



Celebrate Freedom in Wamego

A-Z EVENT GUIDE 2022

Wamego Fireworks Show



WAMEGO

Small Town. BIG Experience.

Each year, tens of thousands of people Celebrate Freedom in Wamego as part of a multi-day celebration of Independence. We hope you will find this A-Z Event Guide to be a helpful tool, one you can download and/or print and bring with you to the event, enabling you to plan for your time spent on Independence Day in Wamego.

JUNE 30 - JULY 4, 2022 • 151ST ANNUAL

Pre-Fireworks Show and Food Vendors

Concessions provided by the Friendship House in multiple locations throughout the Fireworks event area.

**Thursday, June 30th
- Monday, July 4th**

City Carnival:

6:00pm–10:00pm, Wamego City Park. Wristbands \$25.00. Amusement rides and concessions.

Monday, July 4th

48th Annual Walter P. Chrysler Car Show:

9:00am–3:30pm, Wamego City Park. Contact Verne Claussen (785) 456-4179.

37th Annual Kaw Valley Antique Engine, Truck and Tractor Club Show:

9:00am–3:30pm, Wamego Ball Diamonds – east of Wamego City Park.

First United Methodist Church Pork Sandwich & Homemade Pie Dinner:

11:00am–5:00pm, 6th & Lincoln. Meal includes chips, beans, drink, sandwich and pie. Brats and hot dogs too!

Drama Club Bar:

12:00pm–7:30pm, The Columbian Theatre. Enjoy a nice cold beer or cocktail.

BOOMTOWN 2 - Behind the Fence:

1:30pm & 3:00pm, The Columbian Theatre. Experience the firework show from the eyes of the all-volunteer Pyro Crew. This feature was shot with 6 cameras from behind the fence. The seats for this free screening are filled on a first come first serve basis. You won't want to miss it!

City Carnival:

3:00pm–9:00pm, along the parade route in the 500 Block of Lincoln at the Bittmann Mercantile parking lot.

151st Annual Wamego Independence Day Parade:

6:00pm, Downtown Lincoln Ave from 8th to 5th street & north on Poplar.

Classic Rock Concert:

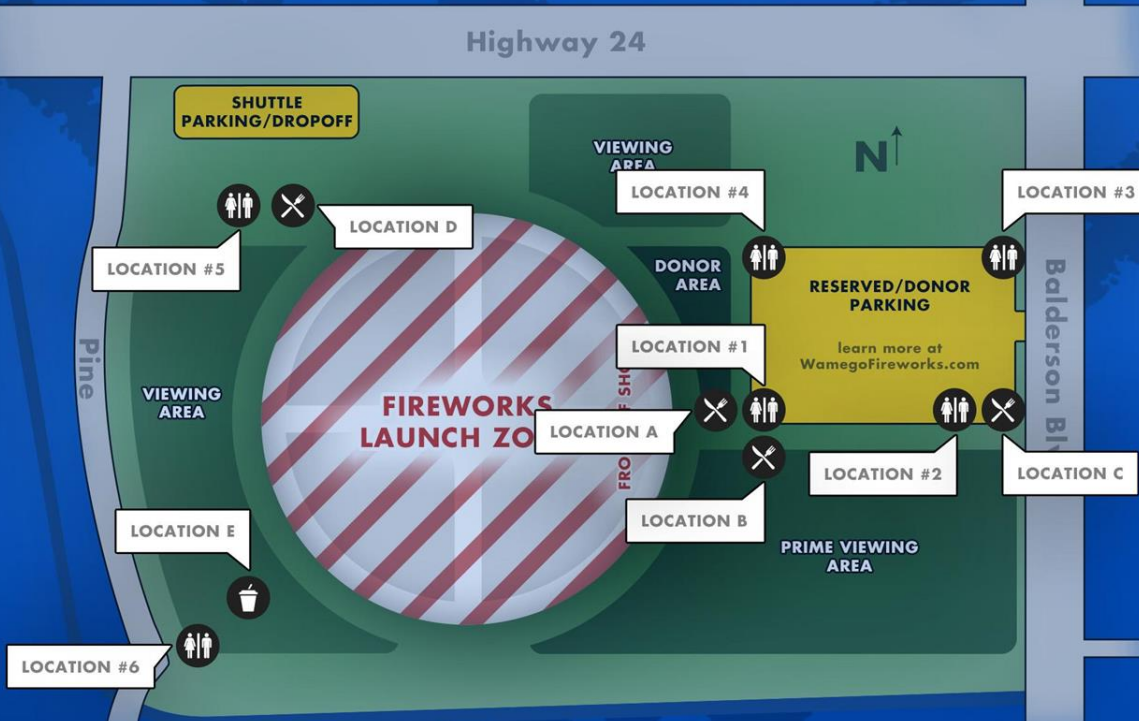
7:30pm–10:00pm & 10:35pm–11:00pm, Wamego Rec Complex at Hwy 24 & Balderson Blvd. Featuring the Switch in Time band.

