



Health Tribune

Thinking about your health in Portage County
Provided by the Portage County Health Department



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July is... Firework Safety Month



Although fireworks are a fun and exciting way to celebrate our nation's freedom, they can also be harmful or even deadly if not used properly. More than 65 percent of all fireworks related injuries occur during the month of July. The most common fireworks that cause injury are firecrackers, bottle rockets, roman candles, fountains, and sparklers that are legal in many states.

- In 2012 55% of 2012 emergency room fireworks-related injuries were to the extremities and 31% were to the head.
- In recent years, fireworks have been one of the leading causes of injuries serious enough to require emergency room treatment.
- Fireworks can result in severe burns, fractures, scars, death or even disfigurement that can last a lifetime.
- Wooded areas, homes, and even automobiles have become consumed in flames because of fireworks.
- Firework related fires have typically caused at least \$20 million in property loss each year in recent years.

For more information visit:

<http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/holidays/fireworks/legal-or-not-fireworks-are-too-risky-for-amateurs>

Did you know...?

Just following simple rules can reduce the risk of injury greatly.

Tips for firework safety

1. Never use fireworks in your home. Always set them off outside on a driveway or sidewalk.
2. If fireworks are not legal where you live, do not use them.
3. Always have water handy. (A hose or bucket).
4. Be aware of other people around you and make sure they are out of range from the firework you are using.
5. Never point or shoot fireworks at another person.
6. Use common sense. Viewers should keep a safe distance from the shooter and the shooter should wear safety glasses.
7. Do not try to re-ignite a "dud" as it could explode near your hands or face.
8. Only light one at a time.
9. Do not make your own fireworks.



http://www.army.mil/article/58519/June_is_National_Fireworks_Safety_Month/

Questions or Comments?

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