

# FIREWORK SAFETY

Fireworks are often used in celebration, but also cause thousands of burns and injuries each year. According to the National Fire Protection Association, fireworks cause an average of 18,500 *reported* fires per year.

### Leave the fireworks to the professionals.

If you choose to use fireworks, abide by the following safety tips.

#### <u>DO:</u>

- ★ Obey all local laws regarding the use of fireworks.
- \* Ensure a responsible adult is supervising all firework activities.
- \* Know your fireworks; read the caution labels and performance descriptions before igniting.
- \* Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks.
- \* Use fireworks outdoors in a clear area; away from buildings, vehicles, and trees.
- \* Light one firework at a time and quickly move away.
- Dispose of spent fireworks by wetting down and placing in a metal trash can away from any building or combustible materials.
- \* Have a bucket of water and charged water hose nearby.

#### DO NOT:

- Give fireworks to children.
- Drink alcohol when lighting fireworks.
- \* Relight a "dud" firework. Wait 20 minutes, then soak it in a bucket of water.
- \* Experiment with homemade fireworks.
- Carry fireworks in your pocket.
- \* Shoot fireworks into a metal or glass container.

#### **PETS:**

- Do not bring your pets to a fireworks display, no matter their size.
- \* If fireworks are being used near your home, lead your pet into a safe, interior room to avoid sound exposure.
- \* Ensure your pet has an identification tag.
- Never shoot fireworks of any kind near pets.

## Sparklers are **HOW** hot?

**Water Boils** 212 Degrees Fahrenheit **Cakes Bake** 350 Degrees Fahrenheit **Wood Burns** 575 Degrees Fahrenheit **Glass Melts** 900 Degrees Fahrenheit **Sparklers** 1200 Degrees Fahrenheit

Sparklers account for roughly **one-quarter** of Emergency Department fireworks injuries.

Leave the fireworks to the professionals.



The American Trauma Society, Pennsylvania Division (ATSPA) is a non-profit organization committed to preventing traumatic injury and death through education.

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