

Fireworks Safety

FACTS

- In 2003, an estimated 9,300 people were treated in emergency departments for fireworks-related injuries in the United States.
- About 45% of persons injured from fireworks are children ages 14 years and younger.
- Males represent 72% of all fireworks-related injuries.
- Children ages five to nine years have the highest injury rate for fireworks-related injuries.
- Persons who are actively participating in fireworks-related activities are more frequently injured, and sustain more severe injuries, than bystanders.

Summer Safety Month

RESOURCES:

Safe Kids Michigan – Safety Tips

<http://www.michigansafekids.org/safety.shtml>

American Red Cross – Summer Safety Tips

<http://www.redcross.org/services/hss/sumsafety/>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Center for Injury Prevention & Control

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc>

Fireworks-Related Injuries Fact Sheet

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/factsheets/fworks.htm>

National Council on Fireworks Safety

<http://www.fireworksafety.com/home.htm>



WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

- Do not allow young children to play with fireworks under any circumstances.
- Sparklers, considered by many the ideal "safe" firework for the young, burn at very high temperatures and can easily ignite clothing. Children cannot understand the danger involved and cannot act appropriately in case of emergency.
- Older children should only be permitted to use fireworks under close adult supervision. Do not allow any running or horseplay.
- Light fireworks outdoors in a clear area away from houses, dry leaves or grass and flammable materials.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby for emergencies and for pouring on fireworks that don't go off.
- Do not try to relight or handle malfunctioning fireworks. Douse and soak them with water and throw them away.
- Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks.
- Never ignite fireworks in a container, especially a glass or metal container.
- Keep unused fireworks away from firing areas.
- Store fireworks in a dry, cool place. Check instructions for special storage directions.
- Observe local laws.
- Never have any portion of your body directly over a firework while lighting.

SERVICES AVAILABLE: