

LIVING GREEN NEWS

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Celebrate Independence Day - July 4th!



In the United States, Independence Day, commonly known as the Fourth of July, is a federal holiday commemorating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, declaring independence from the Kingdom of Great Britain. Independence Day is commonly associated with fireworks, parades, barbecues, carnivals, picnics, concerts, baseball games, political speeches and ceremonies, and various other public and private events celebrating the history, government, and traditions of the United States.

Due to the current recession, many have said their travel over the 4th of July holiday and during the summer will not be as it has been in the past. However, this doesn't mean you can't see the sites and enjoy your holidays or weekends.

Famous Quotes:

"Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and success of liberty."

John F. Kennedy

"Democracy is the government of the people, by the people, for the people."

Abraham Lincoln

North Carolina has so much to see and do that it would take several years to fit it all in. From emerald and ruby mining in the mountains, boating, fishing, swimming, camping, white water rafting, historical sites like Old Salem, Cherokee, or civil war sites, traveling the Blue Ridge Parkway, museums, all types of family fun like Tweetsie Railroad and Blowing Rock, and the list goes on and on. What's the old saying – *From Murphy to Manteo?*

To help you plan these mini vacations and excursions, here is a link to the Official North Carolina Travel and Tourism Website – <http://www.visitnc.com/>.

What would the Fourth of July be without fireworks?? Most communities will have fireworks displays on the 3rd or 4th, but are put on by trained professionals with Fire and Rescue personnel on standby in case something happens. On the other hand, each year thousands of men, women, and children end up in the emergency room, or worse, with injuries caused by fireworks set off by amateurs like most of us. Even sparklers can be dangerous in the hands of children. So many have had their faces, arms, and legs severely burned from them. Please be careful this 4th of July and leave the fireworks to the professionals.

Have a safe and happy holiday.

Unusual Facts:

- ✓ From the Middle Ages up until the end of the 19th century, barbers performed a number of medical duties including bloodletting, wound treatment, dentistry, minor operations and bone-setting. The barber's striped red pole originated in the Middle Ages, when it was a staff the patient would grip while the barber bled the patient.
- ✓ Roman coins have been dug up in America, suggesting that perhaps the Vikings or Columbus weren't the first Europeans to visit the New World. The coins were found in locations as far afield as Texas, Venezuela and Maine. One stash was found buried in a mound in Round Rock, Texas. The mound is dated to approximately 800 A.D. In the town of Heavener, Okla., a bronze tetradrachm bearing the profile of Emperor Nero was found in 1976. The coin was originally struck in Antioch, Syria, in 63 A.D.