



"Because Not All Radio Stations Are Created Equal"

Chadrad Communications, Inc.
226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601
E-mail: kcsr@chadrad.com

(S.D. & Wyo.)-More Western Cities Call Off Fireworks Shows

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 07/03/2012 09:32 AM

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) - With hot, dry weather persisting and conditions ripe for wildfires, most communities in western South Dakota are calling off Fourth of July fireworks displays.

Officials in Sturgis and Hot Springs are the latest to cancel shows because of the fire danger and also because local firefighters are helping battle forest fires in the Black Hills. They join other cities including Rapid City, Lead and Custer in canceling fireworks.

Novelty fireworks can still be sold in Rapid City, but vendors say various fire bans have cut deeply into business. Mark Lantis says his sales are down at least 60 percent.

Officials in Piedmont and Belle Fourche still plan to go ahead with fireworks shows.

Some popular July 4th fireworks shows have been canceled because of the high fire danger across Wyoming as well. In northeastern Wyoming, the Ucross Foundation has called off its Independence Day celebration for the first time in 30-plus year history.

In Teton County, fireworks displays planned at Snow King Mountain and Teton Village have also been scratched. The county and the town of Jackson also enacted a partial fire ban on Monday. Jackson Hole fire chief Willy Watsabaugh said conditions this year are drier than seen in 1988 and 2000, when the area was hit with destructive wildfires.

A July 4th fireworks show at Brush Creek Ranch was a cancelled after a fireworks show there on Saturday started a small fire. It was quickly controlled.

(Copyright 2012 by The Associated Press. All Rights Reserved.)