

Subject:

FW: SAFE FIREWORKS from MFD

Minneapolis Fire Department is encouraging residents to have a safe 4th of July by enjoying fireworks at a professional, public display. Even the legal, smaller fireworks, such as sparklers and fountains, burn extremely hot and can cause serious burns. If you are going to use small fireworks at home, please comply with the following City ordinance:

1. It is unlawful to use, fire or discharge any legal consumer fireworks along the route of and during any parade, or at any place of public assembly, including any event in the city for which a block event permit has been issued.
2. It is unlawful to throw, toss, shoot or otherwise launch any permitted consumer fireworks at any person, animal, vehicle or other thing or object.
3. It is unlawful to discharge any legal consumer fireworks within three hundred (300) feet of any building or location at which legal consumer fireworks are sold at retail or otherwise stored for any reason.
4. It is unlawful for any person under the age of eighteen (18) to possess, use or discharge any legal consumer fireworks unless a responsible adult directly supervises the juvenile.
5. It is unlawful for any person to use or discharge legal consumer fireworks between the hours of 12:15 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. in the city limits.
6. Legal consumer fireworks may only be discharged in an area with a water source connected to a hose or other acceptable means of extinguishing a fire.

There's no safe way to use consumer fireworks!

Only attend public fireworks displays put on by trained professionals

June 25, 2015 – As the Fourth of July approaches, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is reminding the public that there's no safe way to use consumer fireworks. According to NFPA, coordinator of the Alliance to Stop Consumer Fireworks, over 11,000 injuries resulted from consumer use of fireworks in 2013.

On Independence Day in a typical year, fireworks account for two out of five of all reported U.S. fires, more than any other cause of fire. However, the vast majority of fireworks injuries occur without a fire starting. More than half of fireworks injuries in 2013 were to extremities – hand or finger (36 percent), leg (14 percent), and arm (5 percent). Most of the remaining injuries were to parts of the head (38 percent), including the eye (16 percent of total).

“Each year, thousands of people are injured from using consumer fireworks, and some of those injuries are quite serious,” said Lorraine Carli, NFPA’s vice president of Outreach and Advocacy. “Even sparklers, which are often thought of as harmless enough for children to hold, burn at 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit and can cause significant injuries.”

The Consumer Product Safety Commission’s (CPSC) 2012 Fireworks Annual Report shows that in the month around July 4th, three out of five of the fireworks injuries were burns, while one-fifth were contusions or lacerations. Sparklers alone accounted for two out of five of the emergency room fireworks injuries.

Two out of five people injured by fireworks were under the age of 15. The risk of fireworks injury was highest for the children under five, followed by children 10 to 14 years of age. Males accounted for 57 percent of the injuries overall.

So how can you celebrate the holiday safely? Attend professional fireworks displays put on by trained professionals.

“Knowing the harm fireworks inflict each year, particularly on young people, we urge everyone to leave fireworks to the professionals, who are trained to safely put on spectacular displays. It is by far the safest way to enjoy them,” said Carli.

NFPA offers a wealth of information on fireworks safety, including videos and infographics that visually demonstrate just how dangerous consumer fireworks can be.

Staff Captain Casidy Anderson

Minneapolis Fire Department / 350 S. 5th St. Room 233

Minneapolis, MN 55415

612-673-3184 (o) 612-919-7790 (c) 612-673-2828 (f)

casidy.anderson@minneapolisMN.gov

FIRE IS EVERYONE'S FIGHT!