Fireworks:

10:00pm, Wamego Rec Complex. Display voted best in Kansas. Bring your FM radio, jam box, or earbuds to experience the Pyro Musical broadcast live on B104.7.



RESTROOM & CONCESSIONS LOCATIONS



#Wamego4th | www.visitWamego.com

- Restrooms:**
(41 restrooms available on site)
 1 – 8 indoors units, Concessions Building
 2 – 12 units, 1 accessible
 3 – 3 units
 4 – 3 units, 1 accessible
 5 – 10 units, 1 accessible
 6 – 5 units

- Concessions:**
(A – 3-10 PM / B, C, D, E – 6-10 PM)
A – Pretzels, Funnel Cakes, Nachos, Chili Dogs, Candy, Popcorn, Seeds, Gum, Shaved Ice, Water, Tea, Lemonade, Gatorade, Soda
B – Hamburgers, Sandwiches, Brats, Mega Dogs, Bierocks, Chips, Cookies, Brownies, Shaved Ice, Water, Tea, Lemonade, Gatorade, Soda
C – Hot Dogs, Sandwiches, Bierocks, Popcorn, Shaved Ice, Water, Tea, Lemonade, Gatorade, Soda
D – Sandwiches, Bierocks, Chips, Cookies, Shaved Ice, Water, Tea, Lemonade, Gatorade, Soda
E – Water and Gatorade only

FIREWORKS VIEWING TIPS

WIND

Don't sit downwind of the launch site. Thick smoke will obscure your view.

MUSIC

The fireworks show is set to music. Tune in to 104.7 FM on an **FM radio**.

Note: Streaming apps will not be synchronized due to a 5 - 10 second delay.

ARRIVE EARLY

Plan to have your spot by 8PM and avoid the hassle, enjoy the pre-show entertainment and beat the rush!



Free Shuttle Service and Public Parking Options

www.VisitWamego.com

No Personal Fireworks or Alcohol Permitted on City Property

Enjoy one of the biggest and greatest fireworks show in the Midwest! The show starts at 10 p.m. and prepare to be amazed with a spectacular display of fireworks that has a "finale that never ends."

Best View:

The view at the recreation complex is simply spectacular! Those who make the journey have never regretted the decision, or the effort. Within the complex your view is 3D of fireworks launching and sequencing around the ball diamonds in a true 360 degree experience with more than 60 discreet shoot sites throughout the display. This year, wherever you are, tune your radio to B104.7 FM and enjoy an enhanced experience listening to the show soundtrack courtesy of Hot Country B104.7.

How Long is the Firework Show?

The show lasts approximately 30 minutes. Pre-show: the band Switch In Time starts at 7:30. Food vendors are also open at complex.

What Should I Bring?

FM Radio - Hot Country B104.7 will have the soundtrack for the fireworks starting at 9:50pm. Be sure to listen to get the full experience of the show.

Lawn Chairs & Blankets - Most of the Rec Complex is grass

Flash Light - Complex lights are cut to enhance the firework viewing.

Coolers (no alcohol on public property) be sure to bring plenty of water, stay hydrated.

Frisbee, football, and washers (no personal fireworks allowed on public property)

Picnic basket

Bug spray

Ear plugs for sensitive ears (get ready for lots of loud boomers and crackling shells!)

A-F

Admission

Free! Thanks to our sponsors; they make the Parade, Wamego Fireworks Show and Car Show all free and open to spectators.

