

Firework Safety

Firework Safety Tips

- Use extreme caution when lighting fireworks in the wind. Keep spectators where the wind is blowing away from them.
- Never smoke or consume alcohol when lighting fireworks.
- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place away from the reach of children.
- Steer clear of others setting off fireworks. They can backfire or shoot off in the wrong direction.
- Do not attempt to make or alter any fireworks or firework devices.
- Always have a fire extinguisher or water supply, such as a hose or bucket of water, nearby.
- Only light one firework at a time and never attempt to re-light or fix a “dud” firework.
- Think about pets. Animals have sensitive ears and can be very frightened or stressed by firework sounds.

Additional Information

- In 2017, 77 percent of all reported firework injuries occurred from July 1-7, and 39.5 percent of all firework injuries occurred on July 4.
- More than one-third of all reported firework-related injuries were to hands or fingers.
- Eye injuries accounted for 11.7 percent of the total number of injuries.
- 49 percent of the injuries were caused by firecrackers, rockets and sparklers.
- Firework use on private property accounted for 61.3 percent of reported cases.
- Fireworks can only be purchased by persons 18 years of age or older.

Firework Laws

- Throughout the year it is legal to set off fireworks from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m., but this may be limited further by local ordinances. Citizens should check with local officials.
- On state holidays it is legal to set off fireworks from 9 a.m. to midnight, but this may be limited further by local ordinances.
- The times on the following dates are protected for consumer use of fireworks and may not be prohibited by local ordinance:

June 29-July 3: from 5 p.m. until two hours after sunset;

July 4: from 10 a.m. to midnight; and

July 5-July 9: from 5 p.m. until two hours after sunset.