FIREWORKS SAFETY

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), each 4th of July, thousands of people are injured while using consumer fireworks. Associated risks include devastating burns, other injuries, fires, and even death. The NFPA is opposed to consumer use of fireworks. Be safe – If you want to see fireworks, go to a public show put on by experts.

If using consumer fireworks, the National Council on Fireworks Safety recommends the following safety tips to help prevent fireworks-related injuries and deaths.

- Obey all local laws regarding the use of fireworks.
- Know your fireworks; read the cautionary labels and descriptions before igniting.
- A responsible adult should supervise all firework activities. Never give fireworks to children.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show.
- Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks.
- Light one firework at a time and then quickly move away.
- Use fireworks outdoors in a clear area; away from buildings and vehicles.
- Never relight a “dud” firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Always have a bucket of water and charged water hose nearby.
- Never shoot them from a metal or glass containers.
- Do not experiment with homemade fireworks.
- Dispose of spent fireworks by wetting them down and place in a metal trash can away from any building or combustible materials until the next day.

And let’s not forget the safety of our pets!

- Don’t bring your pets to a fireworks display, even a small one.
- If fireworks are being used, put your pet in a safe, interior room to avoid exposure to the sound.
- Make sure your pet has an identification tag, in case it runs off during a fireworks display.
- Never shoot fireworks of any kind (consumer fireworks, sparklers, fountains, etc.) near pets.