Alcohol Policies

Alcohol is not permitted on public property, which includes the parade route, the Wamego Sports Complex, Wamego Middle School and Wamego Recreation Complex where fireworks are shot from and viewed by spectators.

ATMs

Multiple ATMs can be found in Wamego. Downtown ATMs: Landmark National Bank (6th & Lincoln) and Bank of the Flint Hills (5th & Elm and at the corner of Hwy 99 and Hwy 24). Highway 24 ATMs: Bennington State Bank (north side of Hwy 24 when entering Wamego from the west); Kaw Valley State Bank (south side of Hwy 24 when entering Wamego from the west).

Carnival

Enjoy carnival rides for all ages and thrill levels at the Carnival taking place along Ash Street in Wamego, one block east of Downtown Wamego. Savor cotton candy, burgers, carnival rides and games for all ages! June 30th through July 4th - 6pm to 10pm - wristbands \$23.00. July 4th 3pm to 10pm - wristbands \$25.00.

Concessions (Five locations)

At the Wamego Recreation Complex, the Friendship House will have multiple concession locations (see map on page 2). MENU: Mega Dogs*, Hot dogs, Hamburgers, Bierocks, BBQ Beef, Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Shaved Ice, Flavored Lemonade, Pepsi Products, Water, Brownies, Cookies, Popcorn. Look for food and drink trucks on the Parade Route (Lincoln Avenue). Selection will include: shaved ice, BBQ, kettle corn, Asian lettuce wraps, hushpuppies, phillies, fried pickles and so much more.

Drinks/Water

We encourage guests to be prepared and stay safe and hydrated. Along the parade route, there will be fundraising groups selling bottles of water. While there are opportunities to buy water, and fill your own water bottle, we encourage you to bring your own water and plan accordingly for hydration needs.

First Aid

During the parade route, police and volunteers will be monitoring the parade route. First Aid is available in the northwest corner of the Wamego Recreation Complex near the Shuttle drop-off zone. EMS, Police and Fire officials will all be stationed in this location. In an emergency, CALL 911.

Fireworks (Personal)

Personal fireworks are not permitted on public property, which includes the Wamego Recreation Complex, Wamego Sports Complex, Wamego Middle School (Satellite and Shuttle Parking) and the Parade Route along Lincoln Street. Please understand safety is paramount during this event—we appreciate your compliance with the law to not shoot fireworks around others on city property to keep this event fun and safe for everyone.

F-L

Fireworks Soundtrack

Take your Wamego Fireworks experience to the next level and enjoy the musical soundtrack with the show. Wamego's PYRO CREW selects specific songs each year and then work through the winter to synchronize their show and special effects to the soundtrack. Music and fireworks melded together can deliver a uniquely powerful feeling. The chase sequences and timing to the music are an artistic element for which Wamego is well known. Use an FM radio tuned to B104.7 to personally enjoy the music at a level that is right for your ears. (Streaming internet or phone based apps introduce a delay and will not synchronize with the show therefore you must use "over the air" FM radio. Sport type radios using earbuds are our favorite because you won't miss a note.) The ear buds placed tightly in your ears block a little bit of the boom. Set the volume at your personal preference to obtain your perfect mix of fireworks sizzle and music.

Food

There are multiple restaurants throughout Wamego that are glad to serve you. Go to visitwamego.com to identify dining options, additionally, concession options are available. Concession stands can be found at the Carnival, downtown and at the Wamego Recreation Complex (See Concessions). Guests are encouraged to plan and bring snacks, food, water, etc. with them in a cooler. The five food stands through-out the complex offer: popcorn, funnel cakes, pretzels, candy, hot dogs, brats, hamburgers, Mega Dog, shaved ice, flavored drinks, pulled pork, BBQ beef.

Getting Around

On July 4th, a smart strategy is to arrive early and make a day of it. Securing parking spots before the parade start will be easy and worry free and there are activities the entire day. Once you are parked, stay parked... all venues are a reasonable walk from one another. In the late afternoon as the parade time nears, you will be able to navigate on foot more efficiently than you would in a car. Many utilize the FREE shuttle service from Wamego High School Sports Complex (Football field W. edge of town) and the Wamego Middle School. Others park in the early afternoon at the public fireworks lots and walk to city park for the car show and carnival fun, followed by catching the parade and later walking back to the complex, stopping by their vehicle and gathering provisions for the fireworks display. Settle in at the fireworks site and enjoy great free music provided by the band, DEPARTURE! before the display. After the show, you will be within reasonable walking distance of your vehicle and putting the cap on a great Independence Day experience. After the fireworks traffic will be heavy and slow, so relax and stay, visit with friends and listen to music by the band Stitch In Time.

