



COUNTY OF CALAVERAS

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

PRESS RELEASE

Fourth of July Fireworks Safety

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Calaveras County like most of the State is experiencing a severe drought and with these dry conditions the potential for fires is significantly increased. Fireworks are a fun and memorable part of the 4th of July holiday, but can also cause fires and injuries if not properly used. Consider watching a fireworks show in your community rather than creating your own display, but if you are going to use fireworks, please following these recommended tips from the National Council on Fireworks Safety:

- Parents and caretakers should always closely supervise teens if they are using fireworks.
- Parents should not allow young children to handle or use fireworks.
- Fireworks should only be used outdoors.
- Always have water ready if you are using fireworks.
- Know your fireworks; Read the caution label before igniting.
- Obey local laws. If fireworks are not legal where you live, do not use them.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show.
- Wear safety glasses whenever using fireworks.
- Only light one firework at a time.
- Never relight a "dud" firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Soak spent fireworks with water before placing them in an outdoor garbage can.
- Avoid using homemade fireworks or illegal explosives: They can kill you!
- Report illegal explosives, like M-80s and quarter sticks, to the fire or police department.

A final word of caution, keep your pets indoors and safe – many dogs and cats are frightened by the sight and sounds of fireworks.

There are plenty of ways for you to enjoy fireworks this 4th of July without putting yourself, your family, or the community at risk. Enjoy the 4th of July in a responsible and fire safe manner.