



Fireworks safety message from the Deer Park Fire Marshal's Office



Deer Park, Texas – The New Year is approaching and the **use of fireworks is prohibited within City limits**. Fireworks are defined as including, in part, all of the following: “firecrackers, skyrocket and rockets, including all devices which employ any combustible or explosive material and which rise in the air during discharge, roman candles, including all devices which discharge balls of fire into the air, chasers, including all devices which dart or travel about the surface of the ground during discharge, sparklers more than ten inches in length or one-fourth of one inch in diameter, all fireworks designed and intended by the manufacturer to create the element of surprise upon the user. The use of these types of fireworks, dangerous fireworks, is **prohibited within city limits**.

People who use illegal fireworks are a danger to themselves, their friends and their communities. There are plenty of alternatives for celebrating the Fourth of July safely without the use of fireworks that can cause injuries and damage property.

“Safe and sane” fireworks should be used only with extreme caution. Older children should be closely supervised, and younger children should not be allowed to play with fireworks, including sparklers.

Residents outside the city limits are advised to follow these important safety tips:

- Never allow children to ignite fireworks. Sparklers considered by many the “ideal” firework for the young, burn at very high temperatures and can ignite clothing. Children cannot understand the danger involved and cannot act appropriately in case of emergency.
- Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks
- Light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface only, away from the house, dry leaves and flammable materials
- Never try to relight fireworks that have not fully functioned. Douse and soak them with water and throw them away.
- Keep a water source handy in case of a malfunction or fire
- Keep unused fireworks away from firing areas
- Never position any part of the body directly over the firework while lighting
- Never attempt to alter or modify consumer fireworks and use them only in the manner in which they were intended.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show
- Obey local laws. If fireworks are not legal where you live, do not use them.

The Deer Park Fire Marshal's Office wishes everyone a safe and happy New Years!

