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Pacifica Environmentalist Group Petitions for Beach Fireworks Ban

The Pacifica Beach Coalition is gathering signatures in support of initiative that would ban all fireworks on the city's beaches.

By Gideon Rubin (Open Post) (/users/gideon-rubin)

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 (http://contribute.patch.com/moderation/4988768)



A local environmental group is taking aim at Fourth of July revelers who don't properly dispose of beach fireworks.

The Pacifica Beach Coalition has launched a petition drive (<http://www.thepetitionsite.com/963/345/639/ban-fireworks-from-pacifica-beaches/>) calling for a ban on all beach fireworks. The group expects to bring 1,000 signatures to the city council with the hope that a public outcry will trigger a citywide beach fireworks ban.

The group had taken a neutral stance on beach fireworks until earlier this month, photos emerged that according to the group shows

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(/california/novato/two-killed-horrific-wrong-way-crash-101-0) Three vehicles were involved. One woman

(/california/novato/two-killed-horrific-wrong-way-crash-101-0) AAA predicts highest level of travel since before the recession.

Black Thanksgiving 2014 Pro
(/california/novato/two-killed-horrific-wrong-way-crash-101-0) Christmas pajamas, deals on televisions, computers, toys and more—it's all on sale

that current measures the city takes to keep the beaches clean on the night of the Fourth are woefully inadequate.

That prompted the group to decide to take action at July 12 meeting.

Community groups who benefit from the legal sale of fireworks are required to pick fireworks debris the day after Fourth of July celebrations.

But the photos showed fireworks debris coating the beach that a tide swept out to sea before the community groups could even start their cleanup.

A volunteer who collected fireworks debris from Linda Mar State Beach on the night of the Fourth described the scene as a "."

Fireworks are currently banned on Sharp Park, Manor and Esplanade Beaches but they can be legally set off at Rockaway and Linda Mar Beaches.

PBC President Lynn Adams told Patch that she was ahead of the group's meeting, but said she was speaking for herself at the time.

The fireworks debris contain chemicals that pollute coastal waters, and that the plastic debris swept out to the ocean kills fish and birds who mistake the remnants for food, environmentalists say.

Fireworks have in Pacifica and beyond for public safety and environmental concerns.

But any ban or restrictions on fireworks face likely face an uphill battle in a city where Pacifica lawmakers say fireworks opponents have never been a significant political force.

Pacifica voters have approved the sale of legal fireworks by resounding majorities on at least two occasions over the past 20 years, Mayor Pete DeJarnatt told Patch.

discounts-0)

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sandy-hook-shooter-0)

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WATCH: Disney's Frozen On Ice

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disneys-frozen-ice-show-

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middletown-family)

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Massive Illinois Stable Fire

Claims Lives of 32 Horses

(/illinois/burr ridge/massive-

illinois-stable-fire-claims-lives-

32-horses)

(/illinois/burr ridge

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2014's 10 Worst Toys List Is Out

(/new-jersey/ocean city/2014s-10-

worst-toys-list-out)

(/new-

jersey/ocean city/2

014s-10-worst-toys-list-

out)

World Against Toys

Causing Harm reveals its

nominees for toys that

should not be in the

hands of children this

holiday season.

Rankings are also broken

down by categories, such

as toys, computers, such

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Join the discussion...



Kirkham • 2 years ago

Have you seen Pedro Point on 4th of July Sue??the majority of the explosions come from that area..

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Charles • 2 years ago

It's all about the money \$\$\$!!! BOOM !!!

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Day-Oh • 2 years ago

Karen, you took the words right out of my mouth. I couldn't agree more. While banning fireworks from the beaches is a noble and worthy goal, it is only a partial answer to a much bigger problem. Pacifica needs to wake up to the fact that the police and fire departments are incapable of enforcing existing law and cannot protect the population from the anarchy that plays out each July 4th. The police have all they can handle dealing with the "low-hanging fruit" on the beaches. They have as much as admitted that they can't even penetrate the neighborhoods. For this reason alone, I don't see a ban on beach fireworks ever passing, simply because that's all Pacifica PD has to point to each year in their efforts to enforce "zero tolerance." Take that away from them and what have they got left? Nothing will change until there is some catastrophic death or disaster. For all the talk about "our environment" and "our economy", most people in Pacifica are really only interested in one thing: protecting their own self-interests without regard to the impact on others.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Sue Pemberton • 2 years ago

And the guy who lives on the Point who has to sit on his deck every year and defend his home against fire, what is he entitled to? The animals who live on the beach and get the crap scared out of them every year, then have to return to the beach days later to forage among toxic garbage, what are they entitled to? The people who diligently clean up the beaches all year long, only to be slapped in the face by the people who come and destroy the beach environment, what are they entitled to??? Sometimes it's not just about you. We are proposing alternatives that don't involve people going into the neighborhoods to light off their fireworks. We're trying to be part of the solution.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Edward sawacki • 2 years ago

Have a police officer issuing littering tickets to people leaving the trash. Think of the revenue the city could generate.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›



Karen • 2 years ago

If you ban them on the beach, they will set them off in the neighborhood where theres more of a fire hazard to our homes.

^ | v • Reply • Share ›

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