

# News Release

## *National Wildlife Refuge System*



### Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge

Winona District  
51 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 203  
Winona, MN 55987

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **No Fireworks Allowed on the “Upper Miss” Refuge**

The 4th of July is just around the corner. If you are heading to the Mississippi River for a boating or camping trip, just a reminder – no fireworks are allowed on the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge because of their disturbance to wildlife as well as the litter they leave behind.

The Refuge includes most islands and beaches on the Mississippi River from Wabasha, MN to Rock Island, IL. If you are not sure if you will be within the Refuge please contact the Refuge office at (507) 454-7351 or check the maps located at [www.fws.gov/refuge/upper\\_mississippi\\_river](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/upper_mississippi_river).

Federal law enforcement officers will be patrolling the refuge looking for fireworks as well as glass bottles, which are also banned on refuge beaches. The fine for glass bottles is \$175; \$225 for fireworks possession and use. Officers also want to remind people of the importance of wearing their PFD's while on the water.