

‘Water Gate’ in Boyne City has community divided after alleged water incident leaves parade-goers temporarily damp

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Breaking news out of Boyne City, where America's 250th birthday has officially been overshadowed by... water. A decision to prohibit water guns during the Boyne City Fourth of July Parade has ignited one of the largest online debates in recent community history after residents spent hundreds of comments arguing over what investigators have described as "varying levels of moisture."

The controversy stems from incidents during the 2025 Fourth of July Parade, where parade participants armed with super soakers and squirt guns allegedly sprayed along the parade route without regard for the moisture preference of nearby parade-goers.

One year later, the wounds, are still drying.

According to officially unverified eyewitness accounts collected from social media comments, some residents described the water as "refreshing," while others characterized the experience as "aquatic assault."

Investigators have been unable to determine whether an approximately eight-year-old suspect, described by witnesses as wearing flip-flops and a T-shirt featuring a Minion dressed as Uncle Sam, intentionally chilled the water inside his Super Soaker prior to allegedly discharging it into the crowd.

Court records were not involved. Facebook, however, was.

The public remains divided over exactly what occurred during the last parade, but some witness statements gave us some insight.

"I looked over," one witness said, "and there he was... probably eight years old... wearing flip-flops... and carrying what I can only describe as military-grade hydration equipment."

Another recalled, "I heard children laughing... and that's when I knew things were about to escalate."

Several residents proposed designated "Splash Zones," suggesting clearly marked areas where parade-goers could voluntarily participate in recreational hydration.

Those negotiations ultimately failed.

Another stated she was forced to experience what meteorologists refer to as 'being outside in July.'

Another described experiencing "temporary dampness."

A local family stated they have attended the parade for decades and are grateful to have "survived every single year."

Investigators confirmed at least one patriotic t-shirt became noticeably darker before eventually returning to its original shade.

According to interviews conducted for this publication, one individual estimated their shirt remained wet for approximately 11 minutes before drying naturally.

We spoke to a hydration expert interviewed for this story and they summarized the incident succinctly.

"Water," the expert said, "is wet."

Researchers declined further comment.

The debate quickly expanded beyond water guns themselves.

Residents questioned the future of parade traditions, the meaning of freedom, whether umbrellas constituted a reasonable compromise, and if attending a neighboring community's parade should now be considered a viable alternative, except notably, no one wants to go to East Jordan.

By the following morning, several unofficial factions had emerged.

Those advocating for the return of water guns.

Those supporting the ban.

Those proposing Splash Zones.

And those who insisted...

"That's a YOU problem."

Analysts say no measurable progress was made after that point.

A timeline reconstructed from public comments indicates the discussion escalated rapidly.

At approximately 8:14 a.m., the first resident requested an explanation of "what happened last year."

By 8:22 a.m., another resident declared Boyne City "isn't what it used to be."

By 8:37 a.m., comparisons to the American Revolution had been introduced.

By 8:43 a.m., someone announced plans to attend another parade, again, not East Jordan.

By 9:01 a.m., nobody was reading anyone else's comments.

Community leaders continue encouraging respectful discussion while reminding residents that cotton remains one of the most absorbent fabrics commercially available.

As of press time, investigators confirmed no permanent injuries had been reported.

Most clothing has fully dried by the time you've finished reading this article.

We'll continue monitoring this developing story until everyone forgets about it...sometime around July 5th, or once someone mentioned fireworks.