and minors may not purchase fireworks. Those who are caught exploding fireworks within the Ames city limits could face a simple misdemeanor charge with a minimum fine of \$250.

Additionally, the use of drones is strictly prohibited in or around the shoot site of the fireworks. Use of drones in the area could delay the display.

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**Young Professionals of Ames** is an organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in Ames and establishing a community of young professionals dedicated to building and fostering relationships through leadership and professional development, community outreach, and cultural and social opportunities. Members are professionals living and working in Ames under the age of 40. More information on YPA can be found at [www.ypames.com](http://www.ypames.com).

**The Ames Community Grant Program**, which graciously funds the fireworks, was established by the Ames Convention & Visitors Bureau to support a wide range of local projects. The program is funded by the hotel/motel tax income of the Bureau. The grant program is available to provide funding to assist cultural, educational, artistic, environmental, athletic and other local organizations to develop projects, special events and activities that attract visitors to the Ames area while improving the quality of life for area residents. For additional information, check out [www.visitames.com/members/grant\\_program.aspx](http://www.visitames.com/members/grant_program.aspx) or contact Allyson Walter with the Ames Convention & Visitors Bureau at 515-232-4032 or [allysonw@amescvb.com](mailto:allysonw@amescvb.com).

Iowa State University has also been a fantastic partner on this event, by kindly donating the use of space to shoot and observe the festive display that will be held on July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

For up to date information, like Ames Fireworks on Facebook or follow them on Twitter @AmesFireworks .

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