



for your company
for your employees
for your future
June 27, 2011

WELLNESS WEEKLY

Fireworks: Safety First!

Fireworks are a tradition this time of year. To insure the safety of both the audience and those lighting the fireworks, it's recommended that you obey the following fireworks safety measures:

1. CHILDREN SHOULD NOT HANDLE FIREWORKS

NEVER let children handle, play with, or light any fireworks. ONLY adults should handle and light the fireworks. Fireworks are great family fun, but are intended to be handled only by adults and professionals.

2. DO NOT USE ALCOHOL WITH FIREWORKS

Please do not consume any alcohol while lighting or handling fireworks. Fireworks must be used only by individuals who act in a responsible manner and who are not under the influence of alcohol or drugs. If you are impaired in any way when you use fireworks, you increase the possibility of misuse and injury to yourself and others.

3. FOLLOW THE LAWS; USE COMMON SENSE

Follow your local and state laws regarding the possession and use of fireworks, and practice good common sense. Read all directions, cautions, labels, and warnings on each individual firework item to understand the product performance and hazards associated with it. Use only those fireworks permitted under the laws of the state and local jurisdiction in which you are using the fireworks.

4. USE IN A CLEAR, OPEN AREA

Always keep the audience (particularly children) a safe distance away from the shooting site. Always light your fireworks in a clear open area away from buildings, vehicles, and shrubbery. A minimum clear radius of 30 feet for fountains and other ground based items and 100 yards for any aerial product is recommended. You should avoid lighting the fireworks in any area where there is dry grass or brush that could catch fire or near any flammable items. Never use fireworks indoors. Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers.

5. KEEP CLEAR OF THE FIREWORKS

Never put your head or any part of your body over the top of any fireworks product. Never look into a tube to check on the firework item. Never hold a lighted firework item in your hand. Keep as far from the firework item as possible when lighting.

6. USE CARE IN LIGHTING THE FIREWORKS

Always light fireworks products with an extended butane lighting device. This will enable you to keep as far from the firework item as possible. Light the fireworks product and get away quickly only lighting one firework at a time. Safety glasses are recommended for those individuals lighting the fireworks and those individuals in close proximity to the fireworks.

7. DON'T USE MALFUNCTIONING OR "DUD" ITEMS

Never attempt to re light, alter, or fix a "dud" firework. If a firework fails to ignite, let it stand for at least five minutes, then immerse it in water. Dispose of the item properly.

8. HAVE WATER CLOSE BY

Have an accessible fire extinguisher, water supply, hose, or bucket of water nearby for emergencies. During any fireworks shoot, there should always be one individual assigned as the "fireman", whose sole job is to be alert and at the ready with a water source.

9. WINDY CONDITIONS

Be cautious of lighting any fireworks during strong wind conditions. Fireworks should be lit with the prevailing wind blowing away from the spectators.