Length of Parade & Fireworks

The Annual Independence Day Parade begins at 6:00 p.m. and is anticipated to be just over an hour. Please stay behind the flag line for spectator safety! The fireworks launch lasts about 30 minutes.

Locations of Shuttle Parking and Event Locations (to be utilized with Google Maps on your Smartphone)

Wamego High School Football Field Shuttle Parking-RED SHUTTLE (Corner of Highway 24 and Columbian Road)

Wamego Middle School Shuttle Parking-GREEN SHUTTLE (Physical Address: 1701 Kaw Valley Road, Wamego, KS, 66547)

Wamego Recreation Complex (Corner of Highway 24 and Balderson Blvd.)

Shuttles begin at 3 pm & will make parade stops at the top of the parade route for those wishing to attend the Parade. This is NOT a pick-up location. Parade runs along Lincoln Street (Downtown Wamego) from 8th to 4th Street. From the parade there is a short walk to the recreation complex for the fireworks show.

M-P

Lost and Found

Our volunteers do their best during clean-up to compile lost personal items. To receive information if any lost items are found, please contact the Wamego Chamber at 785-456-7849 or the City of Wamego at 785-456-9119 the work week after Independence Day to check for any lost items. Wallets, purses and other personal items containing sensitive information should be turned into law enforcement immediately.

Parking

Public Parking is available in marked lots adjacent to the Wamego Recreation Complex and along Balderson Blvd. Side street parking is permitted unless otherwise marked. No parking allowed along shoulders of Highway 24.

Donor Parking is available to those who have made a contribution for a parking pass. The donor lot is within the Wamego Recreation Complex. To learn more or to purchase a donor parking space, go to wamegofireworks.com.

Parking for Guests with Disabilities

We are committed to the needs of our guests. At the donor reserved parking area at the complex, additional parking spaces are created and designated for those with disabilities on July 4th. This total well exceeds the number of disabled parking spaces required by the ADA. To guarantee one of these spots, a parking pass may be purchased at wamegofireworks.com with request for an ADA spot. Otherwise, remaining inventory of these spaces are offered free on a first come, first served, basis. Unfortunately, the demand always exceeds supply. Satellite lot with hard surfacing is located at Wamego Middle School. Guests may be dropped at the event entrance on Balderson Boulevard and the driver may park at any number of free lots, reference map. Please be advised however Balderson Blvd is not open to vehicle traffic after 8pm and may close sooner as lots in the immediate vicinity fill. Please be aware immediately following the show (and for roughly 45 minutes after), ALL traffic from the complex and immediate vicinity outbound will be very heavy. You will not be able to return to complex to pick up friends and family until traffic has been cleared. For this reason, use of the free shuttle service is advised.

Shuttle Parking

Locations of Shuttle Parking (to be utilized with Google Maps on your Smartphone)

Wamego High School Football Field Shuttle Parking-RED SHUTTLE (Gravel lot) (Corner of Highway 24 and Columbian Road)

Wamego Middle School Shuttle Parking-GREEN SHUTTLE (Concrete lot) (Physical Address: 1701 Kaw Valley Road, Wamego, KS, 66547)

Shuttles will begin at 3 pm & make parade stops at the top of the parade route for those wishing to attend the Parade. This is NOT a pick-up location. Parade runs along Lincoln Street (Downtown Wamego) from 8th to 4th Street. From there it is a short walk to the recreation complex for the fireworks show.

Pets

While leashed pets are permitted on city property, we encourage you to assess your pet's tolerance for large crowds and the high decibel-levels created by fireworks before bringing them along to the celebration. Most pets are frightened by large booms and flashes of light. Pets along the parade route and in the complex during the fireworks display are strongly discouraged.

