



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FIREWORKS / SUMMER FIRE SAFETY

Every year in the United States, we celebrate the Fourth of July with community parades, picnics, barbecues, and fireworks, the things of which happy memories are made. But sadly, every Independence Day also includes some tragic events. On average, 18,000 fires occur and 8,300 injuries result from fireworks according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). 59% of fires caused by fireworks occur around the Independence Day holiday on July 4th. The safest way to enjoy them is through public displays conducted by professional pyrotechnicians hired by communities.

Fireworks Safety

All fireworks are illegal in Marin County. Fire and Police Departments across Marin are warning people that the storage, handling, sale, or use of any fireworks is prohibited. The California fireworks law allows the state to suspend the commercial driver's license of someone involved in the transportation of the illegal activity.

"Every year we respond to people who sustain injuries from fireworks," said San Rafael Fire Chief Chris Gray. "We are also concerned about the extremely dry conditions and the possibility that just one spark from a firework could create a major wildland blaze."

**The best way to enjoy fireworks this year is to go the Marin County Fair!
June 30 - July 4 at 9:30 p.m.**

Learn more about fireworks safety:

<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/citizens/focus/fireworks.shtm>

See more shows:

<http://www.sfstation.com/bay-area-fireworks-shows-a2039>



Barbecue Safety

- Before using a grill, check the connection between the fuel tank and the fuel line. Make sure the tubes are not blocked.
- Be careful using lighter fluid. Never add fluid to an already lit fire.
- Keep all matches and lighters away from children. Supervise children around outdoor grills.
- Dispose of hot coals properly:
 - Douse them with plenty of water.
 - Stir them to insure fire is out.
 - Never place coals in plastic, paper or wooden containers



For more information, please contact the San Rafael Fire Department at 485-3304, visit any of our six neighborhood fire stations or find us at www.srfd.org

San Rafael Fire Department, 485-3304

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