



April 19, 2010

Greetings!

I am delighted that you have decided to hold the National Fireworks Association event here in Springfield. We are pleased and honored to welcome you to our City. Springfield is situated in the heart of Ozark Mountain Country and is one of the fastest growing cities in the Midwest.

We trust that your visit to Springfield will be rewarding and your attendees will be able to take advantage of the many opportunities available in Springfield, such as:

**Jordan Valley Park**, features the Jordan Valley Ice Park, a multi-purpose facility featuring two NHL-size ice sheets, and an adjacent 12-acre park with a fountain and water feature designed to evoke an Ozarks stream. In the fall of 2003, we opened a new 110,000-square-foot Exposition Center with an adjacent parking deck. In addition, the Springfield Cardinals, a Double A affiliate of the St. Louis Cardinals, opened their inaugural season in April 2005 at the new Hammons Field baseball stadium that has a capacity of 9,200. A short walk on the new Jordan Creek Greenway or a drive on new Streetscapes links the Jordan Valley development to our traditional downtown area.

**Downtown**. Our downtown area features a variety of restaurants in all price and taste ranges, art galleries, the historic Landers Theatre, built in 1909 and recently renovated in its baroque Renaissance/Napoleon architecture and décor, and the recently renovated historic Gillioz Theater. Downtown and Jordan Valley also are close to several of the City's most popular venues, such as the hands-on Discovery Center, a children's science museum, the Walnut Street Historic District and the Juanita K. Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts at Missouri State University.

**Other attractions**. Springfield is home to many area attractions such as the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame, Wilson's Creek National Battlefield (Civil War), Dickerson Park Zoo, and nine public and private golf courses. You might also enjoy visiting our Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden complete with a traditional tea hut. Springfield is the headquarters of Bass Pro Shops' Outdoor World, billed as the "World's Most Spectacular Sporting Goods Store," with its four-story waterfall, giant aquariums, nature center and taxidermy studio.

We are truly proud of our City and the many opportunities available to our visitors. On behalf of the City of Springfield, we welcome the National Fireworks Association event and look forward to sharing with you the hospitality of the "Queen City of the Ozarks".

Sincerely,

James E. O'Neal  
Mayor, City of Springfield

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

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