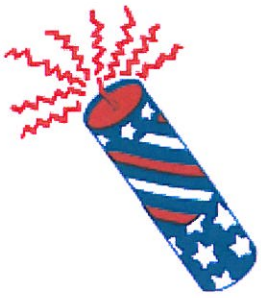
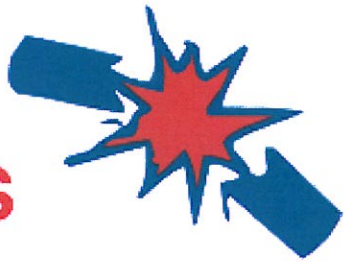


# THE DANGERS OF FIREWORKS



The use of consumer fireworks can lead to devastating burns, other injuries, fires and even death. The Mayor of Milwaukee, Common Council, Milwaukee Police Department and Safety Commission do not endorse the purchase, possession or ignition of any consumer fireworks and instead encourages the public to enjoy displays of fireworks conducted by trained professionals.

## Celebrate The Safe Way!

Remember all fireworks are illegal in the City of Milwaukee, even if they were purchased outside of the City limits.

Any item that emits smoke, a bang, or sparkle is considered illegal and is upon conviction subject to a fine of not less than $500.00 or more than $1,000.00 for an adult who uses or consents to the use of fireworks by a minor.

Please enjoy the safe and legal displays and respect other people in the parks and neighborhoods as we celebrate our Nation's birthday.

Thank you for your cooperation from the City of Milwaukee Police Department Safety Division.

# FIREWORKS FACTS

- In the United States annually, over 2,000 reported structure or vehicle fires were caused by fireworks. These fires resulted in numerous civilian deaths, multiple civilian injuries, and millions in direct property damage.

- The majority of fireworks injuries occurred during a 30 day period (June 23rd - July 23rd). In addition to July 4th other periods for injuries are New Years Eve and other holidays.

- Annually, over 9,000 people in the United States are treated at hospital emergency rooms for fireworks-related injuries. Burns are by far the leading type of fireworks injury. Contusions and lacerations were second. Hands or fingers were injured the most followed by injuries to the eye.

- Injuries to children 5 and under were caused by sparklers which are viewed as harmless and not dangerous. Sparklers burn at temperatures of 2,000 degrees, which is the same as a burning match. Injuries to children 5-14 years of age were caused by firecrackers and bottle rockets.

- Males accounted for three-fourths (75%) of fireworks injuries.

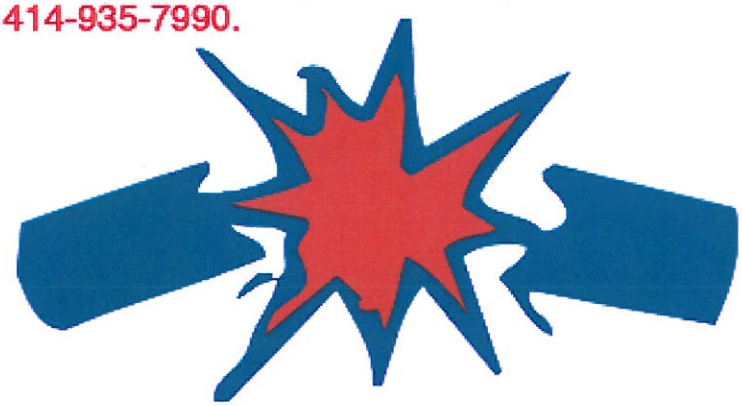
- Annually, firecrackers cause the greatest number of injuries followed by bottle rockets and sparklers.

- Based on the amount of time and quantities in use, fireworks pose a higher risk of fire death than any other consumer product.

Source: U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
United States Fire Administration
National Fire Data Center
Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727
http://www.usfa.fema.gov/inside-usfa/nfdc/pubs/tfrs.shtm

Milwaukee Code of Ordinance 105.47 Fireworks. 1. **SALES, DISCHARGE AND USE PROHIBITED.** No person may sell expose or offer for sale, use, keep or discharge, or explode in this city any firecracker, bottle rocket, cherry bomb, colored smoke bomb, toy cap, blank cartridge, toy pistol or cannon in which explosives are used, contrivances using explosive caps or cartridges, sparklers, display wheels, the type of balloon which requires fire underneath to propel it, torpedoes, sky rockets. Roman candles, aerial salutes, American or Chinese bombs or other fireworks of like construction, or any other fireworks containing any explosives of like construction, or any fireworks containing any explosives of flammable compound, or any tablets or other device commonly used and sold as fireworks containing nitrates, chlorates, oxylates, sulphides of lead, barium, antimony, arsenic, mercury, nitroglycerine, phosphorous, or any compound containing any of the same or other explosives.

If you have any questions regarding fireworks, please call the Safety Division at 414-935-7990.



City of Milwaukee prohibits the sale and use of fireworks by all citizens. The safest way to enjoy them is through public displays conducted by professional Pyrotechnicians hired by communities over July 4th or at other times during the year. Parents need to set the example by not purchasing fireworks and must be vigilant during this period in assuring that their children do not purchase, possess or ignite any fireworks.

## Visit these locations to watch the pros do it safely!

Milwaukee County Parks Locations:

**Alcott**
**Gordon**
**Humboldt**
**Jackson**
**Lake Park**
**Lincoln**
**Mitchell**
**Noyes**
**Washington**
**Wilson**

**FIREWORKS ARE DANGEROUS AND ILLEGAL.**
**PLEASE DO NOT PURCHASE OR USE FIREWORKS.**