

FIREWORKS SAFETY



Fireworks and celebrations go together, especially during the Fourth of July and end of year celebrations. Remember, fireworks can be dangerous, causing serious burn and eye injuries. Below are some safety tips offered by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

Fireworks Safety Tips:

1. Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks.
2. Read and follow all warnings and instructions.
3. Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks.
4. Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface away from the house, dry leaves, and flammable materials.
5. Never try to relight fireworks that have not fully functioned.
6. Keep a bucket of water in case of a malfunction or fire.

Although the CPSC offers some fireworks safety tips to help consumers use fireworks more safely, such as providing adult supervision, keeping a bucket of water nearby, and observing local laws, etc., the American Academy of Pediatrics offers much better advice, and that is: children and their families should be counseled to attend public fireworks displays rather than purchase fireworks for home use. So skip buying fireworks that you would plan to use at home, and the biggest risk for injuries from fireworks, and instead take your family to see a public fireworks show this year. You can enjoy your holiday and the fireworks, with just a few simple safety tips:

PROCEED WITH CAUTION!

- Leave fireworks to the professionals.
Do not use consumer fireworks.



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- The safest way to enjoy fireworks is to attend a public display conducted by trained professionals.
- After the firework display, children should never pick up fireworks that may be left over, they may still be active.

FACTS

- Each July Fourth, thousands of people, most often children and teens, are injured while using consumer fireworks.
- The risk of fireworks injury was two-and-a-half times as high for children ages 10–14 as for the general population.



Dangers of consumer fireworks - fountains/sparklers

To view a demonstration which showcases the types of injuries that can occur when consumer fireworks are used, go to the link below:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NzKMYzpA6uk&feature=player_embedded#!

FIREWORKS LAWS

Five states ban the use of fireworks by consumers: **Delaware, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, and Rhode Island**. The other 45 states and the District of Columbia permit some or all consumer fireworks. The American Pyrotechnics Association has compiled a map and directory of state-by-state fireworks control laws at the following link:

[http://www.americanpyro.com/State%20Laws%20\(main\)/statelaws.html](http://www.americanpyro.com/State%20Laws%20(main)/statelaws.html)

The information above was provided by the CPSC, American Academy of Pediatrics, and American Pyrotechnics Association.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday!!!



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