



Heart of America Metro Fire Chiefs Council

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News Release

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Fireworks Safety

The usage and discharge of fireworks are strictly prohibited in many greater Kansas City communities, however some communities do allow the discharge of certain class “C” fireworks. If your community allows for the discharge of fireworks, the Heart of America Metro Fire Chiefs Council offer the following safety tips:

- Purchase fireworks from reliable sources, never discharge homemade or illegal fireworks.
- Have a responsible adult in charge and never give fireworks to children.
- Prepare a safe environment outdoors for shooting off fireworks by selecting an area clear of other fireworks, combustible materials like dried wood or grass, buildings, and other people.
- Have water readily available such as a garden hose and a bucket of water.
- Always read and follow label directions for the safe discharge of fireworks. Fireworks users should wear tight clothing to avoid accidental contact with sparks and use eye protection when handling and lighting fireworks.
- Light fireworks one at a time and wait until it discharges, never attempt to re-light a device that did not discharge the first time it was lit.
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket; they may ignite due to sparks and cause injury.
- Do not throw or point fireworks at people or animals. Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers
- Dispose of spent fireworks properly when you are done by soaking them in water before putting them in a trash can

If you get burned from fireworks, remember these do's and don'ts of burn care. If the injury is severe, call **911** immediately for emergency medical care.

Do

Cool a burn by flushing with water

Cover the burn with a dry, clean covering

Keep the victim comfortable and from being chilled or overheated

Do Not

Apply ice directly to any burn unless it's very minor

Touch a burn with anything except a clean covering

Remove pieces of cloth that stick to the burned area
Break blisters or use any kind of ointment on a severe burn

For more tips and information, contact your local fire department or visit www.fireworksafety.com. The Heart of America Metro Fire Chiefs Council wishes all greater Kansas City metropolitan residents a safe and happy 4th of July.

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