



# Doernbecher Children's Safety Center

## FIREWORKS SAFETY

More than 10,000 fireworks-related injuries occur each year in the United States, most of them around the 4th of July.

To help keep your family safe, consider alternative forms of celebration. A safer way to enjoy fireworks is to attend public events where professionals control the displays.

If home fireworks are legal in your area and you choose to use them, please consider the following safety tips:

- ✓ Buy and use only legal fireworks from professional fireworks vendors.
- ✓ Light fireworks outside and away from people, houses, dry brush, or flammable materials.
- ✓ Read and follow all warnings and instructions.
- ✓ Small children should not play with fireworks under any circumstances.
- ✓ If older children are using sparklers or fireworks, teach them safety precautions and keep them under close adult supervision.
- ✓ Keep water nearby (a bucket or a hose) for emergencies.
- ✓ Soak used/malfunctioning fireworks in water before throwing them away in the trash.
- ✓ Do not re-light or handle "dud" fireworks.
- ✓ Be aware that even professional fireworks displays can be dangerous; keep your distance and use common sense when attending.

### Sources:

National Council on Fireworks Safety

<http://www.fireworksafety.com/safety>

Consumer Product Safety Commission

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/pubs/july4/4thjuly.html>

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