

SAFE CELEBRATIONS

The Spring Lake Park-Blaine-Mounds View Fire Department wants celebrating our independence to be one of the highlights of your Minnesota summer. However, according to Safe Kids USA, each year, more than 4,300 children ages 14 and under are treated in emergency rooms for injuries resulting from fireworks. We all have a responsibility to ensure the safety of ourselves and our children. Setting a good example and acting in a responsible manner will help us enjoy our celebrations without danger.

Working together we can reduce the incidents related to fireworks. The following safety guidelines are offered to reduce fireworks injury, and fires:

- Don't let children play with fireworks. Fireworks can cause serious burns as well as blast injuries that can permanently impair both vision and hearing.
- Read, understand and follow the instructions on each device prior to using.
- Do not try to reignite fireworks that have not gone off or have malfunctioned.
- Use fireworks with close adult supervision. Keep children under active supervision-in sight and reach at all times when they are near fireworks.
- Keep a phone handy and know first aid for burns.
- Choose a safe place to use fireworks that is far from anything that could be damaged from the normal or abnormal operation of any device. Fireworks should only be ignited outdoors and away from animals, buildings, storage tanks, brush or combustible materials.
- Do not carry fireworks in your pocket or on your person.
- Please review the list of examples of legal and illegal fireworks at WWW.FIRE.STATE.MN.US or for questions call The Spring Lake Park-Blaine-Mounds View Fire Department at 763-786-4436.

Remember, the safest way to enjoy fireworks is at a public display.