



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Volunteers got rid of nearly 40 tons of trash after last year's Fourth of July celebrations on the Long Beach Peninsula, including a "burning man" fireworks installation.

## Clean up the beach July 5

LONG BEACH PENINSULA, Wash. — After the Fourth of July fireworks fade from the sky and the holiday is over, it's time to clean up the beach. The public is invited to come join the Grassroots Garbage Gang on Tuesday, July 5 and rid the beach of litter.

Organizers will be stationed at all the major beach approaches at 9:30 a.m. to hand out bags and help direct volunteers to where help is needed.

This one of four community-initiated cleanups that happens on the Long Beach Peninsula each year. Come by yourself, with a friend or your family. If you can come and are flexible on location to clean, email organizer Shelly Pollock at Shelly@OurBeach.org

The truck brigade supporting the beach cleanup needs more trucks and people in them who can pick up filled garbage bags and other debris and sling it into their rigs for transport to a dumpster at a beach approach. Four-wheel drive is mandatory. If you have a trailer,

too, that would be a tremendous asset. If you would like to be included in this helpful group, contact Linda Bierma at 360-665-4362 or [bierma@willapabay.org](mailto:bierma@willapabay.org)

After the cleanup, there will be a soup feed for volunteers at the Peninsula Senior Center, located at 21603 O Lane in Klipsan Beach, from noon until the pot runs dry. It will be a time to see what's been found and share your findings with other volunteers, if you so choose.

Support for the Grassroots Garbage Gang comes from volunteers, local businesses, the city of Long Beach, Marine Resource Committee, Washington State Department of Ecology, Washington State Parks, Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, NOAA and more.

The gang, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is focusing on its financial future in 2016. The gang seeks to create a cleanup fund, to sustain future beach cleanup efforts. For more information or to donate, visit [www.OurBeach.org](http://www.OurBeach.org)

# Plan for a beach-friendly Fourth

## Peninsula July 4 events aim to respect public lands, stop litter

LONG BEACH PENINSULA, Wash. — The Long Beach Peninsula has long been a gathering place for those wishing to salute the nation's freedom from British rule. This year's Independence Day celebrations will be marked by a renewed sense of making the beach approachable for the general public and enjoyable for all.

"Pacific Northwest families have a long-standing tradition of celebrating the Fourth at the beach, and we love being a part of that," said Andi Day, executive director of the Long Beach Peninsula Visitors Bureau. "This year, there will be extra encouragement to keep the beach safe and clean during and after the celebration."

Beach-Friendly Fourth is a new campaign launched to raise public awareness of how to minimize the impact of Independence Day celebrations on the beach, a Seashore Conservation Area managed by Washington State Parks. Visitors and residents are asked to use common sense, be respectful to others and the environment, and pay attention to posted regulations, which include



PHOTO BY NATALIE ST. JOHN

Patriotic spectators enjoy the annual Ocean Park Fourth of July Parade.



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Washington State Parks Communication Department designed this banner, featuring logos of partners who have come together to develop and implement a plan for July 4 celebrations on the peninsula. From left are: Magen Michaud, Vicki Vanneman, Bette Lu Krause and Virginia Spurkland.

no overnight camping on the beach.

These efforts come in response to the 2015 Fourth of

July weekend revels, which brought an estimated 100,000 visitors to the Long Beach Peninsula, about 40 tons of

litter, a homicide, hundreds of noise and congestion-related complaints, and more.

The Long Beach Visitors Bureau suggests making hotel and motel, RV and camp site reservations in advance, as lodging historically sells out on the holiday weekend.

The Long Beach Peninsula will continue to host free-to-the-public Fourth of July events. They include the following:

- **Feel the Thunder Fireworks and Firecracker 5K** at the Port of Ilwaco on Saturday, July 2. Run or walk the course at 9 a.m., and then settle into one of the best seaside spots to watch fireworks over the water at 9:30 p.m.

- **Old-Fashioned Fourth of July Parade** at 1 p.m. Tuesday, July 4 in downtown Ocean Park. Enjoy a hometown parade with kids on bikes, horseback riders, classic cars, homemade floats, chalk art, waving flags and more, followed by Art in the Park in Sheldon Park.

- **Long Beach Independence Day Fireworks** on the beach at dusk (9:30 to 10 p.m.) July 4. The city of Long Beach puts on one of the best fireworks displays in the region. Bring your blankets and folding chairs, and view this huge, colorful display on the beach in front of the Long Beach boardwalk.

## Dance party to benefit Orlando shooting victims

ASTORIA — The Lower Columbia Q Center and Astoria Arts & Movement Center will present Pulse, a dance party with proceeds benefiting the victims of the June 11 Orlando shooting.

The all-ages, LGBT-positive event will be held at 9 p.m. Friday, July 1 at the Astoria Arts & Movement Center.

DJ Takimba and DJ Ali Aht will create the pulse for dancers at the party.

Takimba is no stranger to the summer festival circuit. This year he is a headliner at both What the Festival and Lucidity. While not on the road playing with names like Fort Knox Five and Ott, he holds down The Melting Pot radio show at Portland's

KBOO 90.7 FM.

Ali Aht is a Portland regular having played rooms like Holocene, The Whisky and Refuge. He has also shared the bill with names like Avidas (Ministry of Sound UK), Donald Glaude (Moonshine Music) & Sterling Moss (Up all night/Racetrex UK).

Astoria Arts & Move-

ment Center is located at 342 10th St. The Lower Columbia Q Center serves the local lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning community.

There is a \$5 cover; all proceeds, will be sent to Orlando. For more information, email Marco Davis at [marcogerarddavis@gmail.com](mailto:marcogerarddavis@gmail.com)