



## Fireworks Safety Campaign

FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU – PREVENTION DIVISION

(360) 596-3946 FAX: 360-596-3934

E-Mail: [Fireworks@wsp.wa.gov](mailto:Fireworks@wsp.wa.gov)

3000-420-089 (R 5/12)

### Media Release

*John C. Cermak, Fire Chief*

*North County Fire & EMS*

**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

**Date:** June 29, 2015

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### **Celebrate Safely on Independence Day**

John C Cermak, Fire Chief, North County Fire and EMS, announced today that with retail fireworks stands opening on June 28, citizens are being asked to “Celebrate Safely”. There is much that can be done to protect children and the public from fireworks injuries says John Cermak, who offers the following:

- First, set family boundaries—only adults should light fireworks. Supervision is paramount in keeping children safe.
  - Second, fireworks should not be readily available to tempt the curiosity of young children and should be stored in a secured location to prohibit their access.
  - Third, check with your local fire department for additional restrictions in your area. Most importantly, talk about safety. Summer weather conditions make grasses and other vegetation dry and vulnerable to fire. Use care in selecting the area where you will be discharging fireworks. Don't wait—talk to your kids about fireworks and safety. Educate every member of your family about the following 3 B's:
- **BEFORE LIGHTING FIREWORKS**—“Be Prepared!”
    - Purchase only legal fireworks, available at licensed stands.
    - Purchase only the quantity that you will use.



## Celebrate Safely Campaign Kit Fireworks Safety Campaign

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- Ensure the safety of pets; loud noises may scare pets.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby in which to place all used fireworks.
- Have a water hose or fire extinguisher nearby to put out stray sparks.
- Clear a level area away from things that can burn.
- Know the emergency number to call for your area, your address/location, and basic first aid.
- Teach your children to “stop, drop, and roll” if their clothes catch on fire.
- **WHEN LIGHTING FIREWORKS—“Be Safe!”**
  - Only adults should light fireworks.
  - Use eye protection, wear safety goggles.
  - Light one at a time and move away quickly.
  - Keep spectators at a safe distance.
  - Use only outdoors, away from anything that can burn.
  - To prevent injuries, follow the directions on the label carefully.
  - Be considerate of your neighbors, family pets, and your environment.
- **WHEN FINISHED —“Be Responsible!”**
  - Clean up all debris when finished.
  - Duds can be dangerous; if a fireworks item does not light or fire, an adult should wait at least fifteen minutes, approach it carefully, and place it in a bucket of water.
  - Make sure unused fireworks, matches, and lighters are out of sight and reach of children.

Independence Day is a time to celebrate our freedoms. Please, “Be Prepared”, “Be Safe”, and “Be Responsible” when using fireworks. To learn about a community fireworks display near you, visit the Fireworks—

Fire Safety and Injury Prevention web site at <http://www.wsp.wa.gov/fireworks/default.htm>.

For more information, contact your local fire department or safety agency.

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