Phones

With tens of thousands of mobile devices using local towers at the same time, cellular service can become intermittent. Please plan accordingly.

P-W

Police/Security

Local and regional law enforcement agencies and officers, EMS and Fire responders will be on the parade and fireworks premises throughout July 4. Their mobile event headquarters will be stationed in the northwest corner of the Wamego Recreation Complex, near the shuttle drop-off zone. Additionally, the Wamego police department is located at 408 Elm Street, Wamego, KS, 66547 and their administrative phone number is: (785) 456-9553. In the event of an emergency, dial 911.

Restrooms

To accommodate an ever-growing number of guests at the celebration, porta-potty facilities will be available along the parade route, at the carnival, within city park and in multiple locations at the Wamego Recreation Complex. Please see the map on page 3 of this guide displaying restroom locations at the recreation complex. Please go to visitwamego.com for the restroom map for parade route.

Shuttle System/Satellite Parking

The Shuttle is free and open to the public to and from the Wamego Recreation Complex from 3-9 p.m. and will provide return service after the fireworks show. Two parking lots are available for shuttle service. The red parking lot, located at the Wamego Football field is located at the corner of Highway 24 and Columbian. The Green lot is located at the Wamego Middle School (on Kaw Valley Road). ATA shuttle busses will consistently be running to the northwest corner of the Wamego Recreation Complex. This is a short walk to the carnival and parade route. A shuttle card will be given to you upon riding the shuttle to ensure you are dropped off at the correct location post-fireworks show. There is a shuttle parade drop north of the parade route prior to the parade. Feel free to get off there and enjoy Wamego's downtown businesses, City Park activities and the carnival. Please help keep parking lots clean.

Traffic Plan

Local law enforcement agencies, the Wamego Chamber & CVB, as well as the Wamego Fireworks Show Pyro Crew have consistently worked together to create a traffic plan that effectively directs spectators out of Wamego after the Fireworks show in a safe way. We kindly ask for patience as vehicles are dispersed efficiently and expeditiously to ensure safety of all guests and law enforcement. Take a deep breath, relax and listen to the band Departure.

Wamego High School Football Field RED Shuttle Parking (Corner of Highway 24 and Columbian Road)

One of two shuttle parking and pick up locations, this lot is located on Highway 24 west of Wamego. Free ATA bus shuttles will run to and from this location from 3-9 p.m. and will drop off at this lot post-fireworks. These lots can fill quickly, even before the parade begins.

Wamego Middle School GREEN Shuttle Parking (1701 Kaw Valley Road, Wamego, KS, 66547)

The Wamego Middle School is one of two shuttle parking and pick up locations. It is in the northwest Corner of Wamego off Kaw Valley road. Free ATA bus shuttles will run to and from this location and will drop off at this lot post-fireworks. These lots can fill quickly, even before the parade begins.

Wamego Recreation Complex

The W.R.C. is home to the shooting location of the fireworks show. Reserved Donor parking and seating, as well as an abundance of public viewing areas are within the recreation complex. Shuttles from the Sports Complex and Middle School will drop off and pick up in the northwest corner of the Recreation Complex from 3-9 p.m. and after the fireworks show. The Recreation Complex will have water, restrooms, concessions and the band, Stitch In Time, playing at 7:30 p.m. and again after the fireworks show.

W-Z

Water

We encourage guests to be prepared and stay safe and hydrated. Along the parade route, there will be fundraising groups selling bottles of water. At the Rec Complex, there are opportunities to buy water.

Weather

If weather impacts any of the scheduled events, updates will be available via B104.7 FM radio station and the Wamego Area Chamber of Commerce Facebook page and the Wamego Fireworks page. We encourage our guests to be weather-aware and have a plan for your own safety.

Wi-Fi

Throughout Wamego on July 4, complimentary Wi-Fi will be provided by WTC. Just check out your phone's Wi-Fi connections upon entering Wamego and enjoy free service for the day!

YOU

Dozens of volunteers, staff and community members do what they do for YOU! We are thankful you chose Wamego as your Independence Day celebration destination, and knowing that you, your families, and your friends are able to make lasting memories with one another while taking part in one of Kansas' largest Independence Day celebrations is why we have been working year round to welcome you. Thank you for celebrating freedom in Wamego!