



July 4th Fireworks Safety

Brought to you by the Portland Firefighters Children's Burn Foundation



Leave the Show to the Pros

Fireworks cause life-changing injuries... there are NO safe fireworks!

Burn Facts

- + Fireworks and resulting fires injure more than **10,000** Americans. More than half of these injuries occur during the first week of July. Even legal fireworks can be very dangerous.
- + Burn injuries continue to be one of the leading causes of accidental death and injury in the United States.
- + Between 2010 and 2014, approximately **486,000** people were seen in Emergency Departments for treatment of non-fatal burn injuries.
- + In 2014 alone, there were **3,275** deaths from fires, which include **2,795** deaths from residential fires, **345** from vehicle crash fires, and **135** from other sources.

Burn Facts

- Tragically, the children, elderly, and the disabled are especially vulnerable to burn injuries, and almost one-third of all burn injuries occur in children under the age of 15
- Children under five are 2.4 times as likely as the general population to suffer burn injuries that require medical treatment
- Young adults ages 20-29 have a probability of burn injury that is roughly 1.5 times the risk of the general population





Today, 96.8% of those who suffer burn injuries will survive. Unfortunately, many of those survivors will sustain serious scarring, life-long physical disabilities, and adjustment difficulties.



What Could Happen

<https://youtu.be/xYEIqUg22jc>

Fireworks

DO

- + Consider safer alternatives such as glow sticks, confetti poppers or colored streamers
- + Observe your local & state laws
- + Have a designated sober adult light all legal fireworks
- + Light one firework and move away quickly
- + Keep children and other observers at a safe distance – behind a protective barrier
- + Store fireworks out of children's reach
- + Keep a bucket of water close for disposal of fireworks

DON'T

- + Allow children to handle fireworks – including sparklers
- + Attempt to alter, modify or relight fireworks
- + Point or throw lit fireworks at anyone
- + Allow children to pick up the spent fireworks – some may still be active
- + Ever hold lit fireworks in your hand
- + Consume alcohol or drugs when lighting fireworks
- + Forget you can be held legally and financially liable for injuries caused by using fireworks

Fireworks

The Facts

- + Sparklers can reach 2,000°F, hotter than a blow torch
- + Thousands of fireworks injuries were treated in the U.S. hospital emergency departments, often leaving permanent damage to eyes, hands & face
- + Over 50% of fireworks injuries occur to people under the age of 20 years

The Fix

...If a burn injury does happen

- 1) Cool the burn with COOL (not cold) water to stop the burning process
- 2) Remove all clothing and jewelry from the injured area
- 3) Cover the area with a dry clean sheet or loose bandages
- 4) Seek medical attention



Have a safe 4th of July!

Sources

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